

Quarterly Reporting Template for US/INL Funded Projects

Period covered by the report: 1 April 2015-30 June 2015

1. Context	
Project/Sub-programme Number	
Title	Strengthening Institutional Capacities in the Penal Chain and Access to Justice in Sri Lanka
Duration (years/months)	3 Years
Starting Date	23 September 2013
Location(s) *	National and Sub-National
Responsible Office:	
UNODC Regional / Country or Thematic Programme Outcome to which this programme/project directly contributes *	
Executing Agency	UNDP
Government Implementing Agency/Partners *	<u>2013 and 2014</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ministry of National Languages and Social Integration ▪ Ministry of Justice ▪ Ministry of Prisons Reform and Rehabilitation ▪ Ministry of Child Development and Women's Affairs <u>Since January 2015</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ministry of Public Administration, Local Government and Democratic Governance (<i>including</i> National Languages and Social Integration division) ▪ Ministry of Justice (<i>including</i> department of Prison Reforms and Rehabilitation) ▪ Ministry of Women's Affairs
UNODC Overall Budget	USD\$ 705,000
Donor(s)	US-INL through UNDP-Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (formerly Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery)

1.1 Summary of quarterly Achievements against set targets /Project Summary

Following the election of new President Maithripala Sirisena in January 2015 and the ensuing changes in the Cabinet of Ministers and Ministry mandates, sweeping reforms were introduced to the governance systems of Sri Lanka. Through the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution the powers of the Executive Presidency were severely curtailed and procedures to appoint members to independent Commissions (such as the Human Rights Commission) were reformed with a view to eliminating political interference. During the first quarter of the year the focus of all government institutions was the implementation of the 100 Day Work Programme which formed the core of the President's election manifesto. The work being done by SELAJSI carried on largely as complementary to the work on good governance pledged by the government. The programme however faced certain challenges and delays due to the changes in Ministries, Ministers and senior government officials, who had to be briefed anew and familiarised with the programme. The pace of implementation of SELAJSI picked up in the second quarter, as by then necessary officials had been oriented to the programme, and the 100 Day Work Programme also reached its completion deadline in April. With the change of President and government in January, 2015 was set to be an uncertain year, with parliamentary elections also on the cards. In June, Parliament was accordingly dissolved and parliamentary elections fixed for 17 August. SELAJSI functioned in the second quarter amidst these uncertainties and aimed to get as much done in this quarter as possible, aware that the third quarter would once again be fluid with impending elections halting certain activities.

One of the key pieces of legislation passed by the new government was the Victim and Witness Protection Act (Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses Act No. 4 of 2015). Considering the importance of this law in terms of rights protection, and that it fell squarely within the remit of SELAJSI objectives, the programme quickly positioned itself as the lead source of technical support to the Ministry of Justice for the implementation of the Act. Significant progress was made on the sub-national component (area based model) with the establishment of the first district Case Flow Management Committee in Batticaloa and scheduling the first meetings of the other two for the second quarter in Ratnapura and Anuradhapura. Agreement was reached at the Batticaloa Committee on mechanisms to speed up specific cases through greater communication and collaboration amongst justice sector stakeholders. At national level work began in pursuance of the MoU with the Attorney General's Department to clear the backlog of narcotics cases, cases of persons detained for long periods under Emergency Regulations, and complaints at the public petitions unit of the Department. Work on the formulation of the National Legal Aid Policy continues with a draft expected in July-August. The Legal Aid Commission has begun preliminary work on selection of priority cases for legal aid, following the MoU entered into with the Commission for legal assistance to be provided for a total of 250 High Court cases of detainees/prisoners in the model areas and in Colombo, and 90 cases in Magistrate's Courts and at Methsevana (Women's Detention Centre). Work has progressed as planned on the National Action Plan to address Gender Based Violence (GBV) led by the Ministry of Women's Affairs. Orientation meetings were held bringing all nine sectors together, to explain the ToRs of the sectoral technical committees, obtain feedback and agree the way forward for setting up the committees with the lead Ministries. These meetings were well-received, with all sectors appearing to be in agreement on the importance of GBV as an issue to be addressed and the need for a multi-sectoral Action Plan. At the sub-national level the meetings on the GBV referral system were held in Ratnapura and Anuradhapura, where useful suggestions were received on taking this forward below district level to the divisional and village level in the third quarter.

2. Planned and Unplanned Results Achieved

In the following sections, please use the tables provided to answer these questions:

- (1) List and describe all intended and unintended results from this quarter.
- (2) List any evidence that proves intended results were achieved.
- (3) What was the cause of any unintended results?
- (4) How was the evidence gathered?

2.1 Outcome(s) and outputs

Outcomes and Outputs <i>Planned Results (US term)</i>	Progress against identified performance indicators <i>Achieved Results (US term)</i>	Means of Verification <i>Evidence and Data Collection (US term)</i>	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 2 – 2015
Outcome: Communities empowered and institutions strengthened to support local governance, access to justice, social integration, gender equality, and monitoring, promotion and protection of human rights in alignment with international treaties and obligations and in alignment to the constitution of Sri Lanka.				
<p>Activity Result 1: Reduced criminal justice delays through improved case management and pretrial procedural mechanisms between penal chain actors in 1 “area model”(1.1)</p> <p>Baselines: 1. # of backlog cases to be established during Year-1 2. # of priority cases identified in 1 area model penal chain to be established in Year-2</p> <p>Process indicators: 1. Case Management Committee established and in operation in 1 area model 2. Staff trained on use of case-management systems</p> <p>Output indicators: 1. % priority cases addressed in the area model penal chain 2. Increased efficiency in the criminal justice process</p>	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Case Management Committees have yet to be established 2. Not yet started <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cases to be expedited have been identified. 2. To be determined through project evaluations. 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting minutes, participant attendance lists 2. Training attendance lists, training agendas/curricula <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reports, case tracking formats 2. Project reviews (mid-term, endline) 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Delays in obtaining required approvals to establish committees. The project is seeking alternative options. 2. System has yet to be established, due to reason above. <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The slightly delayed, the process is moving forward 	<p><i>USD 4760.00 (Cash Advance released for Q2-2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 1,255.00 (Expenditure recorded for Q2-2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 21,606.33 (Total Expenditure Recorded to date)</i></p>

Outcomes and Outputs <i>Planned Results (US term)</i>	Progress against identified performance indicators <i>Achieved Results (US term)</i>	Means of Verification <i>Evidence and Data Collection (US term)</i>	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 2 – 2015
<p>Activity Result 2: Increased coordinated legal aid service delivery for vulnerable and marginalized populations, including through the establishment of referral mechanisms at sub-national level (2.2)</p> <p>Baselines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No formal referral system in place between ADR mechanisms, paralegal service providers, legal aid service providers and justice and security institutions 2. No recognition of paralegals as formal legal aid service providers. 3. Absence of standardized training and accreditation for paralegals. 4. Many recommendations of the 2010 LAC capacity assessment have not been implemented 5. # of LAC capacity assessment recommendations not implemented to be determined in year-1 <p>Process indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formal referral system established between ADR mechanisms, paralegal service providers, legal aid service providers and justice and security institutions <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Para legals formally recognized as legal aid service providers 2. Standardized training and accreditation system for para-legals established 3. # of recommendations of the 2010 LAC capacity assessment implemented 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Referral Mechanism was established in Batticaloa district. <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Paralegals have yet to be identified. 2. Training and accreditation system has yet to be developed 3. Implementation of recommendations are on-going 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Case tracking formats, meeting minutes, reports, case studies <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List of official recognized paralegals from relevant authority, copies of recognition document 2. Training manuals and curricula documents, accreditation policy document 3. Reports 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The project was able to influence the Legal Aid Commission to prioritize the development of a Legal Aid Policy. Once the policy is developed, it would provide guidance on referral systems and appointment of paralegals <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awaiting development of Legal Aid Policy 2. As above 3. Ongoing 	<p><i>USD 67,933.00 (Cash Advance released for Q2-2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 2,246.00 (Expenditure recorded for Q2-2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 31,320.16 (Total Recorded Expenditure to date)</i></p>

Outcomes and Outputs <i>Planned Results (US term)</i>	Progress against identified performance indicators <i>Achieved Results (US term)</i>	Means of Verification <i>Evidence and Data Collection (US term)</i>	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 2 – 2015
<p>Activity Result 3: Capacities of law enforcement and judicial institutions strengthened to efficiently handle SGBV cases and ensure equal access to legal and judicial protection for SGBV victims (3.3)</p> <p>Baselines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No National Action Plan on SGBV. • Comprehensive and current data on prevalence of SGBV not available. • Domestic violence law adopted but some gaps remain. • There is no operational referral system of SGBV from mediation boards to the penal chain. • # of cases filed under Domestic Violence Act of 2003 to be determined by baseline study conducted in year-1. <p>Process indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legislation to combat violence against women reviewed by mandated institutions. <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National action plan on SGBV formulated. 2. # of activities implemented from the National Action Plan on SGBV. 3. % increase in the number of domestic violence complaints referred by the Mediation Boards to the penal chain (as a proxy for the operationalization of the system). 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of National Framework and National Action Plan on GBV has been initiated, this includes a consultative process across various sectors, where relevant legislation would be reviewed <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Process of developing the NAP is ongoing 2. NAP is in the process of being developed 3. To be determined 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documentation and reports <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Final draft of NAP 2. Reports, case studies 3. Case tracking formats, reports, case studies 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Process is ongoing <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Process is on-going 2. Process is on-going 3. TBD 	<p><i>USD 27,846.68 (Cash Advance released for Q1-Q2 2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 24,416.60 (Expenditures incurred for Q2, but not yet recorded)</i></p> <p><i>USD 18,215.99 (Total Expenditure Recorded to date)</i></p>
<p>Activity Result 4: Improved institutional capacities for efficiency and effectiveness of the justice sector at national level, including strategic planning and cross-sectoral management skills for the formulation and implementation of policies, laws and plans (4.2)</p>	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Victims and Witness Protection Act was passed in Feb 2015. At least 01 introductory discussion was initiated through the Legal Aid Commission as 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discussion minutes, participants list <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Official notification of establishment of unit, 	<p>Process Indicators</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This activity is on-going <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Priorities of Ministry has shifted immediately following the Jan 2015 elections. 	<p><i>USD 62,154 (Cash Advance released for Q2-2015)</i></p> <p><i>USD 16,423 (Expenditures recorded for Q2-2015)</i></p>

Outcomes and Outputs <i>Planned Results (US term)</i>	Progress against identified performance indicators <i>Achieved Results (US term)</i>	Means of Verification <i>Evidence and Data Collection (US term)</i>	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 2 – 2015
<p>Baselines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No language unit in the MOJ to formulate and coordinate implementation of a language plan for the justice sector, including recommendations by the Speedy Trial Committee. 2. Lack of consolidated legislation and translations in both official languages of Evidence Ordinance, Penal Code, Judicature Act, Criminal Procedure Code and Civil Procedure Code. 3. Limited awareness amongst lawyers of the latest international and regional developments in criminal justice and public law (Constitutional and Administrative) 4. The draft Bill on Assistance and Protection to Victims of Crime and Witnesses was tabled in June 2008. The Supreme Court of Sri Lanka in its Special Determination 1/2008, SCM 02.04.2008, suggested changes to the draft law of which many were incorporated by the Ministry of Justice into an “Amended Version” issued on 28 July 2009. <p>Process indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. # of dialogue/advocacy events between the criminal justice system stakeholders on passage of the Protection of Victims and Witness Bill <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Languages Unit established in the MoJ to formulate and coordinate implementation of a language plan for the justice sector 2. # of key pieces of legislation consolidated and translated into both official languages 3. Draft amendments to Criminal Procedure Code prepared to decrease case delays and remand population 	<p>part of a sensitization programme for Police officers.</p> <p>Output indicators:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language Unit has yet to be established 2. 02 pieces of legislation have been translated (Penal Code & Criminal Procedure Code). 02 more will be initiated in Q3 (Evidence Ordinance & Judicature Act) 3. On-going 	<p>draft of language plan, evidence of implementation of language plan (reports, photos, case studies)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Copies of translated legislation, reports/case studies of how translated documents have been used 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. This activity if on-going. 3. This activity if on-going. 	<p><i>USD 76,518.14 (Total Expenditure Recorded to date)</i></p>

Outcomes and Outputs Planned Results (US term)	Progress against identified performance indicators Achieved Results (US term)	Means of Verification Evidence and Data Collection (US term)	Comments. Please explain any variance between planned and achieved activities, outputs and outcomes	Total outcome expenditure/advance excluding project support costs (PSC), in US\$, as of Quarter 2 – 2015
			Total 2014 (Excluding PSC)	127,736.62
			PSC	46,121.00
			Total Expenditure for 2014 (Including PSC)	173,857.62
			Total Expenditures recorded for 2015	19,924.00
			Total expenditure incurred, but not recorded	24,416.60
			Outstanding Cash Advances	162,693.68
			Total Expenditures Recorded to date	193,782.11

2.2 Unplanned Results

Unplanned Result	Cause of result
N/A	N/A

3. Progress against Implementation Plan

3.1 Progress this quarter

As at the end of June 2015, the outstanding cash advance is **USD 162,693.68** which includes USD 27,846.68 released for Output 3 in the first quarter (Q1), and USD 134,847.00 released for output 1, 2 and 4 in the second quarter (Q2) to the project implementing partners for on-going activities. Overall, the final expenditure recorded to date is **USD 193,782.11**.

Current Progress (please indicate)							
On track		Slightly delayed	X	Delayed		Ahead of plan	

Activity Result 1: Reduced criminal justice delays through improved case management and pretrial procedural mechanisms between penal chain actors in 1 “area model”

PROGRESS OVERVIEW:

This quarter saw the project move further towards implementing change at sub-national level through the establishment of the first area model Case Flow Management Committee, linked to the previously established National Sub-committee on Case Flow Management. The first district committee meeting held in Batticaloa agreed to work on specific aspects to reduce the backlog of criminal cases in the district, including expediting child abuse cases held up due to missing medico-legal reports, and moving on selected cases which have been long delayed through a collaborative mechanism between police and the Attorney General’s Department. At national level further progress was made in terms of clearing pending cases, by including along with narcotics cases, cases of persons detained for prolonged periods under the Prevention of Terrorism Act and complaints made to the public petitions unit of the Attorney General’s Department.

Further details related to specific activities conducted in this regard are listed below:

Area Model Case-Flow Management (CFM) Committee (Batticaloa)

Following repeated attempts at securing approval from the Judicial Services Commission to nominate a judicial officer to the CFM Committee, and the subsequent rejection of approval communicated to the Ministry of Justice in April 2015, the Ministry decided to proceed with the establishment of the Committees without judicial representation. The first area model CFM Committee meeting was held in Batticaloa on 25th June 2015 with the participation of the Police, State Counsel, Judicial Medical Officer, Government Agent, National Child Protection Authority, Department of Probation and Child Care Services, Legal Aid Commission, Prisons and Corrections Department. The key challenges for case delays were discussed extensively and key decisions were taken in respect of addressing some of these challenges. Some of the major problems were delays in receiving medico-legal reports and reports from the Government Analyst’s Department, and in filing indictments in the High Court by the Attorney General’s Department. Some of the steps agreed to expedite cases included the Police Women and Children’ Desk liaising with the Judicial Medical Officer to speed up medico-legal reports, and the police coordinating with the State Counsel (representing the Attorney General’s Department) to expedite 10 selected priority cases. Challenges specific to the penal chain institutions at national (central) level were communicated to the heads of such institutions at the National Case Flow Management Meeting (concerns with regards to the serving of summons by court to the Judicial Medical Officer etc.) The next area model CFM Committee meeting is scheduled for 16th July 2015 in Ratnapura, and the Anuradhapura meeting tentatively scheduled for August/September 2015.

National Case Flow Management Committee

The Ministry secured the services of the research group ‘Verite Research’ to conduct an assessment of the penal chain institutions in order to better identify the challenges and bottlenecks on CFM specific to each institution. The findings of the study will be presented to the National CFM Committee so that the Committee could arrive at an informed policy decision in order to address the key challenges highlighted by the Study. The next meeting of the National CFM Committee is tentatively scheduled for 14th July 2015. A de-briefing of the Batticaloa CFM meeting will be presented to the National Committee at this sitting.

Baseline Assessment on the Challenges in the Penal Chain

Following a number of technical discussions and in consultation with the Ministry of Justice, Verite Research, Center for Study of Human Rights (CSHR) and Attorney-at-Law Mr Harshana Nanayakkara developed the proposed

Research Tool. CSHR selected the legal researchers (attorneys-at-law with 5 years of experience) that would conduct the field study. A comprehensive training workshop was held for the researchers with the technical expertise of Mr. Nanayakkara, Verite Research and the Ministry of Justice/UNDP technical coordinator on 19th December 2014. While the research team was to visit the field from the 22nd – 30th December, the activity could not be conducted as the Ministry of Justice had not yet received a response from JSC to its letters of request (submitted in October, November, and December 2014). In light of this and given the heavy rains/flooding in Anuradhapura during this period, the study was postponed. However, on 10th January 2015, the Ministry received a response from the JSC rejecting approval to conduct the study. The Ministry submitted another letter of request (to the JSC) on 6th February 2015 detailing the proposed plan seeking the JSC's guidance on how best to revisit the study strategy. Following discussions yet another letter was submitted along with the proposed research tool and the profiles of the organizations/individuals tasked with carrying out the study. Subsequent to yet another rejection of the request and an informal suggestion by the JSC to consider conducting the study (as an internal/confidential study) with the support of the Sri Lanka Judges Training Institute (JTI) utilizing the research tool developed by Verite Research, the Ministry submitted a formal request to the Judges Institute to this effect. However, upon submitting the request the Board of JTI decided that the specific study cannot be conducted without the JSC approval.

Having exhausted all attempts at securing approval to conduct the study, the Ministry has reformulated the proposed activity to conduct specific programmes for the Judicial Medical Officers and the Scene of Crime Officers of the Sri Lanka Police with the support of the Center for Study of Human Rights. The Programmes will focus specifically on the challenges experienced by the aforementioned officers on Case Flow Management.

Case Prioritization within the Attorney General's Department (AGD)

Following a series of discussions with the Attorney General (AG), the Ministry of Justice entered into a memorandum of understanding with the AG's Department to support the Department with 8 State Counsel to assist with clearing the backlog of narcotics cases as well as those cases relating to persons held in detention for prolonged periods of time under the Prevention of Terrorism Act and the Emergency Regulations. Additionally, support is being extended to strengthen the "*Mahajana Pethsam*" (Public Petitions) Unit at the AG's Department in order to facilitate a more streamlined response to public complaints pertaining to case delays. This programme initiative commenced on 1st June 2015. Narcotics cases were selected by the AG's Department as there was interest in the Department to prioritise these cases due to the large numbers of persons in detention for drugs offences, including possession of quantities varying from very small to large amounts, who could have their cases speeded up relatively easily were they to receive the appropriate legal advice and representation. Moreover, addressing concerns related to narcotics control was a key objective of the 100 Day Work Plan of the new President, which was the priority focus of the government post the election in January 2015. Prioritization of the narcotics cases at the Attorney General's Department was also viewed as a welcome initiative in this regard.

Activity Result 2: Increased coordinated legal aid service delivery for vulnerable and marginalized populations, including through the establishment of referral mechanisms at sub-national level

PROGRESS OVERVIEW:

Work on the development of a National Legal Aid Policy continues, with ownership taken for the process by the Ministry of Justice and the Legal Aid Commission. Responding to an emerging opportunity and priority for the justice sector in Sri Lanka, the programme has stepped in to provide much-needed support to the Ministry of Justice in raising awareness amongst law enforcement officials on the newly enacted Victim and Witness Protection Act. This law has been advocated for by rights activists and been in the legislative pipeline for many years, but was finally passed in February this year as part of the law reform initiative of the new government following the January Presidential Election. Moving forward on legal aid for detainees, a MoU was entered into with the Legal Aid Commission to provide legal assistance for selected priority cases in the Magistrate's and High Courts of the programme model areas, Colombo and the women's detention centre Methsevana. Filing of cases will commence in the 3rd quarter.

Further details related to specific activities conducted in this regard are listed below:

National Policy on Legal Aid

Three meetings were held with the Chairman of the Legal Aid Committee, and consultant, Dr Ramani Jayasundara to identify and finalize the specific members of the LAC who would guide the development of the National Policy. The Consultant also developed and submitted the concept document as well as the Terms of Reference of the proposed Committee. The Consultant conducted several meetings with the Legal Aid Commission to discuss the proposed structure of the National Policy, following which a preliminary draft of the Policy will be presented to the Legal Aid Committee mid-July 2015 for comments and suggestions.

Support on Victim and Witness Protection

The reporting quarter was dedicated to a number of technical discussions on the operationalization of the Victim and Witness Protection Act that was passed by Parliament on 16th February 2015. The Technical Coordinator supported

the Ministry of Justice to identify the parts/chapters within the Act which could be brought into operation forthwith and those parts that require preliminary ground work prior to bringing it into operation and also drafted the Order Paper that is currently in the process of being gazetted in order to operationalise the selected parts/chapters. Moreover, the Technical Coordinator also provided technical support by developing a preliminary action plan and providing technical guidance to the Ministry on identifying priorities in relation to victim and witness protection laws as well as devising a holistic strategy to address the subject. Further support was extended to draft comprehensive papers to each stakeholder institution including the Chief Justice, Judicial Services Commission, Attorney General, Inspector General of Police, Government Analyst, Chief Judicial Medical Officer, Registrar of Courts, Commissioner General of Prisons, National Child Protection Authority on their specific roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis the Act. Specific guidance on what measures should be implemented by each institution in order to operationalise the Act was also spelt out in detail.

A number of initiatives were also conceptualised and planned during this quarter (to be implemented in subsequent quarters) such as the comprehensive sensitization programme for Police, and the public awareness campaign on the rights and entitlements of victims of crime and witnesses as per the newly enacted legislation.

Further trainings will be conducted for non-judicial court staff in Colombo, Batticaloa, Ratnapura and Anuradhapura on the Victim and Witness Protection Act in order to sensitize officials to the provisions of the Act. The programmes are proposed to be held in September 2015.

Special training programmes are also planned for the Police on the Victim and Witness Protection Act, who would be sensitized to the specific duties and functions of the police as stipulated in the Act which would strengthen the support services available to victims.

At present key stakeholders including the Judiciary, Police, Attorney General’s Department, Legal Aid Commission, National Child Protection Authority, Department of Probation and Child Care Services, Prisons, Ministry of Law and Order, Ministries of Women’s Affairs, Court Registrars and the Bar Association of Sri Lanka are being sensitized to the provisions of the Act by distributing and highlighting the specific duties of each institution vis-à-vis the rights and entitlements of victims as stipulated in the Act. Following this preliminary introduction a specialized training on the Act is planned for these officials.

Further to this, the programme is presently holding discussions with advertising companies and agencies on the development of a docudrama, TV/cinema infomercials, as well as, information brochures, cartoon booklets and other awareness raising material for the general public on the rights and entitlements of victims of crime and witnesses as per the “Assistance to and Protection of Victims of Crime and Witnesses Act” No. 4 of 2015. The Ministry envisages securing wide outreach impact coupled with the specific sensitizing programmes to be conducted for the police and other public officials to whom victims and witnesses are likely to seek support from.

Legal Assistance to Prisoners

Discussions were held with the Legal Aid Commission on the existing legal aid support extended to the prisons through the programme during the year 2014. Following discussions, it was decided that support will be extended to the pre-trial detainees within the area models and Welikada Prison during the year 2015. The LAC conducted a brief assessment of the legal needs of the prisoners in Anuradhapura in order to scope out the type of support needed as well as the number of persons seeking legal aid support.

A MOU was signed between the Ministry of Justice and Legal Aid Commission in May to provide legal aid for prison inmates at the Methsevana Detention Centre, Colombo Remand Prison and Magazine Prison and well as prisons in Batticaloa, Anuradhapura and Ratnapura Districts. The following number of cases are to be filed in each court :

Name of Prison	Magistrate Court Cases	HC cases
Batticaloa	50	20
Ratnapura	50	20
Anuradhapura	50	20
CRP/ Magazine	70	30
Methsevana	30	
Total	250	90

Activity Result 3: Capacities of law enforcement and judicial institutions strengthened to efficiently handle SGBV cases and ensure equal access to legal and judicial protection for SGBV victims

PROGRESS OVERVIEW:

Based on the concept and framework agreed on in the last quarter, the development of the National Action Plan to address Gender Based Violence has commenced. Initial meetings to explain and obtain feedback on the process of the

formulation of the National Action Plan, have been held with senior officials of the different sectoral ministries. The lead ministries for each sector have been agreed on, with the first meetings of some sectors already scheduled for July. Initial awareness raising on the referral system for GBV has been completed in the remaining districts of Anuradhapura and Ratnapura, with plans being made to take a more sustainable system at district level and further down to the divisional level in the next quarter.

Further details related to specific activities conducted in this regard are listed below:

National Framework and National Action Plan (NAP) on GBV:

Two meetings were held on 22 April and 21 May 2015 at the Ministry of Women's Affairs with the Secretaries and technical sector-leads of the appointed Ministries. The sectors of the NAP on GBV include: (1) Prevention and Response to GBV through Education, (2) Health Response to GBV, (3) Economic advancement and intervention to GBV, (4) Economic Development and Employment - addressing issues of GBV at the workplace and for migrant workers, (5) Empowerment and Prevention, (6) Justice and Law Reform, (7) Media and GBV, (8) Disaster management and prevention/ response to GBV and (9) Prevention, protection and responding to GBV against Children. The two national Consultants Dr. Lakshman Senanayake and Ms. Sriyani Perera that are leading the process will link with the sector teams to assist in the formulation of the sector plans. Relevant government ministries and UN agencies that are engaged in the above sectors as well as leading civil society organizations (NGOs/ INGOs) will be invited to be part of the technical teams as relevant.

The concept note of the NAP to address GBV, TOR of the Chairperson/technical lead of each technical committee, TOR of committee members, and standard format to compile NAP on GBV for technical committees has also been developed and shared with the committees. The compiled first draft of the National Action Plan on GBV is expected to be ready for review in November 2015.

Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Referral System

District level multi-sectoral referral symposiums on GBV were held in Anuradhapura (on 18th May 2015) and Ratnapura (on 25th May 2015) districts. The referral symposium brought together participants which included among others: Police Women and Child Desks, officers of the MWA's Women and Child Development Units based at district offices, officers of the GBV Hospital Desks, Chairpersons/ trainers of Mediation Boards, the district Judicial Medical Officer (JMO), civil society groups, police training school officials, State Counsel, shelter staff, and other district committee representatives. The referral model developed by the Ministry and UNDP was shared at these meetings.

Key recommendations that resonated at these district-level symposiums include:

- Greater need/ urgency to work at a more coordinated and consultative level is paramount. Ministry of Women's Affairs should continue to give leadership to this effort.
- SGBV referral system with reference to women's needs and, where absent, children's needs should be established and integrated at regular district level discussions; a district level committee should be established to address SGBV.
- Lack of gender-sensitization and stereotyping of gender roles leads to the perpetuating of SGBV - this was highlighted by field level workers and chairpersons of mediation boards.
- Understanding of deeper issues of SGBV is required, which is rooted in the lack of understanding or the sensitivity of openly discussing sexual and reproductive rights.
- VAW stems largely from a lack of understanding. MWA needs to have programmes for men on ending VAW and need to develop a system to engage with men in this effort continuously and not only on an ad hoc basis.
- Lack of gender balance in mediation boards hinders the effective mediation especially when handling domestic disputes.
- Pre-marital counselling is essential to end VAW. All couples intending to get married should follow pre-marital counselling by the Registrar of births, deaths and marriages who could link with Family Health Bureau and the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka which provide these services. MWA is brainstorming options of providing these services at community level.

The MWA intends to commence district level follow-up meetings beginning with Ratnapura in early Q3 and end with Anuradhapura and Batticaloa towards the end of Q3. The Ministry of Women's Affairs through its own funds will be setting up a shelter in Ratnapura (as there is none at present), which will further strengthen the SGBV referral system in Ratnapura.

Advocating for implementation, review, amendment and introduction of legislation/ policies to combat violence against women

The National Committee on Women (NCW) takes the lead in the Ministry in advocating for the implementation, review and amendment of laws and policies that affect women and policies that combat Violence against women. The Minister of Women's Affairs and the Secretary MWA attended the CSW59 and Beijing +20 in New York in March 2015. The participation of the Chairperson, NCW at the CSW59 and Beijing +20 in New York was essential for further interventions by the Ministry, hence this request was supported by UNDP-SELAJSI in Q1. Ministry through its own funds followed up on Beijing +20/CSW59 in Q2. The participation of the Secretary as well as the Chairperson

NCW has enabled this effective follow-up from Sri Lanka.

Regular meetings are held at the Ministry to formulate an Action Plan on Women's Equality & Empowerment according to the 12 Critical areas of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) and relevant officers from the MWA have been nominated to make presentations on each critical area of the BPfA.

Advocating on laws:

Support was extended to three legal clinics held in Anuradhapura in May (in the divisions of Rabawe (184 participants), Thalawa (119 participants), Kahatagasdigiliya (120 participants). This was organized by the Women's Bureau. Many women sought legal advice related to GBV at these sessions. This strengthened the role of MWA in advocating for legal redress in situations of VAW.

Raising Awareness to combat violence against women - Develop (Audio visual / print) and disseminate materials related to combat violence against women

- The 'resource notebook' containing information on laws, policies, CEDAW, helpline numbers which was designed and printed as a joint initiative of the Forum against GBV during the previous quarter was distributed to all officers of the Ministry Women and Child Units and the Police-Women and Child Desks (W&C Desks) at divisional level.
- A brochure with the contact numbers of the police, W&C Units and hospital desks which was printed in Sinhala & Tamil as well as DVDs on GBV prevention/ response dramas produced by NCW (copying supported by UNDP-SELAJSI) are also being distributed at the same time. This initiative supports materials related to combat VAW and will support initiatives to strengthen the referral system as well.

Support collection of gender disaggregated data on crime and identify measures to address priority issues on violence against women

- The MWA initiated a process to collect data on widows as well as Female Headed Households (FHH) in Sri Lanka, given their vulnerability to GBV as well as other situations. At present the MWA has 30,000 filled data forms on widows and FHH with the MWA data entry unit (that is those which have been received from DS level) to be entered to the e-women database. Support is extended for a period of 5 months towards the data entry function of the 30,000 forms received on FHH, being a group vulnerable to VAW. The estimated number of forms which are yet to be received from the Divisions amount to over 700,000 forms island-wide, which too will have to be entered into the e-women database.
- Discussions on a 'common data-base format' for the collection of GBV data is being discussed as there are many formats that have emerged. MWA hopes to take this discussion forward with the police.

CEDAW Reporting

The work undertaken by the Technical Team (consisting of 12 experts) and one lead technical expert with reference to the 8th Periodic State party CEDAW report is now complete and is at present undergoing the final review by the MWA and Ministry of External Affairs. The report was submitted by the Ministry of External Affairs to the CEDAW committee end April 2015.

Support the mapping and development, if required, of curriculum, training modules and training techniques on SGBV for all justice sector institutions and actors

The projects hopes to roll-out the training manual on SGBV developed by the Sri Lanka Police in collaboration with UN Resident Coordinator's Office. The manual was officially handed over to the Inspector General of Police in April 2015 and is already being rolled out in the Police College in Kalutara for new recruits. During roll-out, few errors in translation were identified, and the manual is currently being reviewed prior to further dissemination.

SELAJSI will focus on using the revised manual to strengthen capacities of in-service officers attached to the police Women and Children's desks in the 3 area models and as relevant in 2015 and is in the process of initiating discussing with the Police in this regard.

Gender/ GBV sensitization of police officers attached to the women and child police desks: 6 police officers (5 female and 01 male) from Batticaloa are following a course on counselling conducted by the National Institute of Social Development (NISD) through its Batticaloa centre. Another 20 police officers are enrolled at the Anuradhapura and Colombo centers; 07 female and 4 male officers at Anuradhapura, and 07 female and 01 male officers at Colombo. The total number of police officers following the course had dropped to 26 due to work demands & inability to comply with minimum NISD attendance requirements. Therefore the MWA has placed 14 (female) Women's Development Officers to follow the course at the Anuradhapura center. Therefore, in total, there are 40 officers (33 female and 07 male) following the course. The duration of the course is 21 months.

Capacity Assessments

The Capacity Assessment of MWA's Women and Child Development Units was completed in the three area models of Anuradhapura, Ratnapura and Batticaloa last year. The assessment was undertaken by the Ministry together with the SELAJSI-Technical Coordinator. The data is being analyzed and collated for the preparation of the report. The assessment finding will shed light on the perceptions as well as basic gender/ GBV related knowledge of all field

officers in the 3 area models working in the area of women and children. The finding while being a pre-test in itself as this was undertaken before any initiatives/ training under UNDP-SELAJSI was undertaken will inform the level of capacity of the field officers. This will highlight if there is a need for training on gender, GBV and related laws, as well as their capacity to write proposals and put forward gender/ GBV related issues at district and divisional level.

Activity Result 4:

Improved institutional capacities for efficiency and effectiveness of the justice sector at national level, including strategic planning and cross-sectoral management skills for the formulation and implementation of policies, laws and plans

PROGRESS OVERVIEW:

In keeping with the objective of bringing the law closer to the public, the consolidation and translation into Sinhala and Tamil of the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure Act have been completed, and will go through the processes of first and second proof reading during the third quarter, prior to final approvals and printing. The training for the Legal Draftsman's Department in drafting more simple, clear and accessible legislation continued this quarter. Further details related to specific activities conducted in this regard are listed below

Translation and Consolidation of Core Legislation (Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure)

The Ministry received the finalized versions of the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Act (in Sinhala, Tamil, and English Languages) and the hard copies were submitted to the Government Printer for layout. The initial proof of the Penal Code (in all three languages) and the Criminal Procedure Code (in Sinhala and English Languages) was handed over to the Ministry by the Government Printer for proof reading on 30th June 2015. The consultants are currently reviewing these proofs and are expected to handover the proof read copies by end of July, after which a second proof would be prepared by the Government Printer for review and finalization, prior to printing. Additionally, the consultants are expected to commence the consolidation of the Evidence Ordinance and the Judicature Act by 1st August 2015.

Legal Draftsman's Department

The Training programme was launched in December 2014 and is currently being conducted by the British Council Colombo. The officers of the Legal Draftsman's Department completed the primary level coursework and are currently engaged in the intermediary level course work. Specific lectures on legal drafting will be conducted by the Legal Draftsman Mr Arunashantha De Silva in July 2015.

Best practices forum on Penal Sanctions

Following a series of technical and budgetary discussions during the months of January and February 2015, it was decided that the Forum will be a National Forum, instead of the initially planned Regional Forum. While the overall technical structure of the Programme will remain the same, it was decided that a few key international experts in the field of sentencing will be invited as panellists for the forum and to support the Government to develop the national sentencing policy. The Forum will serve as a foundational platform at which the key sentencing guidelines could be developed for the Policy. At present, the Forum is scheduled for November 2015.

The findings from the study on the existing sentencing practices (as identified through a study on decided cases) will be presented at the Forum in order to assist policy makers to arrive at informed decisions.

Establish a thematic Sub-Committee on Sentencing

Following the first meeting of the thematic subcommittee on Sentencing Policy in November 2014, the TOR for the Committee was finalized and includes the following:

- Develop a paper based on the existing judicial decisions
- Discuss the criteria for granting suspended sentences
- Examine the existing practices in relation to sentencing and make judges aware of these practices/judgments.
- Existing training modules of the Judges Training Institute to include the existing practices identified above

The Ministry of Justice is currently in the process of securing the expertise and services of former Attorney General, Mr Palitha Fernando to conduct an extensive study on existing sentencing practices based on reported cases. The Study will also highlight proposed recommendations for the sentencing policy. The next sitting of the Sentencing Committee is tentatively scheduled for end July/early August and the research tool would be presented to the Committee for comments at this meeting.

Establish a National Steering Committee on Justice.

A National Steering Committee on Justice (NSCJ) was established and launched on 16th June 2014. The NSCJ is Chaired by the Hon. Minister of Justice and consists of senior representatives of all institutions relating to the Justice Sector. Under the aegis of this Committee, Sub Committees were established on Sentencing, Case Flow Management and Electronic Case Tracking Mechanism. Additional thematic Committees will be established in 2015 on Judicial Mediation, and Criminal Profiling. The next sitting of the National Steering Committee is tentatively scheduled for November 2015.

Strengthen the capacity of the Cyber Surveillance Unit of the National Child Protection Authority in order to expedite criminal cases

Discussions are on-going with the National Child Protection Authority on extending support to strengthen cyber surveillance operations conducted by its CSU. The specific support required is being mapped out after which the specific modalities of support would be identified.

Support the establishment of the National Authority of Victims of Crime and Witnesses and the Victims of Crime and Witnesses Division/Unit within the Police

The Ministry is currently engaged in gazetting the newly enacted Victims of Crime and Witnesses Act in order to bring it into operation. Technical support was extended to the Ministry in order to develop a plan of action for the implementation of the Act (in part). The Ministry is also engaged in mapping out the budget and institutional needs of establishing the National Authority and Police Division as per the Act.

3.2 Staffing, management and coordination arrangements

The four Technical Coordinators based at each of the Implementing Partner Ministries, continued to work on the Project, providing essential technical and coordination support. The Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) for the SELAJSI Programme also came on board in mid-December 2014 and has since been involved in undertaking consultations with the Implementing Partners and other key partner entities, in order to best support the Programme in 2015. While based at the office of the National Languages and Social Integration Division of the Ministry of Public Administration, the CTA spends time at all IP Ministries and is involved in key meetings. The Project Implementation Units within each Ministry continued to be in place and continue to support project activities during the reporting period.

The CTA, four Technical Coordinators and Programme Analyst meet on a monthly basis to share progress, exchange ideas and, where possible, coordinate activities. The second SELAJSI Programme Board meeting (PBM) for 2015 is scheduled for July 9th.

4. Any significant issues, problems or challenges (internal and external) encountered and action taken or required.

4.1 Key issues, problems and challenges

Summarise key issues, problems or challenges that the project has encountered in the reporting quarter, why these occurred, and what has been done, or needs to be done, to address such problems / issues. Highlight the key management actions that need to be taken to help ensure project benefits are maximized and sustained. Do you foresee any challenges in the next quarter?

Summarize any major evaluation or project steering committee/ tripartite meeting findings on the project (from the reporting quarter) – if available, annex relevant minutes. Complete below table in solution-oriented fashion, if applicable

The second SELAJSI Programme Board meeting (PBM) for 2015 is scheduled for July 9th. The discussion of the meeting will focus on activity progress to date, challenges in implementation and plans for the remainder of the year. Given the changes in political context during the first half of the year, much of the time was spent on reviewing and revising annual work plans, ensuring that planned activities were still relevant and practical. Accordingly, work plans were adjusted and all changes will be presented to the Board for approval.

Issue, problem or challenge	Steps taken to resolve issue	Status of issue (i.e. resolved, unresolved)	Additional measures to be taken if unresolved
Challenge of conducting the baseline/casefile study on the challenges within the penal chain – Delay in securing the necessary approvals and the confidentiality of the information on the case status etc.	Letters of request were re-submitted elaborating on the proposed research tool, institutional profiles, and the	Unresolved (delayed) Lack of approval for the subsequent letters of request communicated to the	The Ministry of Justice held a preliminary discussion with the Judges Training Institute on the possibility of conducting the study with

Issue, problem or challenge	Steps taken to resolve issue	Status of issue (i.e. resolved, unresolved)	Additional measures to be taken if unresolved
<p>-The need to conduct the assessment during the period of Court Vacation (i.e. December)</p> <p>Changes to the Judiciary, Judicial Services Commission post the 8th January 2015 Presidential Election.</p>	<p>objective. Guidance was sought from the JSC on how best to revisit the research tool/strategy.</p>	<p>Ministry in the third week of March 2015</p>	<p>the Institute's support.</p> <p>Awaiting a response. If favorable, the study will be conducted utilizing the research tool that has already been designed for the purpose. If approval is not granted, a similar initiative will be undertaken with the 'Scene of Crime Officers' and the Judicial Medical Officers to identify and address the case flow management challenges specific to these institutions.</p>
<p>Area-model Case Flow Management Committees</p> <p>Securing the necessary approval from the Judicial Services Commission to engage the Magistrates within the area models.</p> <p>Delays anticipated in securing approvals due to the current political context within which the attention of the relevant institutions have been veered towards other competing priorities.</p>	<p>Requests for approvals from the JSC were re-submitted well in advance cognizant of the delays associated with securing approvals.</p> <p>Discussions were held between the secretary/Justice and the newly appointed Chief Justice on the importance of the initiative</p>	<p>Delayed</p> <p>Awaiting response from the JSC to the letter of request re-submitted to the newly appointed Chief Justice</p> <p>It is unlikely that the Police will be able to appoint committee members who would remain throughout the year given the current political context. Especially in light of the forthcoming general elections</p>	<p>Awaiting the JSC response, failing which, the Ministry of Justice intends to establish the committees with the support of the Police, State Prosecution, Judicial Medical Officer, and Prison.</p>
<p>Delays anticipated in securing approvals due to the political, institutional and administrative changes that are expected to/that have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election and ahead of the forthcoming General Election.</p> <p>-Changes anticipated within the ministerial portfolios</p> <p>- possible revamping of priorities post General Elections</p>	<p>Identifying activities and interventions that can be implemented without requiring such approvals. (i.e. focus on land mediation, legal aid policy etc.)</p>		
<p>Establishment of the Research Unit</p> <p>Delays anticipated in securing approvals for cadre recruitment etc. from the Department of Management Services of the Ministry of Finance.</p> <p>Political, administrative and institutional changes to anticipated post the January 2015 Presidential Elections</p>			
<p>Support collection of gender disaggregated data on crime and identify measures to</p>	<p>MWA has been requested to hold a</p>	<p>To be determined in the next quarter</p>	

Issue, problem or challenge	Steps taken to resolve issue	Status of issue (i.e. resolved, unresolved)	Additional measures to be taken if unresolved
address priority issues on violence against women	meeting on taking this forward with NCW & the data unit at MWA as well as with UNFPA and UNDP teams.		
Need to initiate discussions to identify & address service delivery gaps within the Attorney General's Department and the judicial system on SGBV/ rape cases.	Preliminary meeting held with UN teams from UNICEF & UNDP and other experts that are able to shed light on the way forward.	To be determined	

4.2 Continued relevance or proposed course-corrections

The relevance and quality of the project design needs to be reviewed on an ongoing basis, given likely changes in operating context, policies, partner needs, etc. Also – some (original) project documents may need to be revised because they turn out to be of inadequate quality (e.g. vague or overambitious objectives, outcomes, indicators, etc). This is a part of risk analysis and management.

If outcomes, outputs, activities or inputs need to be modified in light of any significant changes in the operating environment or through lessons learned during implementation, these should be noted in this section. Proposals for re-design should also be described, and if necessary a project revision document prepared and submitted.

Since the Presidential Election of January 2015, the previous Cabinet of more than 80 Ministries was reduced to 40 Cabinet Ministries and 8 State Ministries which has meant drastic changes to the Ministry portfolios of Implementing Partners under the Strengthening Enforcement of Law, Access to Justice and Social Integration Programme, under which this Contribution/Project is implemented. As part of these changes the Ministry of National Languages and Social Integration is now absorbed as a Division of the Ministry of Public Administration, and the Ministry of Justice has expanded its purview to include, among others, Prison Reforms and Rehabilitation. The changes in portfolios have also meant significant changes in leadership at all state institutions. Therefore, for the Project, much of the first half of 2015 was spent re-introducing and re-orienting Ministry officials on project outputs and work plans, amidst the administration having a number of competing priorities.

The SELAJSI programme as a whole is being reviewed in light of the current context and emerging priorities and needs of the new Government, and may have minor modifications in programme approach. However, within the existing SELAJSI programme, a number of activities, such as the development of a National Action Plan on Gender Based Violence, align closely with the new Government's interests. Emerging interests, such the implementation of the recently passed Victims and Witness Protection Act, also align well to the existing SELAJSI framework. Accordingly the work plan was revised such that these activities receive prominence and benefits from the current momentum to move these initiatives forward.

However, it should also be noted that the President of Sri Lanka recently announced for the Parliamentary elections to be held on August 17th, 2015. This could mean a second deceleration of activities from the Ministry-side immediately before and after the elections. Therefore, in anticipation of this, the programme has, as much as possible, obtained required approvals for major activities, and will identify alternative modalities (such as direct UNDP contracting) to expedite activities and ensure they move forward despite the outcome of the upcoming election.

5. Work plan for next quarter

- (1) What parts of the program do you expect to implement in the next quarter?

Outcome/Output <i>Result Area (US term)</i>	Relevant Outcome/ Output Indicator(s)	Perceived Challenges for Next Quarter?
Activity Result 1: Reduced criminal justice delays through improved case management and pretrial procedural mechanisms between penal chain actors in 1 “area model”(1.1)		Some delays are anticipated in securing approval/coordination/implementation of overall activities due to the political, institutional and administrative changes that have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election. Multiple changes within the political administrative and structural context anticipated following the forthcoming General Election.
Obtain clarity regarding the reasons for JSC disapproval to proceed with select activities and explore alternate strategies for securing approval/moving forward with the activities.		
Conduct the Penal Chain Institutional Needs Assessment. Share findings with the National Committee on Case Flow Management.		Some delays are anticipated due to the General Elections scheduled to take place in August 2015. Institutions such as the Police, Attorney General’s Department will be unable to prioritise support related to the needs assessment during the run-up to and immediately after the elections.
Establishment of the Case Flow Management Committees in Ratnapura and Anuradhapura districts. Conduct the 2 nd meeting of the Batticaloa Case Flow Management Committee. Follow up on the decisions taken at the previous meetings.		<i>Considerable delays anticipated in scheduling the meetings in the beginning of the quarter, specifically since the Police and District Secretariat have indicated that no meetings can be held until the end of the General Election in August 2015.</i>
Continuation of the clearance of the backlog of narcotics cases and cases of persons held in detention for prolonged periods of time at the Attorney General’s Department. Follow up on initiatives undertaken to strengthen the Public Complaints division at the Attorney General’s Department.		
Workshop on the identification of priority cases (and strategies for addressing delays in case flow management) held for the Criminal Division of the Attorney General’s Department		
Activity Result 2: Increased coordinated legal aid service delivery for vulnerable and marginalized populations, including through the establishment of referral mechanisms at sub-national level (2.2)		Some delays are anticipated in securing approval/coordination/implementation of overall activities due to the political, institutional and administrative changes that have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election. Further delay, lack of clarity anticipated both ahead and post General Election 2015.
Committee to develop the National Policy on Legal Aid operational		
Sensitization programmes on the victim and witness protection law held for the Police		
Public awareness on the victim and witness protection law initiated.		
Provision of legal aid for prisoners-		

Extension of support beyond filing bail applications		
Support the establishment and operation of Special Land Mediation Boards in selected districts		
<p>Activity Result 3: Strengthen the capacity of MWA to lead the development of a National Framework and National Action Plan on eliminating SGBV: Secretaries meeting to get all sectors on board the process of formulating the NAP on GBV. Technical leads and technical teams setup and a wider consultation of the NAP process will commence led by all sector leads. The drafting of sector specific plans on GBV will commence in the next quarters and be finalized by the sector beginning of Q4.</p>		The changes in the political climate in Sri Lanka may cause delays, especially if Ministries are changed after the next election.
<p>Advocate for Review of Policies / laws on SGBV –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Briefing meetings on Beijing +20/ CSW59 (within MWA) - Legal aid clinics at divisional level to progress in other divisions in Anuradhapura and commence in the other two area models. -Discussions on the follow-up activities of the implementation of the anti-Sexual Harassment Policy at the workplace. To be undertaken within the Ministry by setting-up a committee to address complaints, as well as setting up such committees in the other ministries. - Discussions on the implementation of the NAP on Women - Initiate discussions on the adoption of Shelter guidelines, given that the MWA is setting up several shelters for victim survivors of GBV 		
<p>Strengthening the referral system of SGBV: Commence a sustainable district level Referral Forums to strengthen the SGBV referral pathway and to further go down to the divisional level. Divisions to be selected according to those that are reporting the most number of SGBV cases.</p>		
<p>Develop (Audio visual / print) and disseminate materials related to combat violence against women (on implementation of laws, review/ amendment of legislation and new laws -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dissemination of the DVDs copied, resource notebook and brochure useful to strengthen the referral system. - Re-print brochure in Tamil to strengthen referral system. - Formulation of a campaign against GBV - Printing in Tamil & Sinhala an advocacy document on the work done by the JMO for all field workers, trainers, teachers and other officials as relevant. 		
Support collection of gender disaggregated data on crime and identify measures to address priority issues on violence against		Delays may be experienced in finalizing the GBV datasheet due to coordination issues within the Ministry.

<p>women</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue support to the data entry function of the 30,000 forms received on female headed households (FHH)/ widows, being a group vulnerable to VAW. The estimated number of forms which are yet to be received from the Divisions amount to over 700,000 forms island-wide, which too will also have to be entered into the e-women database. - Discussions to be initiated to take forward the GBV data collection component of the e-women database. Workshop to be held in Ratnapura in the next quarter. 		
<p>Capacities of law enforcement and judicial institutions strengthened to efficiently handle SGBV cases and ensure equal access to legal and judicial protection for SGBV victims (3.3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion to be held between the MWA and the IGP and director of training, Director Women and Children's police desks to take initiative forward. - Roll-out of SGBV manual developed by UN RC's office for in-service law enforcement officers attached to the police women and children desks through the Kalutara Police Academy. 		<p>Some delays are anticipated in securing approval/coordination/implementation of overall activities due to the political, institutional and administrative changes that are expected to/that have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election.</p> <p>Roll-out of SGBV police manual will be delayed due to revisions which need to be made following comments received from a group of gender trainers.</p>
<p>Identify and address service delivery gaps within the Attorney General's Department and the judicial system on SGBV/ rape cases. Attempting to initiate discussion to take this forward</p> <p>As activity is being addressed under a broader Access to Justice activity and thus funds re-allocated to take forward the NAP on GBV and strengthen the referral system.</p>		
<p>Activity Result 4: Improved institutional capacities for efficiency and effectiveness of the justice sector at national level, including strategic planning and cross-sectoral management skills for the formulation and implementation of policies, laws and plans (4.2)</p>		<p>Some delays are anticipated in securing approval/coordination/implementation of overall activities due to the political, institutional and administrative changes that are have/and continue to take place post the January 2015 Presidential Election.</p> <p>Multiple changes within the political administrative and structural context anticipated following the forthcoming General Election.</p>
<p>Obtain clarity regarding the reasons for JSC disapproval to proceed with select activities and explore alternate strategies for securing approval/moving forward with the activities.</p>		
<p>Continue to conduct the training programme on drafting in the English language for the LDD.</p>		
<p>Undertake required preparatory work and conduct the national round table conference on penal sanctions</p>		<p>Awaiting final clarification/direction from the Chief Justice on securing the participation of the judiciary at the Sentencing Conference. Approval and participation of the Judiciary remains integral to the development and acceptance of the national policy/guidelines on sentencing</p>
<p>Conducting a study on the existing</p>		

sentencing practices based on decided cases		
Continuation of the thematic sub-committees.		
Finalise the technical proof reading of the consolidated penal code and criminal procedure code. Printing the same. Initiating the consolidation of the Evidence Ordinance and the Judicature Act.		
Conduct preliminary discussions on the implementation of the newly enacted victim and witness protection legislation.		