

**Mahatma Gandhi Vidyamandir's
KARMVEER BHAUSAHEB HIRAY, LAW COLLEGE, MALEGAON
Tal-Malegaon, Dist- Nashik, Maharashtra (423203)**

Legal Aid Clinic



Legal Aid Clinics are intended to provide legal relief easily accessible to the indigent and backward sections of our society. They are almost on the lines of primary health centers where a doctor and other auxiliary medical staff provide basic health care to the people situated in village areas affected with poverty and social squalor. Like the doctors rendering health services to the people of the locality in the primary health center, a lawyer/student managing the legal aid clinic provides legal services to the people. The thrust is on the basic legal services like legal advice and assisting in drafting of notices, replies, applications, petitions etc. The lawyer managing the legal aid clinic will also attempt to resolve the disputes of the people in the locality, preventing the disputes from maturing into litigation.

This provides the lawyer/law students in the legal aid clinic an opportunity to understand the difficulties faced by people in the distant villages' for access to justice. Legal Aid Clinics have to be managed by para-legal volunteers selected by the Legal Services Authorities and lawyers with a sense of commitment, sensibility and sensitiveness to the problems of common people. Legal aid clinic is one of the thrust areas envisioned in the NALSA's vision & strategy document. NALSA plans to set up legal aid clinics in all villages.

The objective is to provide legal services to the poor, marginalized and weaker sections of the society as categorized in Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 (Central Act), especially to the people living in faraway places including the places with geographical barriers, away from the seats of justice and the offices of the legal services institutions

The aim of the scheme is to provide inexpensive local machinery for rendering legal services of basic nature like legal advice, drafting of petitions, notices, replies, applications and other documents of legal importance and also for resolving the disputes of the local people by making the parties to see reason and thereby preventing the disputes reaching courts. In cases where legal services of a higher level are required the matter can be referred to the legal services institutions established under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Our Students also contribute for the Legal Aid & Awareness amongst people especially in rural areas who are quite ignorant towards their rights. Due to such extension activities, senses of social responsibility are created amongst the students by encouraging them to share their knowledge of laws with all those who are in need and cannot afford legal services due to financial constraints.