



ProBono India

In Collaboration With

Legal Services Committee

**Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar
& RGNUL Legal Aid Clinic, Patiala**

Organizes

2ND EDITION OF ONLINE CERTIFICATE COURSE ON LEGAL AID AND ALLIED LAWS

With special reference to practical aspects of Right to Information, Public Interest Litigation, Consumer Protection Act, Alternative Dispute Resolution and Rights of the Victim

OCTOBER 2- 31, 2021

ABOUT PROBONO INDIA

Founded in October 2016 with an aim to integrate legal aid and awareness initiatives – ProBono India has ventured into different avenues viz. legal aid, legal awareness, legal intervention, legal journalism, legal activism etc. – all with the underlying objective of contributing to the positive development of the society with a strong socio-legal approach. The activities at ProBono India include an active dissemination of legal information via the medium of its official website, rolling internship programmes for law students to help them develop a holistic personality with a socio-legal approach to their professional personality, interviews with eminent personalities working at the ground-level offering insights into their successful projects, providing a platform to promote and publish the art of research and legal writing, amongst many others. The team of ProBono India works to promote legal activism as we believe that law and society are two sides of the same coin. Law and society are so inextricably interdependent that both need to be equally improved in order to lead the world into the desired new order. We at ProBono India believe in a better and brighter tomorrow. We believe not just in being passengers on this drive to change – rather, we aim to drive towards the change.

ABOUT GNLU LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

The GNLU Legal Services Committee, set up under Section 4(k) of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, rides on the principles of empowering the society with legal awareness and legal aid. Over the years, the GNLU LSC has strived to recognize the potential of law as an instrument of social change. The Legal Services Committee acts as a ‘Community Legal Clinic’ and focuses on, inter alia, the deprivation of government benefits, eviction and issues of domestic violence. The GNLU LSC has always been motivated to work for the betterment of the society and more so for the enhancement of living standards of the underprivileged. In this regard, activities such street plays, drama performances and community legal service programs which promote legal awareness in areas akin to environment, consumer rights, human rights, right to information and labour laws are often organized by the LSC.

The Committee has recently undertaken the projects namely Migrant Workers Assistance Project in collaboration with the Centre for Law & Society, as in the current times the Migrant Workers and their families are one of the worst hit sections of the society, the Legal Services Committee has tried to arrange transport, food and other necessities for them with the support of local NGOs, Government Authorities and various Collaborators. Under this project, the

committee has contacted around 35,000 migrant workers and tried to put them and collected over 5 Lakh rupees under the Crowdfunding drive that we initiated. The Legal Services Committee has also instituted various yearlong projects such as the Legal Aid Clinic where efforts have been made to assist people legally in their legal disputes. The Committee has also tried to connect them with professional lawyers for court proceedings and legal remedies. The other initiatives include teaching drives, Know Your Rights program where children are being made aware of the basic rights by the LSC volunteers. LSC's flagship events include the Interlinking LSC Annual forum where LSC's from all around the country come to GNLU and in presence of eminent resource persons discussions on basic legal issues take place. Other programs that the LSC organises is the Blood Donation camp which is a bi-annual event that takes place in collaboration with organisation such as Red Cross Society and Government Hospitals. There are various projects that the committee undertakes with the help of other partners such as Robinhood Army wherein, LSC volunteers take up teaching work in schools of Gujarat as well as provide mess food in the village areas near the university. The LSC thrives to help and assist people in whatever manner we can to help the downtrodden sections of the society.

ABOUT RGNUL LEGAL AID CLINIC, PATIALA

Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (RGNUL), Punjab is a premier Law Institute established in 2006 under the State Act 12 of 2006. In a short span of time, the University has been able to achieve the status of Institute of Excellence in Higher Education, award of Grade A by NAAC, a NIRF, MHRD ranking of being in the top 10 law institutes of India from past two consecutive years. RGNUL is committed towards creation of an environment of learning along with providing opportunities of growth as young and responsible citizens for the students. Over the past decade, the University has been able to establish itself as a Centre of Excellence for Legal Education. RGNUL Legal Aid Clinic was established in 2011 under the aegis of Punjab State Legal Services Authority, Chandigarh. The clinic is significantly trying to bring in the change in social, political and legal perceptions of the community through its initiatives. Various projects like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, Legal consultancy, awareness camps, legal and digital literacy programs, promotion of sustainable agricultural practices, adoption of villages around the vicinity of the University, promotion and advocacy of rights of women and children, participation in Lok Adalats etc. The volunteers of the clinic have taken up various projects in the villages adopted by the clinic regarding surveys to

understand the issues faced by the residents, creation of water recharge system in the Government school of the village, promotion of mensural health and hygiene amongst the women, organizations of free health camps for the villagers, organization of vaccination camps for the residents of the city, cleaning of water bodies, approaching the District Administration for issues faced by the villagers, association with the Old age homes, Collaborative projects with various NGOs for child rights and safety and many more. Around 1200 migrant labourers were assisted for food, health care and safe travel to their respective places during COVID 19 Lockdown. The students formed a group of 3000 volunteers spread across the country to help arrange plasma, medicines, oxygen supply, beds etc. for more than 1000 people during the second wave of the virus.

ABOUT THE COURSE

Legal Aid means giving free legal services to the poor and weaker section of society who cannot afford to take the service of the advocate to conduct a case or any legal proceeding in the court of law, any judicial authority or before any judicial tribunal. Article 39A of the Constitution of India provides that State shall secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity, and shall, in particular, provide free legal aid, by suitable legislation or schemes or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen because of economic or other disability.

Articles 14 and 22(1) also make it obligatory for the State to ensure equality before the law and a legal system which promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity to all. Legal Aid strives to ensure that constitutional pledge is fulfilled in its letter and spirit and equal justice is made available to the poor, downtrodden and weaker sections of the society.

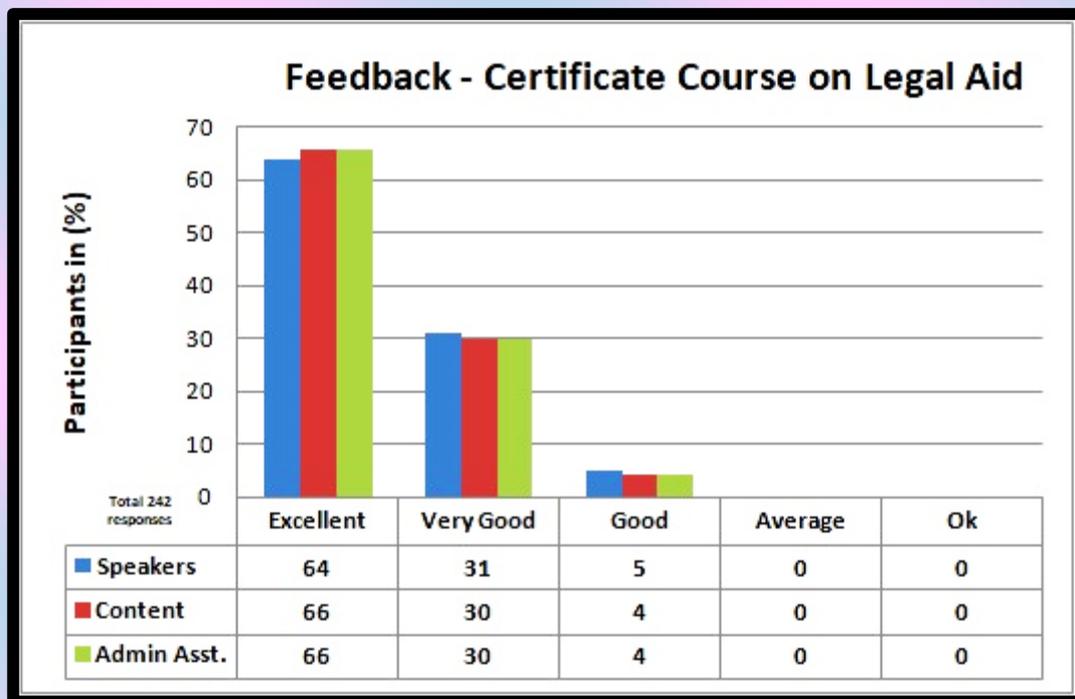
The preamble of the Indian Constitution aims to secure to the people of India justice- socio-economic and political. His Lordship Justice P. N. Bhagwati aptly stated that legal aid means providing an arrangement in the society which makes the machinery of administration of Justice easily accessible and in reach of those who have to resort to it for enforcement of rights given to them by law. Article 38(1) avows that the State shall promote the welfare of the people by securing and protecting the social order including justice.

Article 21 clearly says that every person has an equal right to life and liberty except according to the procedure established by the law. The State shall secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice, on a basis of equal opportunity, and shall, in particular, provide free

legal aid, by suitable legislation or schemes or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen because of economic or other disabilities.

First edition of the Course was designed to give an outline of the Legal Aid system in India, and its development by the judiciary. It covered various aspects of Right to Information, Public Interest Litigation, Rights of the Victims and Alternative Dispute Redressal mechanism. Total 400+ participants attended the course. It helped the participants to learn the significance of legal aid in the path to achieving justice. Looking at the overwhelming responses in first edition of the course, we have planned a second edition of the course in the public interest.

FEEDBACK SNAPSHOT – FIRST EDITION OF COURSE (AUGUST 2020)



The main objectives of the course are :-

- To enable the students to understand the history and development of Legal Aid in India
- To give a basic idea about the Right to Information and its significance
- To explain the concept of Public Interest Litigation and its importance for provision of access to justice, particularly in India
- To understand various modes of Alternative Dispute Resolution
- To understand the Consumer Rights and various provisions related to it.

- To realize the significance of Rights of the Victims

MODULES

- 1) Legal Aid in India (5 Hours)
- 2) Public Interest Litigation (5 Hours)
- 3) Right to Information (5 Hours)
- 4) Consumer Protection Act & Alternative Dispute Resolution (5 Hours)
- 5) Rights of the Victim (5 Hours)

The Course will be for 1 Month and the duration is of 25 Hours. Online Sessions will be conducted by subject experts on different topics from October 2 to October 31, 2021 and some sessions may be arranged in weekdays depending upon the situations. The Course comprises of 5 different modules. Online Sessions will be conducted on Cisco Webex platform on Saturday (7-00 pm to 9-00 pm) and Sunday (10-30 am to 1-30 pm) for 2-3 hours each day. Guest sessions will also be planned depending on the need. The participants will be provided reading materials for each module and they are expected to read the material before the online sessions.

90% attendance is mandatory for award of Certificate of Completion of the course. There will be a time bound online examination based on MCQ for 100 marks on **Tuesday, November 2, 2021 during 8-00 pm to 11-00 pm** wherein the students are expected to score a minimum of 50% marks to get a passing certificate. Grade Pattern for certification - (A+ 90% and above, A 80% and above, B+ 70% and above, B 60% and above, C 50% and above). Moreover, the top 5 students will get the Certificate of Merit. Maximum 200 participants can be accommodated in this second batch on first come first serve basis and looking at the statement of purpose of the course.

There is No Registration Fee to attend the course.

Certification :- Participants will be required to pay fees of Rs. 200/- if they want certificate after taking the online MCQ based examination. The amount shall be paid within 5 working days of completion of examination.

Last Date of Registration :- **September 20, 2021**

Please register here :- <https://shorturl.at/dOQ27>

For more details, please contact

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Resource Persons :-

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PROF. AJAY PANDEY Professor and Executive Director, Clinical Programmes Jindal Global Law School, Sonipat	MR. SHAILESH GANDHI Former Central Information Commissioner, New Delhi
DR. B S PATIL Associate Professor of Law Director, Legal Aid Clinic V M Salgaocar Law College, Goa	PROF. (DR.) ASHOK PATIL Professor, National Law School of India University, Bangalore Chair of Consumer Law and Practice, (Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Government of India)
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DR. KALPESHKUMAR L GUPTA Founder, ProBono India, Legal Startups Associate Professor of Law, Parul University, Vadodara, Gujarat	

Note :- Faculty/Experts can assign and discuss any other cases relevant to the module. Expert, Faculty will be sharing his own experience, cases to better learning. Participants are expected to read readings and cases for fruitful discussion in the session.