

॥ न्याये सर्वं प्रतिष्ठितम् ॥

V.M. SALGAOCAR COLLEGE OF LAW

LEGAL AID SOCIETY

FINAL REPORT 2025-26

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Activity Report

Name of the in-charge/associate/assistant

Dr. Aamod M. Shirali	Director
Asstt. Prof. Siddhi Naik	Associate Director
https://vmslaw.edu.in/legal-aid-cell/	Link to Comprehensive Report
https://vmslaw.edu.in/legal-aid-cell/	Legal Aid Cell Reports

SUMMARY

Sr. no.	Date	Activity
1.	28 th June, 2025	Return of Journals and attendance registers to all Cell In-charges.
2.	11 th July, 2025	First Meeting of Legal Aid Cell in-charges
3.	5 th July, 2025	Commencement of Legal aid activities
4.	8 th July, 2025	Identification of Students claiming exemption from

		Legal aid.- Google Form release
5.	12th July, 2025	Induction of new Cell members for the academic year.
6.	30 th June to 3 rd July, 2025	Orientation by Director, Legal Aid Society on Legal aid for TY. BA.LL.B and S.Y. Degree
7.	24 th July, 2025	Orientation on conduct of Faculty Inspection and Training on Report Writing.
8.	2 nd August, 2025	Legal Aid Cell inspection by Faculty members to 27 LAC
9.	8 th August, 2025	Participation in Nyay Frames 2 nd KIIT Legal Aid Reel Making Competition, 2025, Bhubaneswar.
10.	21st August, 2024	Submission of the Reel for Nyay Frames 2 nd KIIT Legal Aid Reel Making Competition, 2025, Bhubaneswar.
11.	7 th September, 2025	Recipient of the 'Legal Aid Award 2024' at the 14 th International Conference on Human Rights and Gender Justice organised by Knowledge Steez Edu Hub LLP.
12.	9 th September, 2025	MOU for Academic and Training Cooperation between Sharma Chambers, Indore, M.P. and V.M. Salgaocar College, for Training student volunteers at Legal Aid Clinics.
13.	15 th September, 2025	Winner of Nyay Frames 2 nd KIIT Legal Aid Reel Making Competition, 2025, Bhubaneswar. 'Best Content' (Overall)
14.	15 th September, 2025	Participation in National Survey by CLAP Legal Service Institute
15.	4 th October, 2025	Closure of Legal Aid Cells for Semester
16.	10 th October 2025	Submission of Mid-Term Report of Legal Aid Cells
17.	30 th November, 2025	Legal Aid Round Table 2025- Organised by Legal Services Clinic NLSIU
18.	18 th December, 2025	Training Programme on 'Living Will' conducted by Centre for Rights of Older Persons (CROP)
19.	15 th July, 2025	Training on Auditing Public Spaces for Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities
20.	11 th January, 2026	VMSCSL recognised at S.P Sathe National Consultation

		2026, on Clinical Legal Education
21.	14 th -25 th January 2026	30 Day Durg Awareness Campaign Drug Abuse-Drug: A menace to the Society in association with State Legal Services Authority
22.	28 th March, 2026	Last date of functioning of Legal Aid Cell
23.	2 nd -4 th April, 2026	Collection of Journals and Attendance Registers
24.	4 th April, 2026	Annual Prize Distribution – Presentation of Best Student Legal Aid Member and Best Performing Legal Aid Cells

I. Objectives:

- i. Providing free legal aid services to all.
- ii. Enhancing the ability of law students by involving them in legal practice through clinical programs.
- iii. Undertaking community legal literacy programmes using different methods.
- iv. To make law students socially sensitive and enshrine public spirit in them.
- v. Encourage law students to contribute to Law reform and institute Public Interest Litigations.
- vi. Assist general public in para-legal services

II. Membership Drive:

- Dates: **8th July, 2025**

Methodology:

- i. Identification of **total number of Students claiming exemption** of Legal Aid activity. (Google Form circulated to Fifth year students on 4th July, 2025)
- ii. Identification of **total number of vacancies** in each cell. Data obtained from cell incharges. Total numbers of vacancies were identified by deducting the students claiming exemption, and students passed out in the previous Academic year, or transferred to another clinic. The remainder were students continuing for ensuing academic year (Data collected vide google sheet dated 05.07.25)
- iii. **Orientation sessions** by Director, Legal Aid Society, conducted for students to join Legal Aid Society on **30th June and 3rd July, 2025**, for Third Year BA.LL.B and **1st and 2nd July, 2025**, for Second Year LL.B (Degree). Orientation session by Prof. Dr. MRK Prasad was conducted on 17th July, 2025 for LL.B. Degree Students.
- iv. **Admission Process:** Students of Third Year BA.LL.B. and Second Year LL.B (Degree). (Google Form circulated on **5th July, 2025** on whatsapp groups). Admission form was open upto 8th July, 2025. Admission was based on three preferences in vicinity of their residence of students and vacancy in each cell.

- v. Allotment list of new members circulated on **11th July, 2025.**
- vi. **Induction of new legal aid cell members on 12th July, 2025, at designated LACs.**

Proof of Methodology:

- Google Form of 4th July, 2025, for claiming exemption, and tabulation.
- Google Form for Admission of new members to legal aid cells circulated on 5th July, 2025, and tabulated responses.
- Allotment list (excel sheet database)

List of student members

- New cells introduced Usgao, Thivim, Pilerne, and Valpoi.
- Cells closed- Candolim, Verem, Ponda, and Panaji.

Sr. No.	Name of the Cell	Cell Members
1	Anjuna	10
2	Bandora	23
3	Bastora	11
4	Bicholim	15
5	Calangute	8
6	Guirim	10
7	Honda	11
8	Mala	22
9	Mandrem	17
10	Mapusa	8
11	Margao	22
12	Merces	13
13	Moirá	10
14	Old Goa	26
15	Pernem	19
16	Piligao	6
17	Porvorim	19
18	Sanquelim	9
19	St. Cruz	16
20	Siolim	8
21	Socorro	17
22	Taleigao	13
23	Vasco	27

24	Valpoi	4
25	Usgaon	10
26	Pilerne	19
27	Thivim	13
	Total	386

Faculty In-Charges of Legal Aid Cells

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE CELL	NAME OF THE FACULTY
1.	ANJUNA	Asstt. Prof. Reshmi Sawant
2.	BANDORA	Dr. Ranjana Ferrao Souza Cordeiro
3.	BASTORA	Asstt. Prof. Sachin Panicker
4.	BICHOLIM	Asstt. Prof. Rhucha Garde
5.	CALANGUTE	Asstt. Prof. Shreya Shah
6.	GUIRIM	Dr. Sonal Sardessai/ Asstt. Prof. Varsha Redkar
7.	HONDA	Asstt. Prof. Ujwala Pednekar
8.	MALA	Asstt. Prof. Shreya Shah
9.	MANDREM	Asstt. Prof. Siddhi Naik
10	MAPUSA	Asstt. Prof. Siddhi Naik
11	MARGAO	Asstt. Prof. Ruchira Naik/ Asstt. Prof. Roshant Parwar
12	MOIRA	Asstt. Prof. Disha Sardesai
13	MERCES	Asstt. Prof. Dhruva Naik
14	OLD GOA	Asstt. Prof. Roshant Parwar
15	PERNEM	Asstt. Prof. Dhruva Naik
16	PILGAO	Asstt. Prof. Ujwala Pednekar
17	PORVORIM	Dr. Priya Onsker/ Asstt. Prof. Varsha Redkar
18	SANQUELIM	Asstt. Prof. Rhucha Garde
19	PILERNE	Asstt. Prof. Reshmi Sawant
20	SIOLIM	Asstt. Prof Shreya Shah
21	SOCCORO	Assoc. Professor Mrs. Pearl Monteiro
22	ST CRUZ	Dr. Aamod Shirali
23	TALEIGAO	Asstt. Prof. Sachin Panicker
24	THIVIM	Dr. Shruti Kamat Dalal
25	USGAO	Asstt. Prof. Ruhi Phadte
26	VALPOI	Asstt. Prof. Disha Sardessai
27	VASCO	Asstt. Prof. Ruhi Phadte

III. Activities Undertaken

1. First Meeting of Cell Incharges Meeting of Cell Incharges

- Date: **11-07-2025**

The First meeting of all the 27 Free Legal Aid Cell incharges and Deputy was convened on 11th July, 2025, to provide details of induction of new cell members to the Legal Aid cells from Saturday 12th July, 2025, and other instructions. Previously the Journals and Attendance registers were handed over on 28th June, 2025, for commencement of operation of the Legal aid cells on 5th July, 2025.

Dr. Aamod Shirali, addressed the in-charges of the Legal Aid Cells the Rules and Regulations for legal Aid cells pertaining to the following:

- a) Meeting of Cells
- b) Attendance
- c) Exemptions
- d) Submission of Cell Journals and Attendance Register
- e) Major Program- checklist
- f) Minor Program-Checklist
- g) Induction of new members

2. Orientation on Legal Aid for BA.LL.B

Date: **30-06-2025**

Orientation session was conducted for Third Year BA.LL.B students by Director and Associate Director of Legal Aid Society.

The presentation began with an overview of the concept of Legal Aid and the Constitutional mandate. Further the students were given an insight into the duty of Law schools to provide clinical legal education and the Bar Council mandate. Dr. Aamod Shirali, highlighted the skill development of the student through Legal Aid.

He further emphasised on the Seven Components of Legal aid which students are usually engaged through the legal aid cells. He further provided an insight into the objectives of the Legal Aid Society and the Organogram of the Legal Aid Society. He also showcased the activities that students have been conducting in rural



and semi-urban areas. The achievements and awards of the Legal Aid Society were also showcased.

3. Orientation on Legal Aid for LL.B Degree

Date: **01-07-2025**

Orientation session was conducted for LL.B (Degree) students by Director and Associate Director of Legal Aid Society.

The presentation began with an overview of the concept of Legal Aid and the Constitutional mandate. Further the students were given an insight into the duty of Law schools to provide clinical legal education and the Bar Council mandate. Dr. Aamod Shirali, highlighted the skill development of the student through Legal Aid.



He further emphasised on the Seven Components of Legal aid which students are usually engaged through the legal aid cells. He further provided an insight into the objectives of the Legal Aid Society and the Organogram of the Legal Aid Society. He also showcased the activities that students have been conducting in rural and semi-urban areas. The achievements and awards of the Legal Aid Society were also showcased.

4. Orientation on Clinical Legal Education by Prof. Dr. M.R.K. Prasad

Date: **17-07-2025**

An Orientation on Clinical Legal Education, was conducted by Prof. Dr. M.R.K. Prasad on Clinical Legal Education for the Second Year LL.B. Degree Students. Prof. Dr. Prasad addressed the need for clinical legal education in Goa. He shared his experience in steering 40 legal Aid cells in the Goa, since 1998. Prof. Prasad focused on the benefit of Legal aid activities in the Profession in future.



Prof. Prasad highlighted on the Seven components of Legal Aid with illustrations and case studies. He emphasised on how the Clinical legal education can be socially relevant and professionally competent.

5. Training Programmes

5.1 Report Writing and Faculty Inspection

Date: 24.07.2025

Reporting of Legal Aid activities is an important part of all legal aid activities. In order to ensure that Reports of all legal aid cells are uniform, a report format was placed before the Cell incharges. Emphasis was laid on the Target audience and outcome or impact of the activity to be documented. The reporting of the previous year 2024-25, was appreciated as it helped in securing the Legal Aid Award.

Report writing involves the reporting of minor and major programs with Geo-tagged photographs clearly indicating the students participating, the targeted audience and the theme of programme conducted. The in-charges were instructed to ensure media coverage and issue Press note in consultation with Faculty incharge. Formats of Press notes with limited description was illustrated.

The In-charges of the 27 Legal Aid Cells were apprised about the Faculty Inspection to be held on 2nd August, 2025. For this purpose, the students were directed to exhibit their report of AY 2024-25.

5.3 Training on Auditing Public Spaces for Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities

A training session on auditing public spaces for accessibility was held on 15th July 2025 at V.M. Salgaocar College of Law. It was conducted by the Office of the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities in collaboration with the Centre for Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) & Legal Aid Society of the College. The objective was to build student awareness around accessibility and provide them with the tools and knowledge needed to assess public spaces from an inclusion perspective.

The session was facilitated by a team of five representatives from the Commission, who introduced the organisation's work and spoke about the importance of designing spaces that include everyone. Students were guided through key concepts such as the different types of disabilities and the distinction between impairment, disability, and challenge. These discussions helped students understand the various barriers persons with disabilities face in everyday life, from navigating a building without ramps to using public toilets or reading unclear signage. The session encouraged students to think critically about the built environment and how small but meaningful changes can make a big difference in making public spaces more accessible.

In the second half of the training, students were introduced to **Yes to Access**, a crowdsourced, AI-powered mobile App used to audit accessibility in public places. The app's features, including assessments of ramps, signage, accessible restrooms, elevators, and more, were demonstrated. Students were trained on how to use the app in real-world audits and learned how their contributions would help map the accessibility status of public spaces in Goa.

Built accessibility ensures that physical spaces are inclusive and functional for all. As a first step toward improving accessibility in India, the Yes to Access team developed this AI-powered tool to help identify both accessible and inaccessible spaces. The app uses a mix of AI and user-generated input to assess features like tactile tiles, ramps, slopes, door width, clear signage,

handrails, and designated disability parking, giving each location an overall accessibility score that's visible on a map. This score can guide users in choosing inclusive spaces while encouraging businesses and institutions to make improvements.

In addition to building accessibility, the organisation also promotes digital accessibility. This ensures that websites and apps can be used by everyone, including people with visual, hearing, or cognitive disabilities. The team follows Web Content Accessibility Guidelines, which cover key areas like navigation, contrast, and alternative text, through awareness campaigns, volunteer training, and digital audits. By the end of the session, the 15 students were trained and ready to conduct real audits using the Yes to Access app. Their efforts will contribute valuable data and support the broader mission of making Goa's public spaces more inclusive and accessible for people with disabilities.

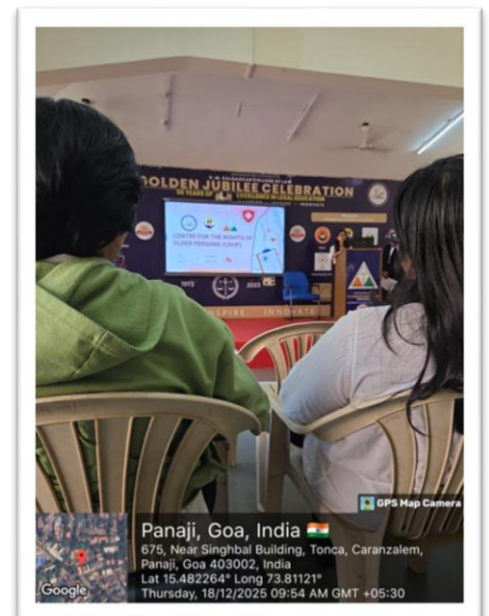


5.3 Training Programme on Living Will

On 18th December 2025, the Centre for the Rights of Older Persons (CROP) organised an awareness programme for the Incharges and Deputy Incharges of Legal Aid Cells. The programme was conducted at the Conference Hall and aimed at creating awareness on the concept of Living Will and the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act.

The first session focused on the concept of Living Will. They explained the meaning, importance, drafting, execution, and other significant aspects of a Living Will. The presentation was followed by an interactive question-and-answer session.

Thereafter, the session on the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act was conducted. they explained its basic concepts, the old age homes and medical-related aspects, and also discussed about the protection with respect to transfer of property by senior citizens and remaining provisions and key areas of the Act.



IV. Legal Aid Cell Inspection

Date: 28-07-25- Faculty Briefing

Faculty members were briefed as to Legal aid inspection scheduled on 2nd August, 2025. Details were provided of an online (Google Form) Inspection Report and marking criteria for each cells. List of Instructions were also provided.

Date: 02-08-2025

The Faculty were divided in 5 panels to visit the 31 Legal Aid cells (Including the LAC to be closed and the newly designated LAC). The details are as under:

Panel	Faculty Head	Route	Number of Legal Aid Cells
Panel 1	Prof. Dr. MRK Prasad	Pernem	6
Panel 2	Dr. Kim Couto	Margao	6
Panel 3	Dr. B.S.Patil	Valpoi	6
Panel 4	Dr. G. Shaber Ali	Mapusa	7
Panel 5	Dr. K. S. Rao	Ponda	6

At each Legal aid cell the Inspection team spent minimum 30 minutes. The team collected the report, heard the members, nominated new in-charges and deputy, and filled the Inspection Report online. The team perused and endorsed the Attendance register and Legal Aid Cell Journal and individual student journals. The instructions were also provided to the members. Each inspection completed with group photos.

V. MOU for Academic and Training Cooperation

The Director of Legal Aid Society was pleased to initiate a Memorandum of Understanding for Academic and Training Cooperation between V.M. Salgaocar College of Law and Sharma Kemp Chambers, Indore, M.P. The MOU came into effect from 9th September, 2025, which will be valid for a period of 3 years. The Objective of the MOU is to establish mutually beneficial relationship for the following:-

1. Internships for Students
2. Training for Student Volunteers at Legal Aid Clinics

3. Collaborations
4. Educational/Industrial visits
5. Assistance in Providing resource persons for various Competitions
6. Support for Faculty Development Program (FDP), Refresher courses, Workshops, and Seminars
7. Career Guidance and Career Counselling
8. Research Projects

The Institution looks forward to the collaboration.

VI. Special Initiatives

1. Compensation to Road Accident Victims

A member of **Socorro Legal Aid Cell, Mr. Enrique Heredia, from TY. LL.B**, identified a Scheme of Government of Goa, named as “Goa State Compensation to Road Accident Victims, 2023.” After studying the scheme which provides compensation to families of victims of road accidents whose annual income is upto Rs. 3 Lakhs, he initiated a claim process. He prepared the list of documents required, procured it from the victim’s family and applied for it on the portal www.goaonline.gov.in. The documents inter alia included an Affidavit and Income Certificate of the dependants of the family which are essential documents. The Director complimented the effort of Enrique Heredia in the meeting of the held on 26th September, 2025.

2. Jan Seva Camp at Sal Village Panchayat

On 27th of January 2026 the **Bicholim Free Legal Aid Cell** successfully organized a one-day “**Jan Seva Camp**” (People’s Service Camp) at the Village Panchayat Hall in Sal, Goa. The initiative aimed to bridge the gap between government administrative services and rural residents, providing a "one-stop shop" for essential documentation and health-related registrations. The event saw a significant turnout, with over **80 residents** successfully availing themselves of the services provided.

NAME OF LEGAL AID CELL:	BICHOLIM FREE LEGAL AID CELL
Place and time of functioning	Sal village panchayat hall , Bicholim Goa- 9.30AM-5.30PM ON 27 Jan 26
Faculty In-charge	Asstt. Prof. Rhucha Naik
Name of the Cell Incharge:	Miss. Diya Deulkar
Name of the Deputy Incharge:	Miss. Maithili Gawas
Total number of members	12
Target audience	All residents of villages sal including senior citizens, men, women and children.
Outcome of the outreach Programme:	The Bicholim Free Legal Aid Cell's one-day “Jan Seva Camp” at Village

Panchayat Hall, Sal, Goa, was a huge success, offering various services like Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), Aadhaar Card Correction, and Abha Card to citizens. The camp also provided other services like issuance of online residence certificate, divergence certificate, and renewal of DDSSY card, PAN Card, and drafting affidavits, among others.




3. Jan Seva Camp at Kudchirem Village

On 23 th of February 2026 the Bicholim Free Legal Aid Cell successfully organized a one-day “Jan Seva Camp” (People’s Service Camp) at the Devasthan hall in Kudchirem bicholim Goa. The initiative aimed to bridge the gap between government administrative services and rural residents, providing a "one-stop shop" for essential documentation and health-related registrations. The event saw a significant turnout, with over **105** residents successfully availing themselves of the services provided.

NAME OF LEGAL AID CELL:	BICHOLIM FREE LEGAL AID CELL
Place and time of functioning	Kudchire devasthan – 9.30 to 5.30 Am on 23 Feb 26
Faculty In-charge	Asstt. Prof. Rhucha Naik
Name of the Cell Incharge:	Miss. Diya Deulkar
Name of the Deputy Incharge:	Miss. Maithili Gawas
Total number of Cell members	12

Target audience	All residents of villages Kudchire including senior citizens, men , women's and children's
Outcome of the outreach Programme:	The Bicholim free Legal Aid cell's "Jana Seva camp 2.0" held at kudchirem village, Bicholim, Goa, witnessed overwhelming response from the public. The camp provided a comprehensive range of services, including Ayushmann Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, Aadhaar, Card Correction, Abha Card, issuance of residence, certificates, renewal of DDSSY cards and drafting of affidavits. Over 105 residents benefited from the services offered. The camp was conducted under the able guidance of faculty incharge, Asst.prof.Rucha Garde, and the leadership of students incharge, Miss Diya Deulkar, Miss Maithili Gawas and Adv. Ajay Prabhugaonkar.



जनसेवा शिबिर २.०
SERVICES AT YOUR DOORSTEP
BICHOLIM FREE LEGAL AID CELL

In Collaboration with
THE KUDCHIREM YOUTH SPORTS AND CULTURAL CLUB ALONG WITH SHREE SATERI KELBAI PRASANNA SEVA SAMITI - KUDCHIRE ORGANISES ONE DAY CAMP. (WITH A SPECIAL REQUEST FROM ADV. AJAY PRABHU GAONKAR)

THROUGH THIS PROGRAM, OUR MEMBERS WILL REACH OUT TO THE REMOTE AREAS IN GOA TO ENABLE THE PEOPLE TO AVAIL VARIOUS BENEFICIAL SCHEMES & SERVICES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GOA

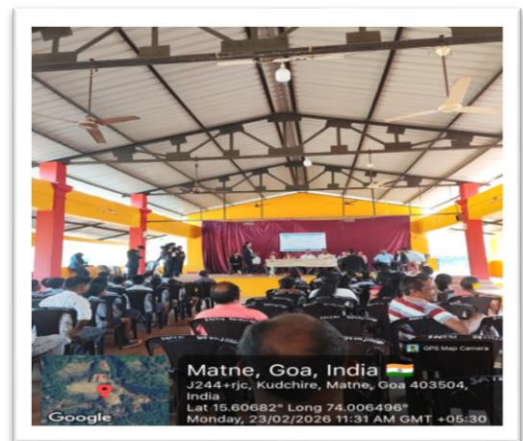
Various Services that can be availed are as follows:-

- 1. Ayushmann Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)**
List of documents required (Aadhaar card, linked phone number, mobile phone for otp)
(Fees to be paid 100/- if card is required)
- 2. Aadhaar card correction**
List of documents required original birth Certificate, original residence certificate
Aadhaar card, voting card all original Copy, adhaar linked phone number, Mobile phone for otp.
(Fees to be paid 115/-, if card is required 225/-)
- 3. Abha card (Ayushman Bharat health account)**
List of docs required Aadhaar card, adhaar linked phone number, mobile phone for otp.
(If card is required fees to be paid 100/-)
- 4. Other services**
Issuance of online residence certificate, divergence certificate, form I and xiv, survey plan, renewal of DDSSY card (Deen Dayal Swasthya Seva Yojana)
- 5. For 15 years residence certificate**
List of documents required Birth certificate, Aadhaar card School leaving certificate Voting card Marriage certificate One Photo Self declaration (Fees to be paid 12/-)
- 6. For DDSSY**
Renewal/Aadhaar card DDSSY card number card Registered mobile number for otp Fees to be paid (depends on family members)
- 7. Divergence certificate**
Birth certificate, adhaar, voting, PAN Card, self declaration, one photo, marriage certificate, school leaving certificate, passport, Bank passbook. Fees to be paid 12/-
- 8. Form I and xiv and survey plan**
Survey number, village name Fees to paid 180/- for plan, form I and xiv 50/-
- 9. Additional Services**
Drafting complaints, application for transfer of house tax, application for carrying out Mutation, Right to Information.

Date: 17/02/2026
Time: 10:30 am to 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Venue: Sri Sateri Kelbai Mantri Kudchirem, Bicholim Goa

NOTE: PUBLIC ARE REQUESTED TO CARRY THEIR ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS AS STATED HEREIN ABOVE TO AVAIL NECESSARY SCHEME/SERVICE.

Shri. Jeeendra Gaonkar (President Shree Sateri Kelbai Prasananna Seva Samiti) Shri. Gangaram Gaonkar (Treasurer Shree Sateri Kelbai Prasananna Seva Samiti) Miss. Diya Deulkar (Student cell incharge) Miss. Maithili Gawas (Student welfare incharge) Asst. Prof. Rucha Garde (Faculty incharge)



4. Jan Seva Camp at Chodan Village

On 26th of February 2026 the Bicholim Free Legal Aid Cell successfully organized their 3rd one-day "Jan Seva Camp" (People's Service Camp) at the village panchayat hall Chodan madel Goa . The initiative aimed to bridge the gap between government administrative services and rural residents, providing a "one-stop shop" for essential documentation and health-related registrations. The event saw a significant turnout, with over 95 residents successfully availing themselves of the services provided.



5. Jan Seva Camp at Latambarcem Village

On 18th March of February 2026 the Bicholim Free Legal Aid Cell successfully organized their 4th one-day "Jan Seva Camp" (People's Service Camp) at the village panchayat hall Latambarcem kasarpal Goa. The



initiative aimed to bridge the gap between government administrative services and rural residents, providing a "one-stop shop" for essential documentation and health-related registrations. The event saw a significant turnout, with over 80 residents successfully availing themselves of the services provided.



6. Tenancy Verification

Mandrem Free Legal Aid Cell conducted its major program on 10th and 13th December on the topic of Tenant Verification. The first session was held on 10th December in collaboration with the Mandrem Police Station at various construction sites, where the officials explained the importance

of verifying tenants and guided the students on how to use the verification app. The students actively participated in the process and successfully verified 23 tenants during the session.

The second session was conducted on 13th December in collaboration with the Agarwada Panchayat within Agarwada village. Along with two panchayat members, the cell carried out a verification drive smoothly and efficiently in the village, verifying around thirteen tenants. The program helped create awareness about the importance of tenant verification and encouraged practical learning among students.

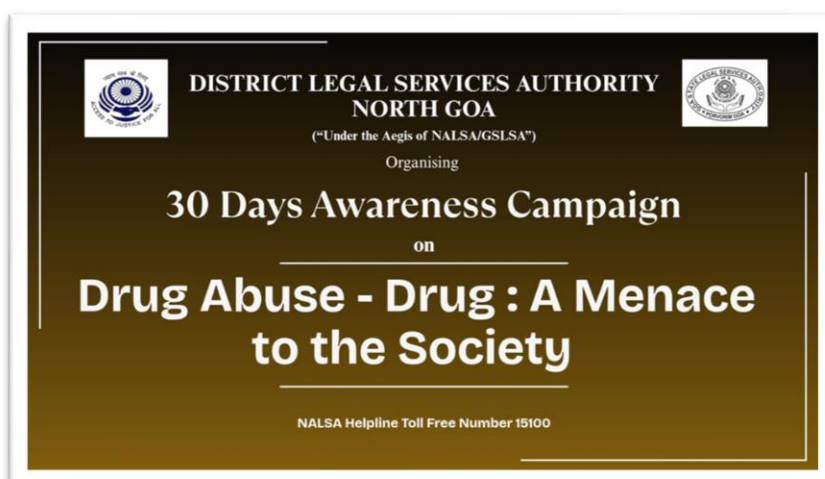


VII. Collaboration with Goa State Legal Services Authority

Collaboration of with State Legal Services Authority and North Goa District Legal Services Authority (Under the aegis of NALSA and GSLSA)

1. Street play on Drug Abuse

In accordance with directions received from the Goa State Legal Services Authority, the Legal Aid Society of V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, conducted the following activities under the theme “Drug Abuse- Drugs: A menace to the Society.”



14th January 2026, Goa Architecture College- Altinho

17th January, 2026, at Miramar Beach.

The Santa Cruz Legal Aid Cell, in collaboration with the Taleigao Legal Aid Cell, jointly organized and performed a skit on Drug Abuse, Narcotics, and Substance Misuse with the objective of creating legal and social awareness. The skit was performed at the Goa College of Architecture, Altinho as part of an awareness programme. The event also featured NDPS police officers, practicing lawyers, and faculty members, who addressed the audience

on the legal, social, and health-related consequences of drug abuse. The students along with the faculty and other attendees took an oath pledging that they would never engage in drug use, would actively discourage others from indulging in drugs, and would report any instances of drug abuse to the concerned authorities, thereby reaffirming their commitment towards building a drug-free society. Following the expert interactions, the Legal Aid Cell members performed the skit, highlighting the harmful effects of drugs, the legal consequences under narcotics laws, and the serious impact of substance abuse on individuals, families, and society at large. The performance effectively conveyed the message of prevention, responsibility, and the importance of a drug-free society.



Judges of Hight Court of Bombay at Goa, Hon'ble Justice Shri. Suman Shyam, Justice Shri. Amit S. Jamsandekar, and Justice Ashish S. Chavan, observing the Street play performed by the students at Miramar Beach.

2. Rally to conduct awareness on Drug Abuse

Date: 13-01-2026

A Rally was organised to create awareness on Drug Abuse and how it is a menace to the society. The rally commenced at V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, Miramar, and concluded at Bal Bhavan in Campal. The Rally commenced with lighting of the Mashaal and taking of Pledge. The Pledge was administered by Ms. Shantashri Sinai Kudchadkar, Secretary, North Goa District Legal Services Authority. The Rally was jointly conducted by the NSS Unit and Legal Aid Society of the College. It was attended by students, and Faculty Coordinators Dr. Aamod M. Shirali, Director, Legal Aid Society, Asstt. Prof. Siddesh Tari and Asstt. Prof. Reshmi Sawant, Asstt. Prof. Yogesh Varak, NSS Programme Officers.





<https://www.goa.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/DRUG-ABUSE-PREVENTION.pdf>

III. Awards and Recognition

1. Legal Aid Award

V.M. Salgaocar College of Law was recipient of the Award of Excellence for Contribution in Social Justice and Legal Aid. The presented at the 14th International Conference on Human Rights and Gender Justice organized by Knowledge Steez Edu Hub LLP, The award ceremony was held on 7th September, 2025, at Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi.

This prestigious award recognizes law colleges and universities for their commendable contributions to the society and for Legal Aid and Social Justice activities. The report period was January to December 2024. The institution exhibited a total of 1574 legal aid activities through its 92 Pages Report. The college received the award among 43 colleges which applied for the award.



The Legal Aid Society of the College, is actively involved in providing free legal aid in the community through 27 legal aid cells in different villages and towns across the State. The Legal aid cells carry out legal literacy programs, para-legal services, applying for social welfare schemes for the needy, and other community and outreach activities. The Legal aid cells also collaborate with Government Departments for conduct of their activities.

The College complimented the efforts of Director of Legal Aid Society, Dr. Aamod M. Shirali, and Associate Director, Ms. Shaina Dhulapkar for steering the legal aid activities during the reporting period. The Institution was also awarded the Second Runners- Up Best Legal Aid Clinic, in the Third Edition of Prof. V.S. Mallar Memorial Legal Aid Competition 2024, organized by National Law School of India University, Bengaluru, in association with Department of Justice, Government of India. The Director also acknowledges the efforts of all Faculty in-charges of the Legal aid cells and the Management for its constant support.

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Salgaocar Law College wins Legal Aid Award 2025

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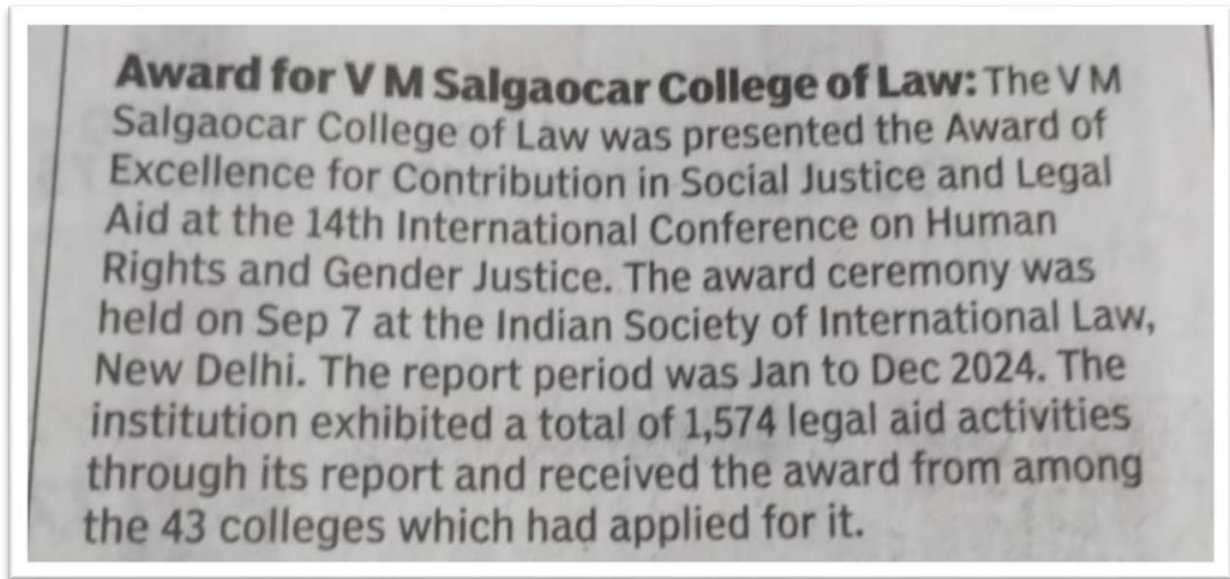


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2. Winner of Nyay Frames- 2nd KIIT Legal Aid Reel Making

The Legal Aid Society of VMSCL, is pleased to inform that Ms. Arya Nadkarni and Ms. Devishma R. Naik, were adjudged **Best Content (Overall)** and awarded Certificate of Merit and Rs. 3000/- Prize money in **the Nyay Frames- 2nd KIIT Legal Aid Reel Making Competition organized by KIIT School of Law, Bhubaneswar in collaboration with ProBono India**, held during August-September, 2025. The theme chosen was **“Swipe, Like, and Sue?”- Law and Social Media**. The script and content was based on **“Influencer and the Law,”** and how misleading consumers is against the law. The Reel stood for its originality, depth, and the impactful way in which it conveyed the message of Legal awareness and access to justice. The reel was inclusive of blending creativity with social consciousness.

The efforts of the actors in the Reel Ms. Priya Shirodkar and Ms. Sejal Tilve, are also well appreciated.

The Judging was based on originality and creativity, Content, insight and Knowledge, Graphics and Editing, and Engagement and Appeal (Instagram). The declaration of results and Prize distribution was held on 15th September, 2025, in online mode.

The Team was guided by Dr. Aamod M. Shirali, Director of Legal Aid Society.

Link to the Reel:

<https://www.instagram.com/p/DO26fDGEWgN/?igsh=dGZkcXM3Znk4Y3ll>



3. VMSCL Secures Second place in Street Play Competition on Durg Abuse.

We are honored to announce that our college secured 2nd Place in the Street Play College Competition organized by the Goa State Legal Services Authority (GSLSA). This competition was a cornerstone of the "30-Day Special Awareness Campaign" addressing the theme: "Drug Abuse – Drugs: A Menace to Society."

The highlight of the ceremony was the presentation of the award by the Hon'ble Justice Shri Surya Kant, Chief Justice of India, Supreme Court of India, making this achievement even more memorable for our institution. The valedictory function of the special awareness Programme was held on 25th January, 2026.



The streetplay was performed at Goa College of Architecture on 14th January and in presence of Hon'ble Judges of High Court of Bombay at Goa on 17th January, 2026 at Miramar beach during the inauguration

of a sensitisation booth. The skit was appreciation by the Judges. Taleigao and St.Cruz LAC members collaborated for the performance of street play.



4. VMSCCL recognised at S.P Sathe National Consultation 2026, on Clinical Legal Education



V.M. Salgaocar College of Law was one of the three Colleges selected for presentation at 20th Edition of Professor S P Sathe National Consultation on “Clinical Legal Education and Access to Justice: Strengthening Legal aid Centres through community Engagement and legal Reform” organized by ILS Law College ,Pune The Conference was part of the flagship event Remembering Prof. Dr. S. P. Sathe.

The selection criteria was based on Reports of academic years 2022-23 to 2024-25, based on number of legal aid activities conducted, involvement of students and faculty, collaborations, innovations, and overall impact and outcome of the student sensitisation. The Report and Proposal was submitted in the month of December, 2025, by Dr. Aamod M. Shirali, Director, Legal Aid Society,

Mr. Govind Sawant, (Student Cell In-charge of Pernem free Legal Aid Cell), was nominated to attend the Conference and make a presentation on behalf of the Legal Aid Society. He presented on the Structure and functioning of the Legal aid cells, activities, innovations, community engagement, clients attended, collaborations and challenges faced by the Legal aid cells. The presentation was well received and appreciated by the faculty and members present.

The Institution commends the efforts of Mr. Govind Sawant, Dr. Aamod M. Shirali, and all the Faculty of the Institution engaged in Legal aid activity.



5. Legal Aid Round Table 2025- Organised by Legal Services Clinic NLSIU

Date: 30th November, 2025

Miss. Dishanka Vernekar (Student Cell In-charge – Calangute Legal Aid Cell), along with Mr. Govind Sawant (Student Cell In-charge – Pernem Legal Aid Cell), represented the college at the

Roundtable Conference towards the Revival of the Indian Legal Aid & Awareness Network (ILAAAN), organised by NLSIU, Bangalore. The conference was conducted in online mode and aimed at reviewing the functioning of Legal Services Clinics (LSCs), sharing best practices, identifying challenges, and exploring future avenues for inter-clinic collaboration.

The agenda of the roundtable conference included key initiatives undertaken by various Legal Services Clinics, the structure and functioning of LSCs, challenges faced by LSCs including administrative and operational issues, and the future vision with potential areas for inter-clinic collaboration.

During the conference, Miss. Dishanka Vernekar presented on key initiatives undertaken by the Legal Aid Cells and the structure and functioning of Legal Services Clinics, with specific reference to the functioning of Legal Aid Cells in Goa. It was highlighted that VM Salgaocar College of Law, earlier had 40 active Legal Aid Cells in 1998, out of which 27 Legal Aid Cells are currently functional. Each Legal Aid Cell comprises 15–20 student members, with a total student participation of 386 students across cells. As per the mandatory academic requirements, each student is required to conduct four programmes per year, resulting in approximately 1,544 legal aid and awareness programmes annually.

The presentation further explained the organisational structure and academic integration of Legal Aid Cells. The network functions under the supervision of an Overall Head and Associate Faculty members, and Legal Aid forms a practical paper in the academic curriculum. The cells actively collaborate with local Panchayats for the use of premises to conduct legal awareness programmes. Weekly Legal Aid Cell meetings are held every Saturday from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, during which attendance registers and student journals are maintained. In addition, weekly community sensitisation programmes are conducted every Monday to ensure continuous community engagement. Details regarding audience outreach were also shared. Minor programmes generally cater to 15–20 participants, while major programmes reach 40–50 participants, with audience strength varying depending on the location and theme of the programme.

The key initiatives undertaken by the Legal Aid Cells were discussed, including the filing of Public Interest Litigations (PILs), implementation of Project LIVE, assistance provided to a Goa accident victim in filing a legal case, and special awareness campaigns conducted on important legal days. These included RTI awareness programmes on RTI Day and street plays focusing on the Right to Information and access to justice.

The presentation also highlighted community-focused legal literacy initiatives, such as awareness programmes on social welfare schemes, assistance in obtaining tribal marriage certificates, and guidance on compulsory marriage registration under the Portuguese Civil Code and Goa's Uniform Civil Code. It was emphasised that students are adequately trained before engaging with the community to ensure accurate and responsible dissemination of legal information.

Further, the range of legal topics covered in programmes was outlined, including local land laws, issues relating to the NDPS Act, and other community-oriented legal issues. Various modes such as street plays, presentations, and interactive sessions were adopted to enhance public understanding and participation.

Mr. Govind Sawant presented on the challenges faced by Legal Services Clinics, including administrative constraints, limited resources, coordination difficulties, and operational hurdles. As we are a government-aided institution, there are certain limits on the kind of cases our Legal Aid Cell can take up. We are not allowed to handle large-scale or high-value matters, such as major

real estate disputes or big commercial cases. These matters usually involve large financial interests, long court proceedings, and specialised legal work, which are beyond the role and capacity of a college Legal Aid Cell.

Therefore, our focus remains on small-scale and community-based issues that directly affect common people, such as awareness of government schemes, basic legal rights, documentation help, family and social issues, and legal literacy programmes. This allows students to learn practical law while responsibly serving society, without going beyond institutional guidelines.

He also spoke on the future vision of Legal Services Clinics, stressing the importance of inter-clinic collaboration, sharing of best practices, joint initiatives, and coordinated efforts to strengthen legal aid and legal awareness across institutions.

The conference witnessed participation from several reputed law universities and institutions across the country, including National Law School of India University (NLSIU), National Law University Delhi (NLUD), Jindal Global Law School (JGLS), V.M. Salgaocar College of Law, Christ University, BITS Law School, West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU), Presidency University, Bengaluru, and Tamil Nadu National Law University (TNNLU).

The online roundtable conference concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, during which participants from different institutions raised queries, shared experiences, and exchanged suggestions regarding the functioning and strengthening of Legal Services Clinics. The conference served as a valuable platform for dialogue, learning, and reinforcing the collective commitment towards access to justice and community legal empowerment. The V.M. Salgaocar College, Legal Aid Society was complemented for its presentation and evoked a good response as to functioning of the Legal Aid Cells.

6. Annual Prize Distribution Ceremony

6.1 Best Performing Legal Aid Cells for A.Y. 2024-25

For the Best Legal Aid cell award 2024-25, we followed a structured and fair selection process. Cell incharges were asked to apply for the same via a google form. They were evaluated on criteria such as their active participation, consistency, innovation, collaboration with govt agencies, ngos, etc, and overall outreach and impact of the same. Based on this, top three cells are awarded as the best performing legal aid cells. As we can see on the slide.

Guirim Free legal aid cell

The Tenant Verification Camp held on March 15, 2025, in Guirim Village was organized by the Guirim Free Legal Aid Cell, in collaboration with the Village Panchayat and Mapusa Police Station. Its main goal was to improve community safety, ensure proper tenant registration, and spread legal awareness among residents. Key Phases of the Camp:

1. Awareness Drive (March 13, 2025): Team members visited over 30 homes, distributed pamphlets, and shared info online. Educated residents about tenant verification rules and importance.

2. Verification Camp (March 15, 2025): 17 residents attended; 10 verified tenants. Legal Aid members helped with forms and documents. Awareness sessions on legal rights and government schemes were conducted.

3. Police Verification: Police checked tenant details and completed verification. Acknowledgment receipts were issued to property owners.

Outcome & Impact: Increased awareness about legal responsibilities. Improved community participation in safety measures. Residents gained knowledge about government schemes. Strengthened collaboration between legal aid cell, police, and villagers.

Conclusion: The camp was a successful initiative to enhance safety, promote legal awareness, and can serve as a model for other villages to follow.

Pernem free legal aid cell

We successfully organized a State-Level Seminar which received an excellent response and was highly appreciated for its quality and execution. In recognition of our efforts, we were invited by DMC College to organize a similar State-Level Seminar on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) in the academic year 2025-26. This opportunity reflects the credibility, dedication, and capability of our team in conducting impactful academic events.



We also undertook an important legal aid initiative wherein Non-Availability Certificates were obtained from the Virnoda Village Panchayat and duly submitted to Goa University. This effort significantly assisted members of the tribal community in securing their delayed birth certificates and facilitating marriage registrations. The initiative reflects our commitment towards legal awareness, access to justice, and community welfare, particularly for underprivileged sections of society.

Sanquelim Free legal aid cell

Our activities reached a significant number of people in the community. Through the door-to-door campaign and street play, we spread legal awareness to many residents and commuters in Sanquelim. The awareness sessions in schools also helped students understand their fundamental rights and duties. Overall, our programs increased legal awareness, community participation, and access to legal aid.

6.2 Best Student Legal Aid Member A.Y. 2025-26

Legal Aid is not just an initiative, it reflects our commitment to justice, empathy, and meaningful social impact. Throughout the academic year 2025–26, our Legal Aid student members have actively worked towards spreading legal awareness and assisting those in need.

For the Best Legal Aid Student Member award 2025–26, we followed a structured and fair selection process. Students were asked to apply for the same via a google form. They were evaluated on criteria such as their active participation, consistency, innovation, collaboration with govt agencies, ngos, etc, and overall outreach and impact of the same. Based on this, five outstanding students were shortlisted. As we can see on the slide.

1. Mr. Lawrence Colaco from Bicholim Free Legal Aid Cell, has been contributed towards the Registration of new self help group named Suphal. He has Conducted jan seva camp and has been involved in drafting resolution, opening bank account , collecting kyc docs and helping people.
2. Ms. Diya Deulkar from Bicholim Free legal aid cell who has actively contributed towards the cell’s working, organising one how 4 “Jan seva camp” in remote areas , while collaborating with the authorities.
3. Mr. Khaled Desai introduced several innovative concepts, including the Unified Legal Aid Fund, designed to be sustained through CSR initiatives and alumni contributions. He also proposed a digital platform (mobile app and website) to integrate legal aid services and the use of area-specific WhatsApp groups for sustained community engagement in local languages. Additionally, he used the International ADR conference as a creative fundraising mechanism, successfully raising over ₹92,000 for student activities.
4. Ms. Dishanka Vernecar from calungute cell. Over the past two years, the legal literacy programmes, round table conferences,she has received appreciation and encouragement from institutions like St. Theresa’s Higher Secondary School, DMC College, and St. Joseph’s High School, Arpora, to continue such programmes for the benefit of students.
5. Ms. Darshita Bagli of the Mandrem Legal Aid Cell, conducted tenant verification, where she initially proposed the idea and took the initiative to obtain permission from the Mandrem Police Inspector. She also initiated collaboration with the Harmal Panchayat to conduct an Aadhaar camp for the residents of Harmal village

These shortlisted candidates were then invited for an interview before a panel, where their experiences, understanding, and dedication were further assessed. After careful consideration, one member has been selected as the winner. The recipient

of the award was **Mr. Lawrence Colaco** from Bicholim Free Legal Aid Cell.

