CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

LEAD RESEARCHER (2 POSITIONS) | EASE OF JUSTICE STUDY

National Law University Delhi (NLU Delhi) invites applications for two (2) Lead Researchers for a Diagnostic Study on Understanding 'Ease of Justice' in India.

POSITION DETAILS

- **Position**: Senior Researcher (2 positions)
- **Engagement**: Contractual
- **Duration**: 1 year (Dec 1, 2026 – Aug 31, 2027)
- **Location**: Delhi NCR, with travel to study states as required
- **Remuneration**: ₹70,000/- per month, based on qualifications and experience

DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY

The study is a supply-side institutional capacity assessment of justice delivery in India, with a focus on civil and commercial jurisdictions. Commissioned by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India, in collaboration with UNDP India and designed and executed by NLU Delhi, it examines the efficiency, accessibility, infrastructure, digital adoption, inclusivity and governance of courts, legal services authorities and allied justice institutions. Using a six-pillar diagnostic framework and a mixed-methods design across 12 states and 24 districts — including 2,000 survey respondents, 60 key informant interviews, 6 regional focus group discussions, 36 facility assessments and case-file review — the study will identify bottlenecks in justice delivery and propose practical, scalable reforms aligned with SDG 16.3.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Bachelor's degree in Law, Public Policy, Sociology, Political Science, Economics or a related social science, with a minimum of 55% marks or equivalent CGPA.
- Minimum 2 years of post-qualification experience in empirical or socio-legal research.
- Strong analytical and report-writing skills, evidenced by published or policy work.
- Proficiency in English.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

- LL.M. or Master's degree in any of the above disciplines, with a minimum of 55% marks or equivalent CGPA.
- Experience leading qualitative fieldwork, preferably on courts, legal aid or access to justice.
- Working knowledge of mixed-methods research, and thematic and content analysis.
- Understanding of research ethics, including trauma-informed and data protection practices.
- Knowledge of an Indian language.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conceptualise and execute the study in light of the terms of reference
- Lead qualitative fieldwork, including interviews with senior stakeholders and regional focus group discussions.
- Train, supervise and quality-assure field teams, ensuring ethical, and data-protection-compliant research.
- Lead thematic and content analysis and draft consultation briefs, reports, policy briefs and reform recommendations.
- Coordinate with the project team and stakeholders, and submit regular progress reports.
- Draft the pillar-wise findings and the diagnostic report, including comparative benchmarking and prioritised short-, medium- and long-term reform recommendations.

INTERESTED AND ELIGIBLE CANDIDATES ARE INVITED TO APPLY.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: *15th Nov, Sunday, 2026*

Candidates must submit

- updated CV,
- writing sample and
- Statement of Purpose (SoP) of 500 words by email to ccv@nludelhi.ac.in.

Please mention "Lead Researcher Application - Ease of Justice Study" in the subject line. Please include a cover letter in the body of the email.

Click here to Apply

For queries, contact: ccv@nludelhi.ac.in