



PRO BONO CLUB

probonoclub@nluo.ac.in

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN:

2022

1. OUTREACH/AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

1.1 Inauguration of NLUO PBC and State Level Consultation on Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness on 18th April, 2022.

The PBC of NLUO was inaugurated on the premises of the NLUO in the presence of Ms. Sneha Sharma, Programme Manager, Dept. of Justice, Prof. Dr. Ved Kumari, Vice Chancellor, NLUO and Mr. Biranchi Padhy, Nyaya Mitra, Cuttack.

On the occasion of the inauguration of the PBC, a State Level Consultation on Legal Awareness and Legal Literacy was organized which saw the participation of around 55 stakeholders like students, academicians, Panel lawyers, community level paralegals and other implementing agencies of Dept.'s DISHA programme. The consultation led to various innovative ideas which will be implemented in the PBC's future course of action.

1.2 Members of Pro Bono Club presented in National Consultation for Vision@2047 on Indian Judicial System

Two students from NLUO Pro Bono Club participated and shared their views in the National Consultation for Vision@2047 on Indian Judicial System organised by Department of Justice, Government of India on 8th June, 2022. They were amongst the 65 law students who participated in the national consultation.

1.3 Orientation session for Pro Bono Associates on Basics of Mediation.

An orientation session on 'Basics of Mediation' for the 9 Pro Bono Associates of the Club was conducted on 30th July, 2022 by Mr. Akshay Verma, faculty of law at NLUO and certified mediator. The purpose was to train the students with the basics of mediation before they generate awareness about mediation in various outreach activities. The session



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was held for a duration of 2 hours followed by some simulation exercises by the PBAs.

1.4 Mega Legal Awareness Programme and Mediation Camp at NLUO's Legal Aid Clinic in Jankia.

A mega legal awareness programme and mediation camp was organized at NLUO's legal aid clinic at Jankia, Khurdha on 2nd August, 2022. The programme was organized by Legal Aid Society of NLUO in collaboration with Department of Justice Pro Bono Club and Centre for Mediation and Negotiation, NLUO. Around 23 students from the University participated in the awareness camp where the students spread awareness about use of Alternate Dispute Resolution Mechanism through performance of skits. This was followed by a question-and-answer session on the same issue. The programme was attended by members of the Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI), women members from self-help groups and girl students from the local school.

1.5 Outreach Programme under Project Kutumb.

A Mediation Camp was organized by the Pro Bono Club in association with NSS Unit, NLUO and the Centre for Mediation and Negotiation, NLUO under NLUO's Project Kutumb, aimed at creating child friendly villages on 3rd and 4th September, 2022 in Brajabiharipur village. A total of 30 students attended the programme and spread awareness about mediation as a mode of dispute resolution process.

1.6 Awareness drive and distribution of promotional material during NLUO Annual Flower Show

The Pro Bono Associates together with the students of the Legal Aid Society set up a stall during the NLUO Annual Flower Show from 21st – 23rd January, 2023 wherein students distributed promotional material and pamphlets regarding the Nyaya Bandhu app and its utility to all individuals visiting the stall. The PBAs also explained the

visitors the process to avail benefits by using the Nyaya Bandhu app and the concept of pro



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bono legal services.

2. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN (under process):

Pro Bono Associates are working on a research report on Court Fees and Access to Justice in India. The report will be ready by April 2024 and widely publicised and circulated. The research report is being prepared under the supervision of designated faculty members and two external review members.

3. REGISTRATION OF ALUMNI

The PBC has facilitated the registration of 10 members of Alumni as Pro Bono Advocates/Alumni Nyaya Bandhu Advocates (ANBA) in the Nyaya Bandhu App. The PBC shall undertake further efforts to increase the number of alumni registrations.

4. FUTURE PLAN OF ACTION

- The PBC is planning to organise an Intra–University Client Counselling Competition to acquaint students with the nuances of the client counselling skill set.
- An exposure visit of the PBAs to the office of the Nyaya Mitra and the Permanent Lok Adalat shall be organised.

5. PBC IN NEWS/MEDIA

- Activities of the NLUO Pro Bono Club have been covered in an article titled “Nyaya Bandhu scheme: How law school students are trained for pro bono cases” in the online magazine Career 360. The article can be accessed at <https://news.careers360.com/nyay-bandhu-law-colleges-nlu-odisha-tnlu-nlsiu-nalsar-clubs-pro-bono-cases> (17 January 2023)



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- The inauguration of the NLUO PBC was covered in local English and Odia

Pro Bono Club launched at NLU workshop

Pro bono comes from the Latin expression "pro bono publico" meaning "for public good". Many lawyers provide poor and underprivileged clients with valuable legal advice and support without seeking any professional fee

POST NEWS NETWORK

Cuttack, April 19: Taking forward the 'Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice' (DISHA) scheme, the Department of Justice (DoJ) in association with National Law University (NLU) Odisha, Cuttack conducted a workshop on 'State Level Consultation on Legal Literacy & Legal Awareness' at NLUO conference hall, Tuesday. The panel was chaired by eminent personalities in the legal space.

The DISHA scheme is aimed at enabling the vulnerable sections of society to have access to information of their legal rights, entitlements and creating better legal awareness to make justice delivery system citizen-centric.

The DoJ has launched comprehensive, holistic, integrated and systemic solution on access to justice at pan India level through DISHA (2021-26). All the Access to Justice Programmes like TELE law, Naya Bandhu (pro bono legal services), Naya Mitra and Legal Literacy & Legal Awareness have been merged under the DISHA scheme



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and up-scaled to all India level.

Aimed at implementing pro bono legal services across the country, a first of its kind Pro Bono Club under DISHA was also inaugurated at the workshop. Constituted by several stakeholders in legal space, the club will act as a voluntary facilitator of legal services to the

public who vulnerably seem to be in a legal blind spot of the society.

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Around 50 stakeholders from several fields connected to legal services participated in the event where National Law University Odisha, Cuttack officially joined the Department of Justice for the Pro Bono Club Scheme Services. Shadow Advertising and Communications PVT LTD is their partner and implementing agency to carry out legal literacy and legal awareness campaigns across the state.

newspapers.