

BATCH OF 2005-2010

GROUP I

- Abinava Sankar
- Akshaya Kamalnath
- Arun Mohan
- Pathik Gandhi
- Jayaprakash Babu
- Manasvini Raj
- N Meyyappan
- R Minu
- Nikhil Chary
- Subhadra Banda
- Vidya Narayanaswamy
- Pavini Emiko Singh
- Amrita Khemka

Group I was given the Teach India assignment. They adopted and implemented a flexible method of teaching at the Srinivasa and Pragathi Elementary School in Shamirpet. The subjects instructed during the course of this program were chosen after consultation with the Head Masters/Mistresses, faculty members and students. Apart from the materials provided in textbooks, the Group also supplemented their teaching with innovative activities that kept the students engaged. The challenges faced by the group in this activity were those of language, low attention of children, irregular attendance, unclear concepts, and the habit of learning everything by using the rote method and in some cases even lack of enthusiasm. The Group observed that while Srinivasa School is slightly more equipped in terms of teachers and classrooms Pragathi School has fewer teachers and the principle relied heavily on the Group for assistance over. The group in their report has said that the Teach India program was a mutual learning experience. They have expressed their desire for NALSAR student community to continue the teaching and interaction with Shamirpet school children.

Apart from the Teach India Program Group I also took up the work of Land Laws Documentation. They were allotted work by Mr. Sunil Reddy, a NALSAR Alumnus specializing in A.P. Land Laws wherein they had to prepare a reading module on “Introduction to Land Laws” to be used as the basic course material for students of University of Law, Kakatiya University and Adarsha College both of which are in Warangal, A.P. The module is attached as appendix in the report and its content are as follows:

- Land, Law and Property
- History of Land Reforms
- Need for Legal Aid on Land Issues
- Introduction to Land Records
- Revenue Administration
- Pattadar Act
- Assignment of Land
- Ceiling Laws
- Land Grabbing
- Land Acquisition
- Forest Laws
- Forest Rights and AP Scheduled Area Land Transfer Regulation
- Preparation of a Land Case – The basic task under this is to find a lawyer dealing with land laws and determine the procedure for a land rights case. We also plan to use a real land rights case as an illustration to explain how to prepare for a land case.

GROUP II

- Abhinav Srivastava
- Pranshu Bhutra
- Nihal Singh
- Samer Talwar
- Saicharan
- Sathiya Moorthy
- Sandeep Roy

- Amit Rangar
- Aditya Singh

Group II was required to design a website for the NALSAR Legal Aid Cell. The website was designed with a motive of providing the reader with an insight into the working of the NALSAR Legal Aid initiative while allowing for the online submission of cases requiring legal aid.

The website consists of six pages, titled as follow (in sequence):

- Home
- About Us
- Programs
- Legal Aid Panel
- Associated Advocates
- Related Links

An important feature of the website is that along with the provision of the links to every other page on each page, every page of the website carries a prominent disclaimer in bold to notify the viewer that the substance of the website is meant to provide information about the working of the NALSAR Legal Aid initiative and is not as an advertisement or a solicitation of work, as such measures are barred under the rules of the Bar Council of India.

In order to facilitate the working of the Legal Aid Cell and to promote the graduates of NALSAR University of Law, the Legal Aid Cell undertook the task of creating a list of advocates for the purpose of administration of *pro bono* consultation and litigation. These advocates are all NALSAR alumni and had expressed their willingness to work with the NALSAR Legal Aid Cell for the purpose of administering Legal Aid to the indigent.

LEGAL AID TEAM – GROUP III

- Shatadru Chakraborty
- Himanshu Raman Singh
- Ashish Pareek
- Ritesh Kumar

- Amit Kumar
- Sangay
- Karma Tshering
- Rohan Sharma
- Shivendra Singh
- Dhananjaya Mishra

The principle responsibility assigned to this group was the establishment of a permanent functioning Legal Aid Cell at NALSAR Campus. The request made by the students to the administration was from equipping the Legal Aid team with three offices which were intended to be used for the following purpose:

- 1) Client-Counselling Room
- 2) A Room for the Faculty Coordinator
- 3) Student's office

They were however granted one room which was inaugurated by the then Vice Chancellor Mr. Veer Singh on February 5, 2009 in the presence of other faculty members and a large number of students. Pamphlets and notices about the new Legal Aid Cell were distributed among students which revolved around the following key points:

- The primary purpose of the cell is documentation of the legal aid material available in the University
- The Cell intends to come up with a list of persons, advocates and alumni who would be willing to render possible help in case a needy is directed to them. The Cell would soon be coming up with a website of its own
- LAC intends to be deeply involved in pro-bono and public policy oriented research and to increasingly develop and coordinate partnerships in association with other organizations
- The cell will conduct several field visits to nearby areas and get in touch with the NGOs active in that area and also the officials who are concerned with such tasks. The Cell will try to mediate between parties wherever possible. In other cases the Cell will help the needy to search for a lawyer and follow up of the case.

- The Cell will also try to raise awareness in the student community by organizing various competitions like essay writing and poster designing.
- LAC would be coming out with a half yearly newsletter called 'Legal Aid News'

The Legal Aid Cell students after a meeting with the VC and Registrar came up with the following plan of action for establishing the office which included building a database of books and equipping and contacting different organizations for funding and even for enrolling on their regular ailing list of publications. The students worked hard to make the room allotted into a functional office by installing a computer system, getting internet connectivity, arranging for stationary, getting hold of books, printing posters designed for putting them up for display in the Cell etc.

The team also came up with a dedicated panel of nine lawyers holding mostly expertise in mostly civil matters, including family disputes, land acquisition, revenue and property. Some of them however also had expertise in constitutional and criminal law. Apart from these nine lawyers NALSAR alumni were also contacted and the report says that their response was extremely enthusiastic.

The team got two clients during their tenure. One was a widow with a property dispute matter. The team approached a lawyer who was ready to work on this case pro bono. The other client was a complainant who had been having issues with the local authority regarding encroachers in his colony. He was advised by the team about his rights and was advised to file the writ of Mandamus in the High Court.

Apart from this a legal aid team undertook the responsibility of developing the contents of a permanent Legal Aid website and came up with a newsletter.

GROUP IV

- Aditi Mukundan
- Aanchal Jain
- Kekhroneo T Koza
- Manojna Yeluri
- Megha Saraf

- Neha Yadav
- Priyanka P Kadur
- Rachita Raj
- Rajani Gopiram
- Skalzung Dolker
- Varshini Murali
- Vidhu Gupta

Group IV divided their mandate into two categories namely Lok Adalats (Legal Aid) and Sanitation (Social Work). In the work category the members of the group attended, observed and participated in the proceedings of several adalats held during the year. It also included Lok Adalat programs organized by the Andhra Pradesh High Court Legal Services Committee and the Legal Services Authorities of Ranga Reddy district, Jail Adalats and other Lok Adalats organized at Cherlapalli Central Prison and the Mega Lok Adalat. Apart from this members of this group were also witness to counseling in matrimonial matters at District Legal Services Authority at L.B. Nagar, Ranga Reddy District and aided in preparation of notes for providing legal aid to prisoners and other clients. The adalats were attended in order to provide the members of the group with the opportunity of understanding the working of the legal system from within its administrative framework.

In addition to Legal Aid, the members of the group also organized sanitation awareness camps and litter picking drives in and around Shameerpet. These measures were undertaken with the intention of spreading awareness for the need of better sanitation facilities and the need to adopt healthy lifestyle changes. The camps were conducted in two schools in Shameerpet and were attended by students from 3rd standard to 9th standard. One awareness camp was organized in collaboration of Group III who had been assigned 'Public Health and Legal Literacy'. The camps were organized in schools in order to promote discussion among children, in order to facilitate change at a primary level. Apart from the children the group members also addressed various sections of the village such as college students, the dhaba owners, the owners of small shops around the village etc. providing them with insight into healthy, sanitary practices with regard to disposal of garbage, personal hygiene and other such important issues relating to sanitation.

The group also did a research on 'composting'. Realizing its importance and utility, the members drafted a proposal to introduce compost pits on the University campus. The proposal prepared with care and after much research revealed how the process of composting will prove to be beneficial and cost effective. A copy of the proposal is attached with the report.

The group has called their project successful in their report and given a list of results because of which they came to this conclusion:

1. The major roads and areas in Shameerpet village were free of litter and collectable garbage. The photos showing the same has been attached in the report.
2. Villagers and other visitors were made aware of the correct method of disposal and to be more conscious of their surroundings and to keep it clean, safe and healthy.
3. Shopkeepers installed dustbins near their establishments.

GROUP –V

- Aparajita
- Arunav Sharma
- Bala Chaitanya
- Brajendu Bhaskar
- Jamyang
- Kuenzang Dorji
- Sangay Chedup
- Sheryar Khanum
- Stuti Gujral
- Atoka Achumi
- Hina Doon
- Shivangi Sukumar

The group decided to start their initiative to start small and gradually make it grow gradually. The members formulated a strategy to be that of holistic participation – each and every member of the group was actively involved in all the activities they undertook – whether it was organizing a legal literacy camp in Shameerpet, or a similar camp for the non teaching staff in

NALSAR itself. As a result, it was only towards the end of their endeavour that secondary groups were formed, that too primarily for paperwork purposes.

The first task involved researching and printing legal pamphlets with basic legal information related to police procedures, land related matters, property dispute, family law etc. These flyers and pamphlets were circulated amongst the villagers at Shameerpet.

To conduct literacy camps the group needed background data in order to understand the legal problems faced by the targeted beneficiaries of these camps. Three localities were chosen, namely Amberpet, Shameerpet and NALSAR itself. Villagers residing in the first two localities and the non teaching staff and workers at NALSAR were interviewed in order to understand the legal problems faced by them. Since a majority of these problems related to police atrocities and land disputes, pamphlets were prepared containing basic information specific to these two issues. The libraries of the AP High Court as well as the NALSAR Library were used for this purpose.

The first activity that the group involved itself in was the 'Legal Literacy Camp' at Amberpet organized in collaboration with the State Legal Services Authority. A lot of people, especially the women folk attended the camp. The relevant issues that were dealt were setting up of new civil court in Amberpet, problems of land acquisition and other sanitation issues. Furthermore, the group actually helped a victimized woman to file a report on domestic violence that she was suffering at the hands of her husband.

For the second camp, the one at Shameerpet, the preparation went on for quite some time and the permission was obtained from the Sarpanch, Mr. Arun Kumar. Three days prior to the camp the members of the group went to the village and put up posters in local language for the purpose of informing the villagers for whom the camp was being conducted. This camp was organized with a view to educate the people about the rights and duties and recourse to law that could be taken by them. This included lectures on FIR, arrest, domestic and custodial violence. Prof. KVK Santhy, criminal law Professor at NALSAR was the key speaker. The funds for organizing this camp were granted by the University.

After conducting the camp at Shameerpet the group decided to conduct a camp for the non-teaching staff at NALSAR Lok Sabha elections happened to be around the corner so it was decided also to include a module on the 'right to vote' in the legal literacy campaign. Late Prof.

Vepa P. Sarathi graciously agreed to conduct the camp on behalf of the students in the vernacular language. The session was very interactive, with the audience posing several questions to Prof. Sarathi. The feedback was that the audience was very thankful that the student community of NALSAR had finally taken an initiative directed to the benefit of the non-teaching staff of the University.

The group faced some limitations in carrying out legal aid activities as it was the first time they had ventured into this realm. These included communication gaps due to language differences, villagers' skepticism in opening up to University students as this activity was the first of its kind and going for field work was sometimes hampered by prior academic commitments.

The group along with group VI organized the 12th *International Consumer Law Conference*. The conference was organized from February 25 to February 27, 2009 by NALSAR University of Law in association with the International Association of Consumer Law. The theme of the conference was *Consumer Law – Globalization, Poverty and Development*. The conference focused on such connections between consumer law and globalization, from the particular perspective of the growing need to address poverty and development issues in the context of consumer law.

GROUP – VI

- Abhir Dutt
- Rupin Behl
- Ram Reddy
- Fateh Pal Singh
- Satyaveer Singh
- Varun Chaudhary
- Ashish Rastogi
- Dhruv Pall
- Aditya Wadhwa
- Angad Mehta
- Aditya Swarup

Group VI of the Clinic Course was in charge of the organization on the *12th International Consumer Law Conference*. The group was divided into different committees: transport, rapporteuring, publication, publicity, content editing, hospitality and cultural committees. Because of the large scale on which the conference was going to be organized, with 150 participants, the eleven people could not have done it alone. They took the help of 1st and 2nd years themselves heading the committees. This also included making posters and designing banners.

Apart from organizing this conference, the group was also assigned the task of developing various websites and publications for the other activities of the University which included NALSAR Student Law Review, Legal Aid Cell, Indian Journal of Constitutional Law and the Centre for Air and Space Law. The websites included the following:

- Information related to the Centre/Journal
- Uploading of data/articles
- Pictures that would be suitable for that particular website
- Finding a proper host for the website
- Figuring out an updating mechanism for the website so that it may be easy for the students to whom the task is handed over to
- Contacting the University website developers (Mr. Uday Bhaskar) as regards putting up links of these websites for the same

GROUP VII - SLSA GROUP

- Kirti Mahapatra
- Aditi Singh
- Aishwarya Menon
- Ashrita Prasad K.
- Dakshina Chandra
- Jigme Lodey
- Rohitashva Kamal
- Shriitha K.V.
- Swati Batra

- Thongjay
- Vineet Bhaskar

The State Legal Services Authority initiative of the NALSAR Legal Aid Cell was a new project. The mandate of the group was initially restricted to establishing a link with the Andhra Pradesh State Legal Services Authority and the Andhra Pradesh High Court Legal Services Committee and acting as a conduit for work that may be assigned to the NALSAR Legal Aid Cell by them. But subsequently the mandate of this group was expanded to include the establishment of a working relationship with the Rural Development Institute in the field of Land Rights and gleaning the scope and possibility of a permanent mechanism to channel the legal aid activities of NALSAR in the area of land rights.

As a result of extensive meetings with the concerned people in each of these institutions the group members took up and worked on different cases related to Motor Vehicles Act, insurance and family laws. The group attended Lok Adalat hearings and followed up on the cases taken up diligently. The group also actively worked towards spreading awareness about the Anganwadi Centres and Self Help Groups among individuals from the backward sections of the society. A formal proposal stating the particulars of the establishment of the paralegal training centre and the course particulars was drafted by this legal aid group for the Rural Development Institute related to land owning and acquisition laws.

The groups faced many barriers, one of them being that their presence at the mediation and family counseling sessions was not entertained with a view to ensuring confidentiality of the proceedings. They could not implement some of the suggestions given by above mentioned organizations in Ranga Reddy district villages due to the language barrier.

The suggestion given by the group for the forthcoming Legal Aid Cell groups is that it would be useful to subsume the activities so far carried out as it will lend the activities of this group an appearance of formality and it will also ensure greater participation of students in activities undertaken by SLISA.

GROUP VIII - TEACH INDIA VOLUNTEERS

- Saraswan Mukherjee

- Pranshu Bhutra
- Nihal Singh
- Samer V Talwar
- Sai Charan
- Aditya Singh
- Sandeep Roy
- Sathyamoorthy
- Abhinav Shrivastava

The objective of the Teach India program was to bring together all the students of Shrinivasa Memorial School, Shameerpet. The team aimed at providing education to the students of senior secondary (classes VI to IX) through a variety of programs including basic education, support classes and engaging students in games, story-telling and other workshops. The course structure adopted by the team was as follows:

- General Knowledge/Progressive Current Affairs
- Basic Outline (Fundamental rights and duties, other related to civics)
- School syllabus (Science, phonetics, mathematics)
- Moral Science
- Study skills (suggestions to help one learn better)
- Newspaper in education (NIE)
- Seminars and workshops
- Miscellaneous (Games, story-telling, yoga)