About CROP

A Centre for the Rights of Older Persons (CROP) is established in the college in August 2022, with students as members and two faculty members as Director and Associate Director respectively.

Director: Dr. Sandhya Ram, Associate Professor

Associate Director: Ms. Ruchira Naik , Assistant Professor

The objectives are as follows:

- To empower and equip a team of students comprehending the law and procedure regarding the protection of senior citizens

- To conduct research and field study relating to the legal entitlements as well as the difficulties faced by senior citizens in Goa, and make recommendations to the concerned authority, leading to law reform

- To launch sensitization and legal literacy campaigns, and

- To represent senior citizens and parents in enforcing their legal rights.

- To associate with the Directorate of Social Welfare and concerned agencies including NGOs working for the cause, and generate constructive activities towards it.

- To prepare easy-to-understand handouts and videos containing information relevant to senior citizens

Services Rendered By CROP

- **Free Legal Aid**
Free Legal Advice to the older persons.

- **Para Legal Services**

We provide assistance with drafting Affidavits, Applications or any other documents that would be required to submit to any authority to avail schemes or other services.

- **Maintenance Application**

Assistance provided to file application for Maintenance before the Maintenance Tribunals.

- **Senior Citizens Card, Pension Scheme & other Welfare Schemes**

We assist in applying for Senior citizens cards, Pension scheme under the Dayanand Social Security Scheme and other welfare schemes of the Directorate of Social Welfare, Government of Goa.

Membership:

Membership was invited from students by requiring to registration via a google form. Based on the google form submissions, the following students were enrolled as members of CROP.

Sl. No	Name
1	Asia Choudhary
2	Jeet Jayant Volvoikar
3	Shaniah Ziena Ribeiro Costa Martins
4	Alisha Mahambrey
5	Shreya Karapurkar
6	Aarya Kandolkar
7	Sharang Daware
8	Sahshrik Talaulikar
9	Madhav Cuncolincar
10	Navami A. Naik Panvelkar
11	Meliza Eldrica Fernandes

12	Saniya Khan
13	Rishiraj kamble
14	Keagan Ferrao
15	Bhaghyawati Guddannavar

For 2022-23 , a total of 15 students have enrolled.

Mode of functioning

- Weekly meetings in college – Saturday 12 – 2pm

- CROP register for attendance and CROP Activities Registers maintained. Students enter the details and hand over the register to the faculty every Monday.

- For practical paper purposes, the work undertaken by the students would fall under the heading "Legal Aid".

- The *first meeting of CROP was held on Sa*turday 27th **A total of** No. 10 meetings were held.

Activities during August 2022 to December 2022

1. **Training session**
   A training session for students on the law and procedure relating to senior citizens was conducted by Dr. Sandhya Ram for the CROP members on 23rd September 2022 .

2. **Opening a social media page – give Instagram and fb link**

   A social media page was activated by the members of CROP the link for which is given below.

   https://instagram.com/crop_vmscl_?igshid=OGQ2MjdiOTE=

   https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100086948580393&mibextid=ZbWKwL

3. **Street play for pro bono team**
   Recognizing the need to reach to the general public and identifying the use of theatre in communication of rights and liabilities, two street plays were scripted and enacted. The two plays were on "Right to Education" and "Rights of Senior Citizens" respectively performed at the Panaji Market and at KTC Panaji main Bus Stand on 26th and 28th September 2022.

4. **Visit to Social Welfare Directorate**

   The student members of CROP visited the Social Welfare Directorate for collection of data and information on the welfare schemes for senior citizens, Cases before the Maintenance Tribunal relating to senior citizens.
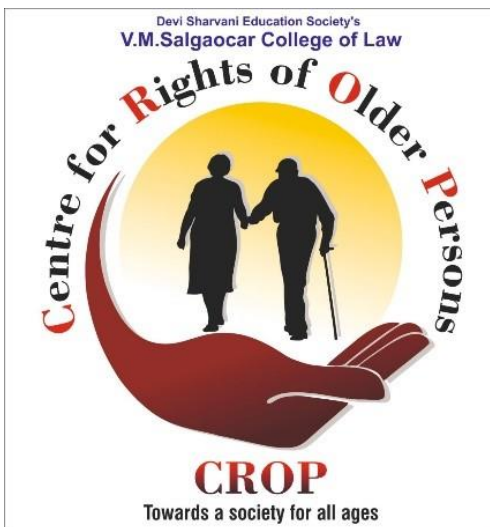
5. **Door to door campaign**

   It was carried out by 6 groups on 15/10/2022 in which around 85 houses were covered at Taliegao, Ribander, Mala, Panaji, Ponda

6. Designing of Logo for CROP

A logo was designed by Mr. Sahshrik Talauliker, BALLB student and member of CROP.

7. Pamphlet designed for distribution:

A pamphlet was designed by the students of CROP for circulation amongst the public to make them aware about the existence of CROP.

8. **Client consultation**

Following the campaign, CROP received several phone calls asking for information relating to old age pension, and other schemes. The student members of CROP answered the queries successfully .

9. **Client visit:**

Mrs. Sheela Satosker from Ribander, a retired senior lady visited the CROP seeking help from CROP members with regard to illegal car shed constructed in her property at Mayem . She had asked the CROP members to write an application on behalf of her to the Directorate of Panchayat Panjim and also to the Mayem Panchayat to demolish the illegal car shed. The CROP members have visited the Directorate of Panchayat and spoken with the concerned officials and are still working on this issue.

10. **Letter to the Director of Social Welfare Directorate**

A letter was sent to the Director of Social Welfare Directorate requesting to depute an officer to train the CROP members in the colleges. The matter would be followed up in the next semester.