Reflecting on the Year 2018-19



















NT NETWORK

MARGAO

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The Margao Free Legal Aid Cell of V
M Salgaocar College of Law, Miramar is
hosting an awareness programme on social welfare schemes on February 1 at the
conference hall, Ravindra Bhavan, Mar-















V.M. Salgaocar College of Law **Legal Aid Society**

Enabling students to work and perform together to experience the profession in a new way.

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Functioning of Legal Aid Society

Director of Legal Aid Society: Dr. B.S. Patil

Associate Director: Asst. Prof. Andryusha D'Costa e Pinho

Advisory Committee Members

1. Dr. Shaber Ali

2. Dr. Kim Couto

3. Dr. Sandhya Ram

The Legal Aid Society of the college started off with inviting **applications for transfer** of members if any from 23rd to 25th June 2018. After which on 28th and 29th of June **applications for admissions of new members** were invited from the Second year LL. B (Degree) as well as third year B.A. LL. B students.

New members to various legal aid cells were admitted for the academic year 2018-19. **The strength of the Legal Aid Cells** throughout the state of Goa for the said academic year were twenty-five.

The First Meeting for the academic year with all in-charges as well as deputy – in charges was held on 24th July 2018 to discuss the oncoming Legal Aid Cell inspection as well as the rules to be followed by the legal id cells with regards to functioning of the cell as well conducting of major and minor programmes.

The Annual Inspection of Legal Aid Cells was conducted on 28th July 2018. The Inspection is conducted to appraise each legal aid cell for the work undertaken by them for the academic year 2017-18 as well as to chalk out the activities that will be undertaken by each cell for the present academic year. Inspection teams were formed as well as new faculty in charges were selected for each of the cell. Every faculty had to choose by way of lots two legal aid cells which would function with their assistance and under their guidance for the academic year 2018-19.

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The Faculty in charges for the academic year 2018 – 19

Sr. No	Name of the Faculty	Name of the Legal Aid Cell	
1.	Dr. G.Shaber Ali	Taleigao	
2.	Dr. K.S. Rao	Old Goa	
3.	Dr. Sandhya Ram	Sancoale/ Mandrem	
4.	Ms. Pearl Monteiro	Bandora/Bastora	
5.	Dr. Nagesh Colvalkar	Guirim/Mala	
6.	Dr. Ranjana Ferrao	Moira/Verem	
7.	Dr. Mrunmayee Vaidya	Anjuna	
8.	Ms. Bhakti Naik	Merces/Goa Velha	
9.	Ms. Gomati Desai Onesker	Siolim/Mapusa	
10.	Ms. Sonal Sardessai	Bicholim/ Margao	
11.	Ms. Shruti Kamat Dalal	Sanquelim/Pernem	
12.	Mr. Aamod Shirali	Marcela/Succor	
13.	Ms. Andryusha Pinho	Calangute	
14.	Ms. Suchita Timble	Vasco/ Porvorim	
15.	Ms. Ashwini Naik	Valpoi	

On 20th August 2018 the Director of the Legal Aid Society called in for an urgent meeting of cell in- charges as well as deputy in-charges to initiate a collection drive in providing assistance to the State of Kerala which was hit by massive floods.

Collaborated to Learn and Build our Capacities

Workshop on Mental Healthcare Act 2017

Conducted on 14th and 15th July 2018 for members of the legal aid cells as well as few faculties in charge. The same was organized by Sangath and Psychiatric Society of Goa in collaboration with Centre for Mental Health Law and Policy, Indian Law Society, Pune. The speakers for the session were Dr. Soumitra Pathare Indian Law Society a well-known psychiatrist who was instrumental in drafting the new Mental Health Law for India and Mr. Arjun Kapoor, Research Associate, Centre for Mental Health Law and Policy. On behalf of the organization, Sangath Dr. Abhijit Nadkarni and Ms. Urvita Bhatia along with Dr. Ravindra Agarwal Psychiatric Society Goa were also present for the session.

The Speakers spoke on the following topics: Guiding Principles, Rights of Persons with Mental Illness, various Authorities under the Act and procedure for admission, treatment and discharge.

The trained students would be Mental Health trainees in twenty-five Legal aid cells spread throughout the State of Goa with a task to create awareness on the Mental Health Care Act 2017.

"Collaboration allows us to know more than we are capable of knowing by ourselves."

- Paul Solarz

Awareness was created among students to understand various aspects in Mental Health Care Act 2017. The main focus being how the new Mental health law relies on the social model rather than the biological model when it comes to persons with mental illness. The significant feature being to place the person with mental illness at the center of the mental healthcare system to ensure that they are not discriminated against or treated in a manner that violates their dignity and liberty.



Training Programme – Biological Diversity Act 2002, Rules 2004, Goa Biological Diversity Rules 2017 and other aspects related to Biodiversity

members of all 25 legal aid cells were trained on how they as students could strengthen the implementation of the Biological Diversity Act as well as rules in their respective villages.

The said programme was conducted on 30th August 2018 by the Goa State Biodiversity Board as a part of UNEP- GEF-MoEFCC-ABS Project- "Strengthening the Implementation of Biological Diversity Act and Rules with Focus on its Access and Benefits Sharing Provisions"

Topics and Speakers for the sessions

- Understanding Biodiversity and Role of Goa State Biodiversity Board Dr. Pradip Sarmokadam, Member Secretary, GSBB.
- 2. Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Rules 2004 -Dr. S. Elumalai, Assistant professor, Tamilnadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai.



Pernem Free Legal Aid Cell collaborated with the North Goa District Legal Service Authority to create awareness on the local laws of the State of Goa.

Participation

Members of various legal aid cells were given an opportunity to participate in various programmes organized by various Departments to enhance their knowledge in the respective subject, improve their skills and help them in networking with others.

- ➤ Mediation and awareness programme organized by the District Legal Service Authority, North Goa 30th June 2018. 30 members of various legal aid cells participated in the same.
- ➤ Two Day Legal Awareness workshop on Biological Diversity Law in India held on 29th and 30th of January 2019.
- ➤ 2nd Regional Consultation on strengthening and promoting law school clinics in India for western region 6th February 2019.
- ➤ NLIU Legal Aid Clinic Workshop Training Programme on Capacity Building, 2019 (LAC-WTP)- Authority 16th and 17th February 2019.



Projects undertaken

CONCESSION OF 50% FOR SENIOR CITIZENS FOR INTER-STATE TRAVEL IN KADAMBA TRANSPORT.

Undertaken by:

- 1. Shivam Fadte (Bicholim Legal aid Cell)
- 2. Siddhant Kamat Dhakankar
- 3. Aditya Naik
- 4. Amey Salgaonkar
- 5. Balkrishna Thali
- 6. Hrishikesh Vaze

The Project was initiated by the Bicholim Legal Aid Cell members as the legal aid cell was approached by the Senior Citizens Club Bicholim on the issue of payment of entire bus fare while travelling outside the E TIMES OF INDIA state Goa. Goa: Senior citizens to get 50 per cent concession in KTC buses Corporation's (KTC) interstate buses will now pay only half of the bus tariff. "The State Transport Authority (STA) has approved the demand of senior citizens to get 50% concession in KTC's interstate bus service," minister for transport, Sudin Dhavalikar said on Thursday Concession of 50%

given Citizens in Kadamba bus

to

was

transport intrastate and

Senior

not those buses which ply inter- state. A survey through signature campaign was conducted wherein almost 450 senior citizens signed supporting the said issue. A letter was addressed to various concerned Departments. However, it was mentioned that Kadamba Transport Corporation had no authorized funds on the concerned issue. The members further approached the Transport Minister as well as the Social Welfare Department to look into the matter.

8 lakh | Driving licences and RC books delivered by post

to citizens

On 20th February that the Transport Minister Mr. Sudin Dhavlikar announced that senior citizens would now on enjoy 50% concession in interstate buses.

"Every Indian citizen should renew their commitment to the welfare of the elders".

- words taken from the speech by the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee at the presentation of the National Awards for Senior Citizens. Vayoshreshtha Samman (1st October 2013)

PROJECT "LIVE" (LIBRARY TO IMPROVE VILLAGE EDUCATION)

The Project was undertaken by the Sankhali Legal Aid Cell. The initiation was to either set up a new library in the Village Panchayat or to upgrade the existing library in a village. The main objectives of the Project were to acquire new competitive exam books in a village panchayat library, install computer system and create a reading habit among readers of different groups.

Through the said project the Legal Aid Cell was able affiliate the Amona Village Panchayat Library with the Central Library under the Scheme – 'Goa State Village Panchayat/Ngo's Libraries Financial Assistance Scheme 2018'. A result of the which the Library was upgraded with 500 books which included competitive exam books like UPSC, GPSC, CA, CS, IIT, MEDICAL, B.COM, BSC, BA etc. the same were received by the Amona Village Panachayat

"A LIBRARY IS A HOUSE OF HOPE. ITS, A PLACE WHERE WE ALL, WHATEVER OUR SITUATION, CAN FEED OUR IDEAS AND DEVELOP OUR DREAMS.

DOUGH WILHEM

Library on 26th November 2018. At the same time Vedanta CSR Department sponsored 2 computers on 22nd February 2019.

The Legal Aid cell has gone further with the project as a result of which under the said scheme the Pale

Village Panchayat which did not have a library has got an approval to set up a new library.

The Sankhali Legal Aid cell has also provided their assistance to the Parye Village Panchayat, Surla Village Panchayat, Karapur Sarvan Village Panchayat and Pissurlem Village Panchayat in submitting their application to avail assistance under the said scheme.



Sankhali Legal Aid cell members thanking the Curator of the Central Library for all his support and guidance in implementing the scheme.





Meetings held with various panchayats for approval of Porject LIVE



Due to the initiative of the members of Sankhali Legal aid cell Amona Village Panchayat Library upgraded with 500 books which included preparatory books for competitive exams.

SURVEY ON EVE TEASING/SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Survey was undertaken by the Vasco Legal Aid Cell to understand the frequency, nature and magnitude of the problem of Sexual harassment faced by students aged between 15 to 25 years, to bring it to the notice of the concerned authorities and suggest ways to curb cases of sexual harassment.

Analysis of data collected is in progress.

ONGOING PROJECTS

- ➤ Compliance of Law by street food vendors Porvorim Legal Aid cell.
- ➤ Survey on Eve Teasing/Sexual Harassment Verem Legal Aid Cell.

Programmes Organized

Name of the Legal Aid Cell	Topic for major programmes	Speakers	Target group	Date of the programme
Bandora Legal aid cell	"Social Welfare Schemes for Women, senior Citizen and differently abled persons and right and duty of workers"	Sudesh Gaude Assistant Director of Social welfare	women, Senior Citizens and differently Able Person.	6 th January 2019
Bastora Legal Aid cell	Agricultural Scheme's And Tips On agriculture	Raghunath Joshi Zonal Agricultural Officer of Mapusa. Viplav Prabhugaokar CEO of Sprouting Dreams Nursery and Garden Centre.	Farmers and women	2 nd March 2019
Bicholim Legal Aid cell	Awareness on Different social schemes for women and children and Road Safety Rules.	Mr Minesh Tar (RTO Inspector officer) and Annette Sequeira (District officer Directorate of Social Welfare)	Mahila Mandal Sal and Sal residents	2 nd February 2019
Goa Velha Legal Aid Cell	Operational Guidance and Consumer Rights	Mr. Amey Kenkre Mr.Sachin Gokarnekar Mr. Dilesh Gaonkar Department of Fire and Service	General Public. specifically Women and Children.	23 rd February 2019

		Mr. Tushar Jagtap Mr. Vijay Meena Bharat Petroleum Co. Ltd., Verna.		
Merces Legal aid cell	Panel discussion pro- choice and pro- life a dialogue not debate	Adv. Shubalaxmi Naik (Chairperson of Goa State Women's Commission) Dr. Anjali Anand Kamat (OBG Consultant and Helathway Hospital and ex Professor and Head of OBG Goa Medical College Ms Pranita Kalangutkar Sarpanch Merces Panchayat and Childline.	Locals of Merces (General Public)	10 th February 2019
Mala Legal aid Cell	Juvenile Justice and Substance Abuse	Judge Pooja kavlekar Ad-hoc senior Civil Judge and chief judicial magistrate. Mr. Rahul Shantaram Naik Police sub inspector, Anti- Narcotics Cell.	Students of standard 8th, 9th & 10th. Parents of the above category Teachers General Public.	21st February 2019
Mapusa Legal Aid Cell	Cyber Crime	Dr. Ranjana Souza Cordeiro	students of Sv's Purushottom Walawalkar Higher Secondary School and Caculo College of	31 st August 2019

			Commerce and Management Studies Khorlim- Mapusa.	
Marcela Legal Aid Cell	Awareness on Consumer Rights 27 th Jan, 2019.	Mr. Roland Martin. Convener, of GOACAN, Mr. Roland Martins,	General Public	27 th Jan, 2019.
Old goa Legal aid Cell	Workshop on Prevention of Sexual Abuse and Self Defence	Mr. Siraj Khan and Mr. Paresh Naik	IX and XI Standards students of Madkaikar Navchaitanya School Khorlim	1 st February 2019
Old goa legal aid cell	Narcotics: Vulnerability and Control	IPS Mr. Utkrisht Prasson (SP of Anti-Narcotics and SP of Anti- Corruption Cell Government of Goa)	BA Students Father Agnel College of Arts and Commerce Pillar Goa	09 th February 2019
Pernem Legal Aid cell	1) Goa Agricultural Tenancy Act 2) Goa Mundkar Act 3) Goa Panchayat Act	Adv. Saresh Lotlikar Hon'ble Shri Irshad Agha, Principal District and Session Judge/Chairman of District Legal Service Authority, North Goa Adv. B. D. Nazareth	General Public	24 th February 2019

Sancoale Legal Aid Cell	Civic and Consumer Rights.	Mr Roland Marins social activist and founder team member of the Goa Desc Resource Centre Co-ordinator (GOACAN)	General public	11 th March 2019
Siolim Legal Aid Cell	NDPS Act	ASI Shankar Komarpant PSI Manjunath Naik		2 nd March 2019
Taleigao Legal Aid Cell	Fire Safety	Fire Safety sub- Officer – Amey Kenkre , Dilesh Gaonkar	Senior citizens	25 th January 2019
Succorro Legal Aid Cell	Awareness session on Child Abuse	Ms. Suzzane De Souza	20 point colony village	16 th January

Constitutional law week 2019

The constitutional law week was conducted from 21st to 26th January 2019. The Legal Aid society conducted awareness sessions on the Indian Constitution in almost forty-five schools and higher secondary.

The said programme was inaugurated by the Goa Governor Mridula Sinha, coordinated by Directorate of Higher Education, Department of Political Science, V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, G.R. Kare College of Law, supported by Directorate of Education, Directorate of Panchayats, Directorate of Municipal Administration, Collectorate North and South Goa. The main focus of the programme was to reach to most of the people around the State and create awareness about Constitution of India.



Constitutional Law week an event visualized by the Governor aiming to take the message 'We and the Constitution' across the length and breadth of the State of Goa to common people.

Contribution towards Kerala flood relief

The members of 25 legal aid cells got together to contribute and help rebuild the lives of the flood affected people in Kerala in the month of August 2018. Collection points were set up all over Goa. People all around were very keen and generous in contributing towards such a good cause. The Legal Aid Society is grateful to the Panaji Malayali Association who helped in transporting the relief material.



"The small charity that comes from the heart is better than the great charity that comes from the head." - Ivan Panin