

# **SLSA, Law Colleges, Local Bodies and NGOs: Coordinative Role of DLSA**

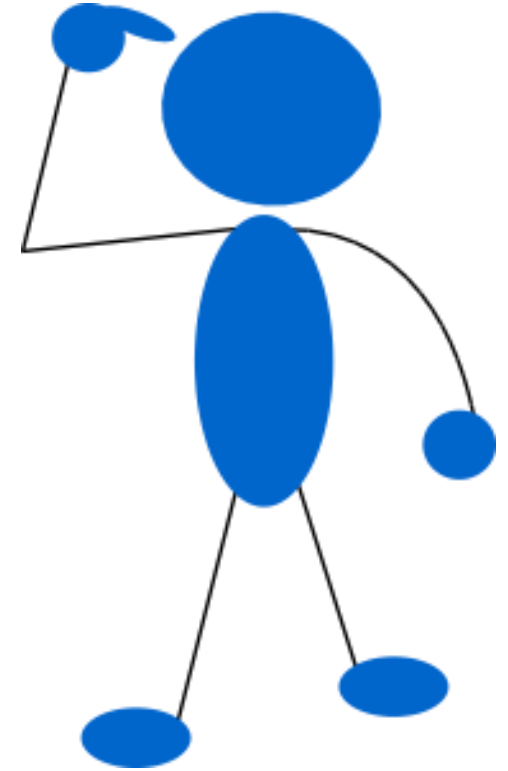
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- **Do People require Legal Services to defend them?**



- **Do You Think people can represent themselves in simple matters?**





- **Do people need legal services even for simple problems?**

**Legal Aid should be  
provided only for  
litigation?**



**The vast majority of experiences where legal remedies are available do not result in litigation.**



## **Inside Litigation Services**

- **The purpose of "inside litigation" services is to assist people in defending and asserting their legal rights in the court system.**

## **"outside litigation" services**

- **Assist people with legal matters where litigation is not, or is unlikely to be, involved.**

# Inside Litigation Services

The purpose of "inside litigation" services is to assist people in defending and asserting their legal rights in the court system.

**They include:**

- 1. legal representation**
- 2. legal advice**
- 3. Other litigation services**



# **"outside litigation" services**

- **Assist people with legal matters where litigation is not, or is unlikely to be, involved.**
- **The purpose of these services is to assist people in deciding if and how to respond to legal matters.**
- **These responses could mean they avoid, exit, bypass, threaten, and sometimes even consider initiating litigation.**

## **These services include:**

- 1. legal advice & information**
- 2. minor assistance with documents, letters, telephone calls, simple wills, etc.**
- 3. Public education and training including:**
  - (a) workshops, classes, seminars, other forms of communication; and**
  - (b) publications about the law including leaflets, booklets *etc.***

**In order to promote equal justice, the legal aid schemes of a society should offer both types of services.**

# Why Law Colleges



# Overview

- **The spawning ground for lawyer, jurist and judge is the Law School**
- **More than 1600 law colleges**
- **More than 1,50,000 law students passing every year**
- **India has largest number of lawyers in the world**

# Human Touch

**“Law schools create smart people without a purpose.”**

**-Carnegie Report**

**We have been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet our neighbor.**

**-Soccor Legal Aid Cell**

# **Institutionalizing Legal Aid in Law Colleges**

**a) Report of Expert Committee on Legal Aid 1973.**

**b) Report of Committee on National Juridicare 1977.**

**c) Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes 1981.**

**d) 184<sup>th</sup> Law Commission Report**

# **Benefits of Involving Law Students**

- **Law students can extend legal aid to remote villages;**
- **Students can provide legal aid and advice at a much lower cost;**
- **Legal Aid Cells are an excellent means of teaching professional responsibility;**
- **Legal Aid Cells provide an ideal platform for students to learn practical skills;**

# **Benefits of Involving Law Students**

- **Legal Aid Clinics are effective instruments for community education and preventive legal services programs;**
- **Involving Law Schools also improves the value and reputation of legal profession.**
- **There is no substitute for learning while doing;**
- **If properly channeled, the Law Schools can meet the demands of modern society and in fact help to transform the society and reach desirable goals.**



# Elements of Legal Aid

- 1 Legal representation**
- 2 Legal Advice**
- 3 Legal awareness**
- 4 Para legal services**
- 5 Public interest litigation**
- 6 Promoting Alternative dispute resolution**
- 7 Law Reform**

# **Institutionalizing Legal Aid in Law Colleges**

- **Bar Council of India Circular No:4/1997**
- **2008 BCI revised rules on “Standards of Legal Education and Recognition of Degrees in Law” for admission as advocates**

# **THE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES ACT, 1987**

**Sec. 4 K.**

**Develop, in consultation with the Bar Council of India, programmes for clinical legal education and promote guidance and supervise the establishment and working of legal services clinics in universities, law colleges and other institutions.**

# **THE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES ACT, 1987**

**(j) Provide grants-in-aid for specific schemes to various voluntary social service institutions and the State and District Authorities, from out of the amounts placed at its disposal for the implementation of legal services schemes under the provisions of this Act;]**

# **NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (LEGAL AID CLINICS) REGULATIONS, 2011**

## **3. Establishment of legal aid clinic.**

**Subject to the financial resources available, the District Legal Services Authority shall establish legal aid clinics in all villages, or for a cluster of villages, depending on the size of such villages, especially where the people face geographical, social and other barriers for access to the legal services institutions.**

## **9. Legal services in the legal Aid clinic.**

- **The legal aid clinic shall work like a single-window facility for helping the disadvantaged people to solve their legal problems whenever needed.**
- **Preparing applications for job card under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee (MGNREG) Scheme,**

## **9. Legal services in the legal aid clinic.**

- **Identity card for different government purposes,**
- **liaison with the government offices and public authorities,**
- **Helping the common people in solving their problems with the government officials, authorities and other institutions also shall be part of the legal services in the legal aid clinic:**

## **9. Legal services in the legal aid clinic.**

- **Provide assistance by giving initial advice on a problem,**
- **Assistance in drafting representations and notices,**
- **Filling up of forms for the various government schemes,**
- **Referred to the legal services institutions for taking further action.**



## **22. Legal aid clinics run by the law students.**

- **The regulations shall *mutatis mutandis* be applicable to the student legal aid clinics set up by the law colleges and law universities:**
- **Provided that students of law colleges also may make use of the legal aid clinics established under these regulations with the permission of the District Legal Services Authority.**

## **23. Law students may adopt a village for legal aid camps.**

- **(1) Law students may adopt a village, especially in the remote rural areas and organise legal aid camps in association with the legal aid clinic established under these regulations.**
- **(2) The law students may, with the assistance of the para-legal volunteers, conduct surveys for identifying the legal problems of the local people.**

## **23. Law students may adopt a village for legal aid camps.**

- **The surveys may include gathering information relating to the existing litigations and unresolved pre-litigation disputes also.**
- **May also focus on the grievances of the local people which would enable the National Legal Services Authority to take necessary steps by way of **social justice litigation** as provided in clause (d) of section 4.**

## **23. Law students may adopt a village for legal aid camps.**

- **The law students conducting such surveys shall send reports to the State Legal Services Authorities with copies to the legal services institutions having territorial jurisdiction and also to the District Legal Services Authority.**

## **24. Legal aid clinics attached to the law colleges, law universities and other institutions.**

- The law colleges, may set up legal aid clinics, as envisaged in clause (k) of section 4 attached to their institutions as a part of the clinical legal education.**
- The law colleges establishing such legal aid clinic shall inform the State Legal Services Authority about the establishing of such legal aid clinic.**

## **24. Legal aid clinics attached to the law colleges...**

- The State Legal Services Authority shall render the required technical assistance to legal aid clinics and**
- Shall take measures to promote the activities of such legal aid clinics.**
- The law students in the final year classes may render legal services under the supervision of the faculty member of their institution.**

## **24. Legal aid clinics attached to the law colleges...**

- **The State Legal Services Authority may organise ADR camps, including lok adalats, to resolve the problems of the people who seek legal aid in such legal aid clinics.**
- **The District Legal Services Authority may issue certificates to the students who complete their assignment in such legal aid clinics.**

## **25. Using Services of Para-legal volunteers**

- **Trained para-legal volunteers may be deputed to the legal aid clinics established under regulation 24 for assisting the persons seeking free legal services and for interacting with the students and the members of the faculty.**



## **26. Monitoring**

**The State Legal Services Authority shall collect monthly reports from the District Legal Services Authorities, law colleges and law universities on the functioning of legal aid clinics working in their jurisdiction.**

# **Best Practices in India**

- 1. Literacy Camps**
- 2. Street Plays**
- 3. Para legal services**
- 4. Law Reform/  
enforcement**
- 5. Welfare programs**
- 6. Public Forums**
- 7. Jail visits**
- 8. Consumer clinics**
- 9. Public Mediation**
- 10. Public Interest  
Lawyering**
- 11. Base Surveys**
- 12. Legal Audit**
- 13. Cyber Legal Aid**
- 14. Associating with  
NGO's, Government  
and Local  
authorities**
- 15. Interventions**

# **UNDP & GOI Report**

*Access to Justice for Marginalized People*

## **A Study of Law school Based Legal Service Clinics**

# Findings

- **Majority of the Clinics were started only to fulfil the mandatory requirement,**
- **Generally these Clinics have no proper functional structure, place, or policy on the kind of services they would extend,**
- **No workload credit to the faculty,**
- **No academic credit to the student,**
- **Most of the activities of the Cells are restricted to a few Legal Literacy Camps,**

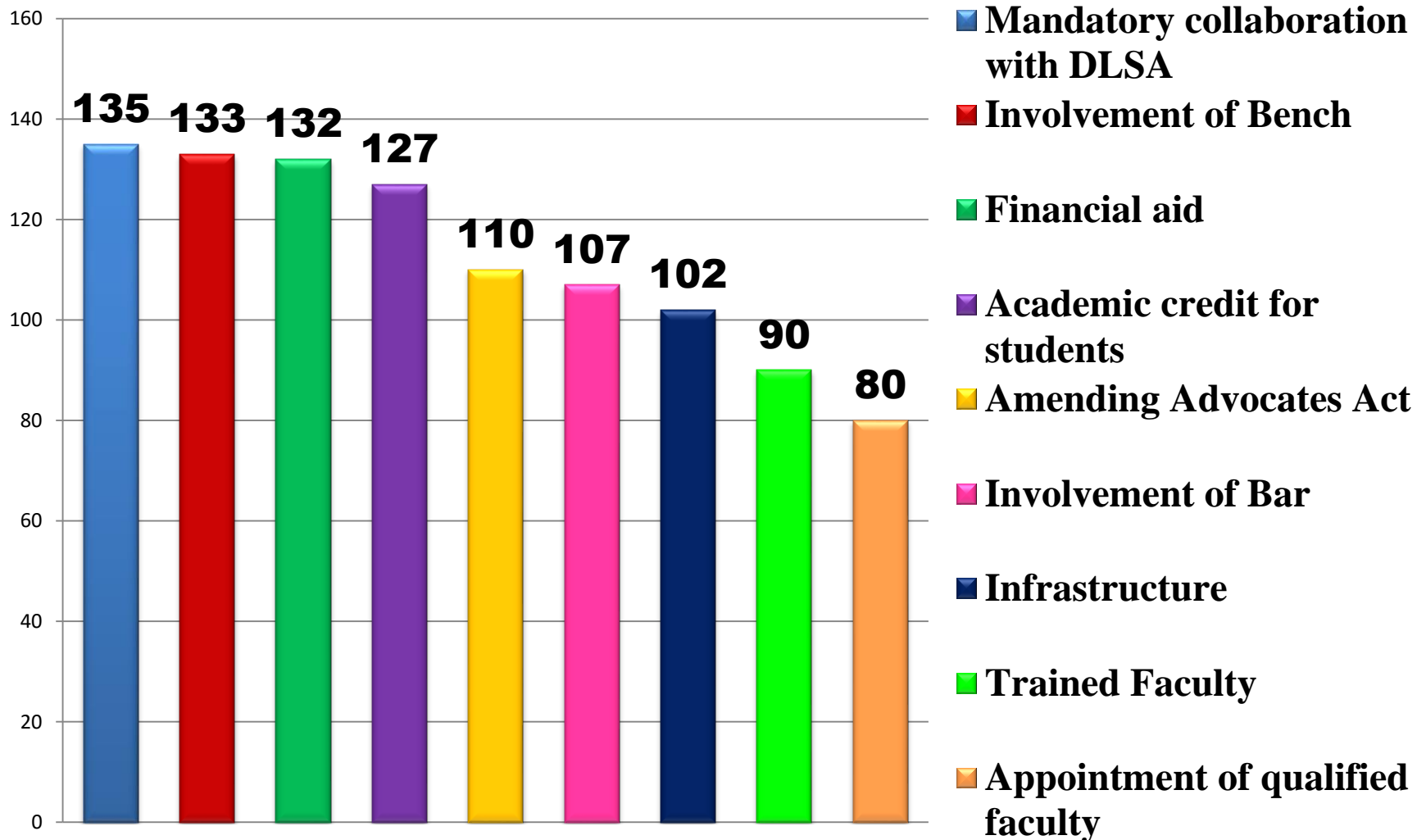
# Findings

- **The study of six National Law Schools reveals the lack of importance and effort in offering Legal Aid.**
- **None of the National Law schools offer legal aid as a compulsory clinical course.**
- **Students and Faculty Lacks skills.**
- **Non involvement of Bar and the Bench.**
- **Lack/ineffective collaboration with LSA.**

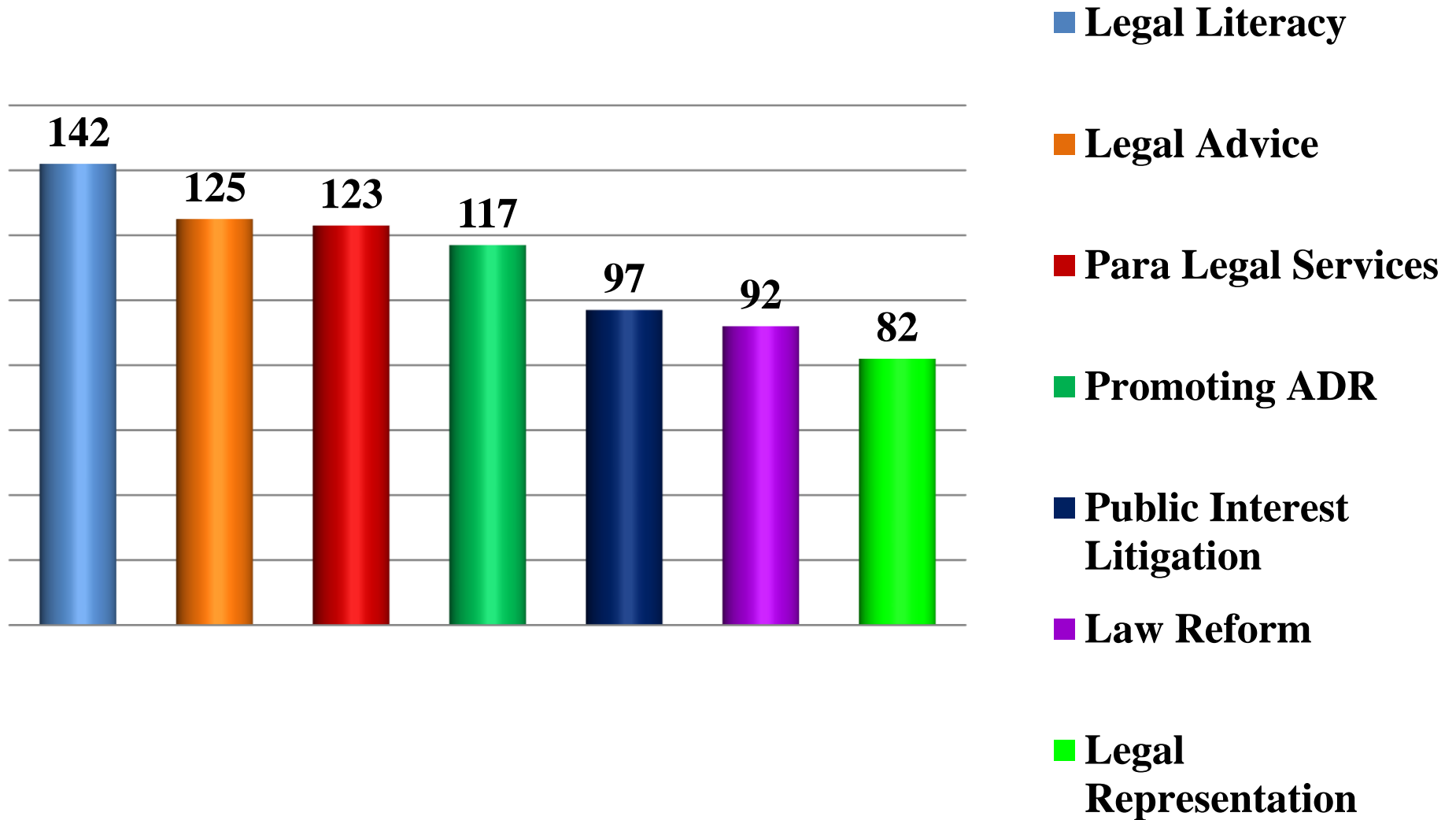
# Shortcomings

<b>Short Coming</b>	<b>Rank</b>
<b>Lack of financial support</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Restriction on Faculty to practice</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Absence of academic credit for students</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Legal aid not part of workload for faculty</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Lack of involvement of Bar</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Lack of infrastructural facilities</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Lack of involvement of Judiciary</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Restriction on students</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>No training facilities to faculty</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Lack of specific directions from BCI</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Absence of designated fulltime faculty</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Poor student quality</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Lack of trained faculty</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Part time students</b>	<b>14</b>

# What Support needed for effective legal services



# Activities a Law College Clinic can most effectively undertake





# **Expectations from LSA**

- **Regional Training of Trainers Program.**
- **Identification of potential Law Schools in each state**
- **Developing meaningful collaborations with clinics**
- **Specific budgetary Allocation for clinics**
- **Mandatory legal aid clinics in prisons and other correctional homes.**
- **Empowering the Law College**
- **Training the Students**

# The way forward

- **Identify the area/theme**
- **Involving students**
- **Motivating**
- **Internship with pro bono lawyers.**
- **Revamping Nation Legal Literacy Mission**
- **Involve faculty and students in its mission**
- **Encourage internships and research facilities on Legal Aid**

# The way forward

- **Feedback**
- **Funding**
- **Roles need to be clearly identified**
- **Equal Partners**
- **Develop networking and sharing best practices**
- **Continue the same initiation in all other States.**
- **Create a website for sharing the concerns and experiences.**



# **Programs**

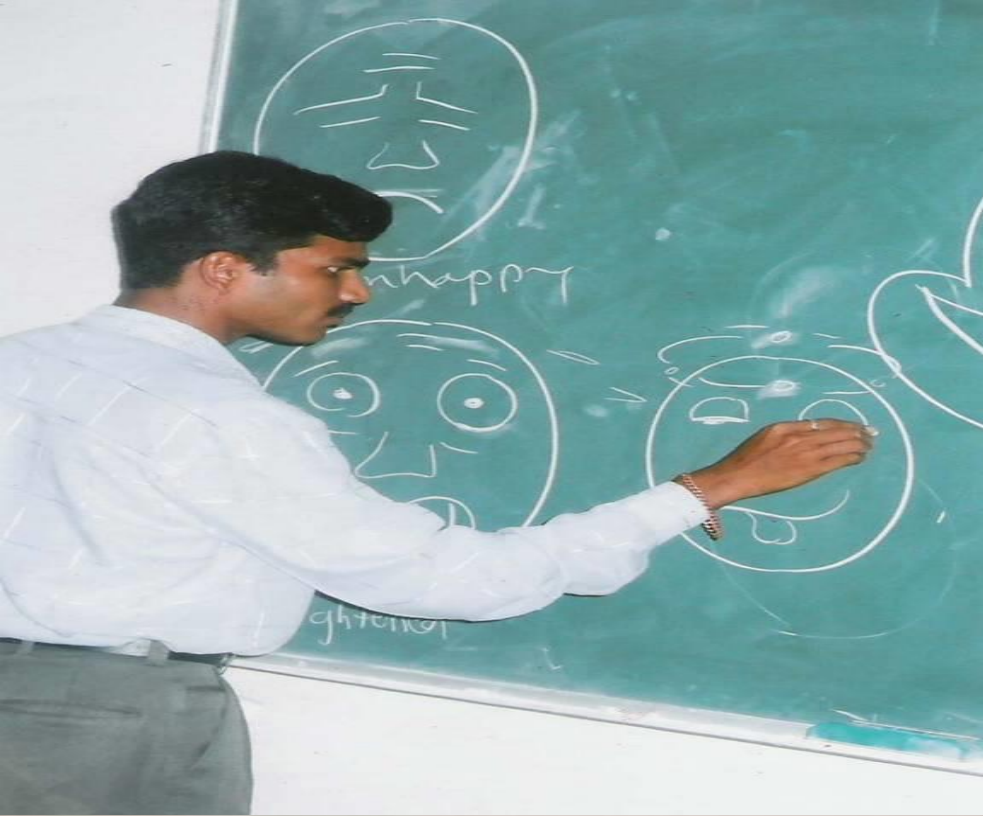
- 1. Literacy Camps**
- 2. Street Plays**
- 3. Para legal services**
- 4. Law Reform/ enforcement**
- 5. Welfare programs**
- 6. Public Forums**
- 7. Jail visits**

# Programs

- **08. Consumer clinics**
- **09. Child rights Clinic**
- **09. Prison Clinic**
- **10. Public Interest Litigations**
- **11. Base Surveys**
- **13. Associating with NGO's,**
- **Government and Local authorities**



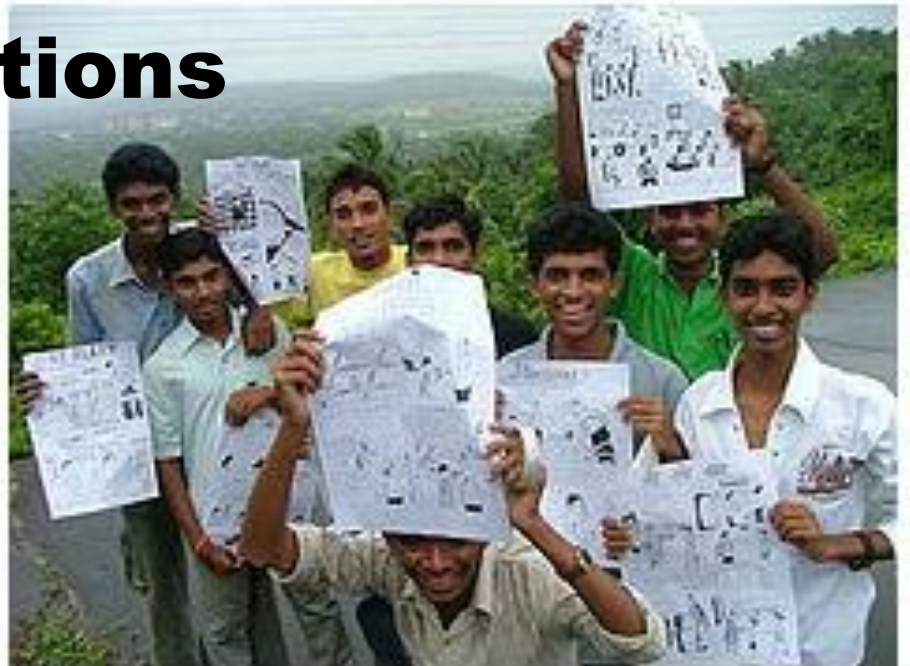
# Poster Making







## Exhibitions







# Legal Literacy

# Community Empowerment



# VISIT AT OLD AGE HOME



**We do not  
compete but  
Empower the  
Community**



# THANK YOU

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