



PRO BONO CLUB

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ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26

EVENT 1: ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW OUTREACH BY PRO BONO CLUB, NLUO

Date: 24th–25th January 2026

The Pro Bono Club of National Law University Odisha (NLUO) actively participated in the Fourth Annual Flower Show held on 24th–25th January 2026 at the university campus. This event, while primarily a cultural and environmental celebration, was strategically utilized by the Club as a platform for community-oriented legal outreach and awareness generation.

The Flower Show itself brought together students, faculty, and visitors from across Cuttack, creating an inclusive and vibrant environment that fostered creativity and engagement. Recognizing the diversity of the audience and the informal nature of the event, the Pro Bono Club designed innovative, interactive activities to communicate legal awareness in an accessible and engaging manner.

One of the central attractions of the Club's stall was the **Creative Message Tree**, an installation that invited visitors to write messages reflecting themes such as justice, empathy, environmental consciousness, and social responsibility. This activity served a dual purpose: it encouraged self-expression while subtly introducing participants to pro bono values and the broader idea of civic responsibility. By linking creative expression with legal awareness, the Club successfully transformed abstract legal ideals into relatable and participatory experiences.

Another significant activity was the **interactive questionnaire-based awareness initiative**. Visitors were asked to pick chits containing questions related to legal rights, civic duties, and general social awareness. This gamified approach to legal literacy made the learning process enjoyable and accessible, especially for individuals who may not otherwise engage with legal discourse. To encourage participation, correct responses were rewarded with small tokens, which significantly increased footfall and sustained engagement throughout the event.

The stall also received a distinguished visit from the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, whose presence not only acknowledged the Club's efforts but also reinforced institutional support for such initiatives. This



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recognition played an important role in motivating student volunteers and enhancing the visibility of the Club's work within the broader university framework.

Overall, the Pro Bono Club successfully transformed its stall into a dynamic space of **experiential public engagement**. Instead of relying on conventional methods of legal awareness, the Club adopted creative and interactive strategies that resonated with a diverse audience. The initiative demonstrated how informal settings can be effectively leveraged to promote legal literacy and social consciousness.

The event also highlighted the importance of integrating pro bono work with community engagement. By reaching out to individuals outside traditional academic or legal settings, the Club was able to bridge the gap between law and society. The enthusiastic participation of visitors reflected the effectiveness of these methods and underscored the potential of such initiatives in fostering a culture of awareness and responsibility.

In conclusion, the Pro Bono Club's participation in the Annual Flower Show was not merely an auxiliary activity but a meaningful outreach effort that advanced the goals of legal education and access to justice. It showcased how creativity, interaction, and community involvement can significantly enhance the impact of pro bono initiatives.

EVENT 2: FIELD VISIT TO ADRUTA CHILDREN HOME (RAWA ACADEMY)

Date: [21 March 2026]

As part of its outreach initiatives, the Pro Bono Club, NLUO conducted a field visit to Adruta Children Home, a unit of Rawa Academy in Odisha, housing approximately 23 girls. The visit was designed as a holistic engagement program aimed at promoting civic awareness, emotional well-being, and cyber safety among children, while simultaneously instilling a sense of social responsibility among law students.

The visit was structured around interactive and participatory activities that encouraged both learning and self-expression. One of the primary activities conducted was a **Painting Competition**, where children were divided into two groups based on age. Group A (Classes 3–6) was given the theme “What You Want to Be,” while Group B (Classes 7–10) worked on “Helping Hands: Make a Better World.” This activity



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allowed children to express their aspirations and values creatively, while also fostering imagination and confidence. The provision of materials by the Club and the awarding of prizes further motivated participation and enthusiasm.

Another key component of the visit was the “**Sharing Your Story**” session, an emotional expression activity designed to create a safe and supportive environment for children. Through guided interaction, children were encouraged to share their personal experiences, thoughts, and feelings. Themes such as “Voices of Courage” and “Let Your Heart Speak” enabled participants to articulate their emotions without fear or judgment. This session was particularly impactful as it promoted emotional intelligence, empathy, and mutual respect among the children.

The visit also incorporated elements of **cyber awareness and civic responsibility**, addressing issues that are increasingly relevant in today’s digital age. By engaging children in discussions about safe online practices and responsible behavior, the Club aimed to equip them with practical knowledge that could help them navigate real-life challenges.

From the perspective of the student volunteers, the visit provided invaluable experiential learning. It allowed them to move beyond theoretical understanding and actively engage with communities in need. The interaction with children highlighted the importance of empathy, communication, and adaptability in pro bono work.

The initiative also reinforced the broader objective of the Pro Bono Club—to bridge the gap between law and society. By working directly with vulnerable groups, the Club demonstrated how legal awareness and social engagement can contribute to community development.

In conclusion, the field visit was a meaningful and impactful initiative that combined education, creativity, and emotional support. It not only benefited the children by providing a platform for learning and expression but also enriched the students by giving them firsthand experience in pro bono service. Such initiatives play a crucial role in fostering a more compassionate, aware, and socially responsible legal community.

EVENT 3: CALL FOR BLOGS – PRO BONO CLUB, NLUO



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Date: October 2025 (Rolling Submissions Open)

The Pro Bono Club of National Law University Odisha (NLUO) issued a **Call for Blog Submissions in October 2025**, inviting law students to contribute to its blog platform focused on law, justice, and society. This initiative was part of the Club's broader objective of promoting pro bono culture and encouraging academic engagement with socially relevant legal issues.

The blog platform serves as a forum for students, academicians, and legal professionals to explore contemporary legal challenges and their intersection with societal concerns. It reflects the Club's commitment to fostering critical thinking and informed discussion on issues such as access to justice, dispute resolution, and public welfare.

One of the key features of the call for blogs was its **open-themed approach**. Contributors were encouraged to write on a wide range of topics, including law, justice, litigation, and interdisciplinary issues connecting law with economics, ethics, or social realities. This flexibility allowed participants to engage with diverse and emerging areas of legal discourse, making the initiative inclusive and intellectually stimulating.

The eligibility criteria primarily targeted students enrolled in law programs, thereby providing them with an opportunity to showcase their analytical and research skills. The emphasis was placed on **analytical writing rather than descriptive content**, encouraging contributors to critically engage with their chosen topics and present well-reasoned arguments.

The blog initiative also played an important role in **capacity building**. By requiring adherence to structured submission guidelines (such as citation formats and hyperlinking legal sources), it helped students develop essential academic writing skills. This aligns with the broader goal of legal education, which seeks to equip students with the ability to analyze, interpret, and communicate complex legal issues effectively.

From a pro bono perspective, the call for blogs extends the concept of service beyond traditional legal aid. It recognizes that **knowledge dissemination and awareness creation** are equally important in advancing access to justice. By encouraging students to write on socially relevant topics, the initiative contributes to building a more informed and engaged legal community.



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Moreover, the blog platform acts as a bridge between academia and practice. It allows students to engage with real-world issues, reflect on legal developments, and contribute to ongoing debates in the legal field. This not only enhances their academic growth but also prepares them for future professional responsibilities.

In conclusion, the Call for Blogs initiative represents an innovative approach to promoting pro bono values through academic engagement. It highlights the role of legal writing as a tool for social change and underscores the importance of critical discourse in advancing justice. By providing a platform for diverse voices and perspectives, the Pro Bono Club continues to strengthen its mission of bridging the gap between law and society.

EVENT 4: PUBLICATION OF BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER – PRO BONO CLUB, NLUO

Date: [First Edition]

The Pro Bono Club of National Law University Odisha (NLUO) marked a significant academic and outreach milestone through the publication of its Bi-Annual Newsletter, a comprehensive compilation of student-led articles addressing contemporary legal issues and their intersection with society.

The newsletter serves as an intellectual platform that reflects the Club's commitment to promoting legal awareness, critical engagement, and socially relevant discourse. By bringing together diverse contributions from students, it not only highlights emerging legal challenges but also demonstrates how pro bono values can extend beyond direct legal aid into research, writing, and knowledge dissemination.

One of the key themes explored in the newsletter is **access to justice**, illustrated through an in-depth discussion on Lok Adalats. The article traces their origins from traditional dispute resolution systems to their statutory recognition under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. It highlights their role in disposing of large volumes of cases efficiently while also critically examining issues such as uneven performance, lack of awareness, and concerns regarding the quality of settlements.

Another significant focus of the newsletter is **child protection and juvenile justice**. Articles addressing the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO) and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 emphasize both the strengths and limitations of the existing legal framework. While these laws provide robust mechanisms for safeguarding children, challenges such as



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delayed trials, low conviction rates, and infrastructural deficiencies continue to hinder their effectiveness. The newsletter also highlights the role of pro bono legal services in bridging these gaps by ensuring representation, awareness, and rehabilitation support for vulnerable children.

The publication further explores the **complex interplay between juvenile offenders and the criminal justice system**, particularly in cases involving child-on-child offences under POCSO. It underscores the importance of balancing accountability with rehabilitation and emphasizes the need for child-centric legal advocacy. In doing so, it presents pro bono work as an essential component of a humane and effective justice system.

In addition to child rights, the newsletter addresses **labour and social security concerns**, particularly in the context of India's growing gig economy. It examines recent legislative developments and highlights the gap between legal recognition and actual implementation of social security measures. Issues such as lack of awareness, digital barriers, and inadequate enforcement mechanisms are discussed, reinforcing the need for sustained advocacy and outreach.

The newsletter also engages with broader themes such as **climate justice and gender equality**. Articles on climate justice emphasize the disproportionate impact of environmental degradation on vulnerable communities and advocate for equitable legal frameworks. Similarly, discussions on gender justice and workplace safety highlight both legislative progress and persistent challenges, including low conviction rates and implementation gaps.

A notable aspect of the newsletter is its **interdisciplinary and critical approach**. Rather than merely describing legal provisions, the articles analyze their practical implications, identify systemic shortcomings, and propose solutions. This reflects a deeper engagement with law as a tool for social transformation rather than a purely academic subject.

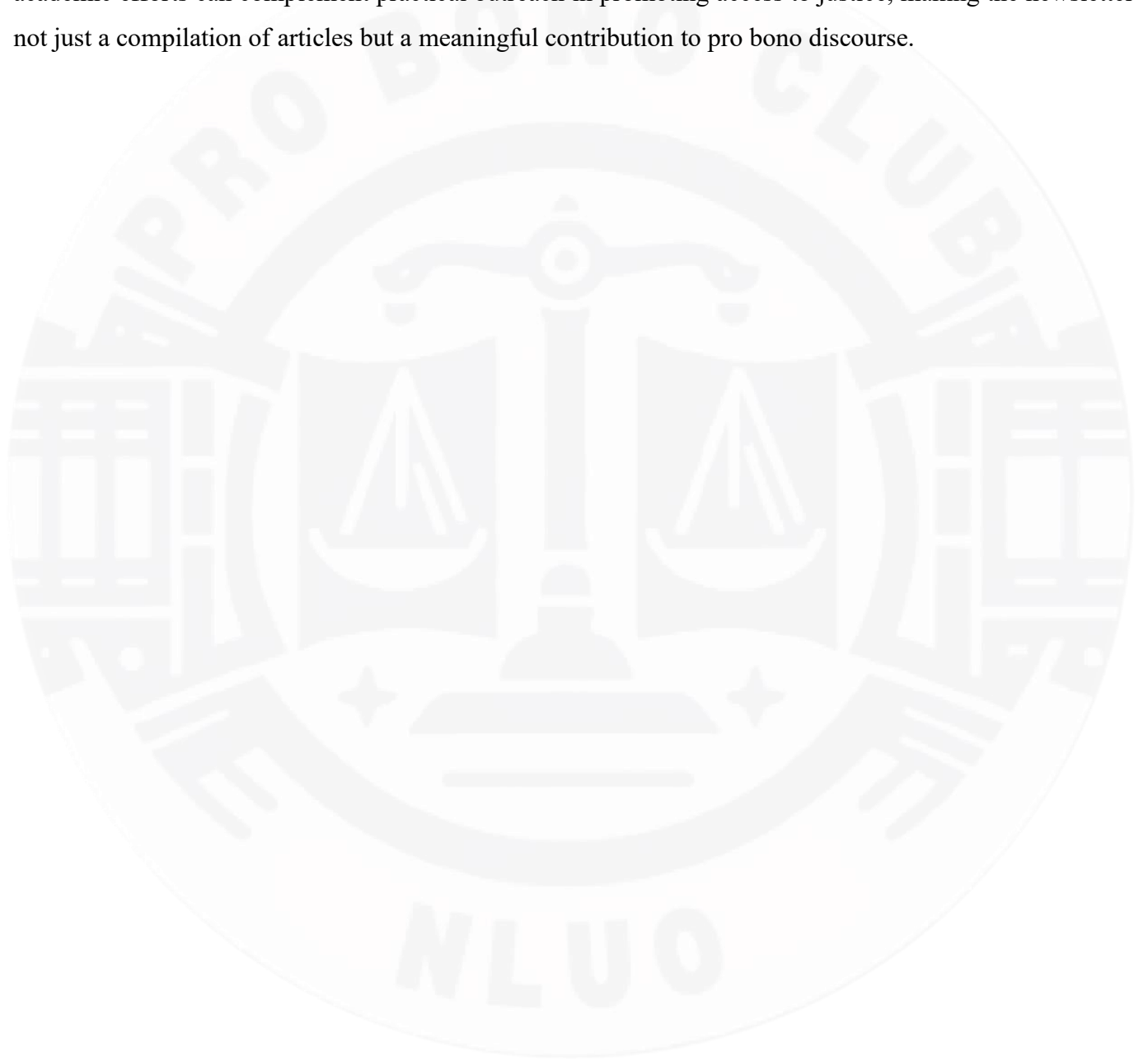
From a pro bono perspective, the newsletter plays a crucial role in **expanding the scope of legal service**. By creating awareness, encouraging dialogue, and fostering critical thinking, it contributes to building a more informed and socially conscious legal community. It also provides students with an opportunity to develop research and writing skills, thereby strengthening their capacity to engage with real-world legal issues.



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In conclusion, the publication of the Bi-Annual Newsletter represents a significant initiative by the Pro Bono Club in advancing its mission of bridging the gap between law and society. It demonstrates how academic efforts can complement practical outreach in promoting access to justice, making the newsletter not just a compilation of articles but a meaningful contribution to pro bono discourse.





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