

LEGAL LITERACY CAMPAIGN ON 'HUMAN RIGHTS DAY'

Our work/campaign that was done in group of three people which includes (Deepanshi Trivedi, Ruchika, Kishlay Ram) in ASHIRVAD HOME to make elder people be aware about their rights and duties which are given by constitution and government.

Conducted by:

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**Under the
guidance of:**

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**(Head – Legal
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1. Concept Note:

The Legal Aid Center of SLS, NOIDA is a body which aims to provide free legal aid to poor, downtrodden, needy and weaker sections of the society. This body strives to achieve this by reaching out to needy people using different platforms. Article 39A of the constitution clearly prescribes to provide "*Equal justice and free legal aid*" and the Legal Aid Cell strives to ensure that the constitutional pledge is fulfilled. The cell has been a student endeavour under the active guidance of Mr. Ankur Sharma, who has played an extremely important role in shaping the cell. The goal of the cell is to impart knowledge in order to enlighten the society and to make law and the legal process efficient instruments for the development of the society.

In an endeavour to continue the same, an event was organised for the senior citizens where the agenda was to impart knowledge about their rights and the schemes provided by the government. According to the census of 2011, there were around 104 million elderly persons who were aged 60 years and above and therefore, it is important to discuss the rights of the senior citizens. Major chunk of this population doesn't know about the schemes and facilities provided by the government and thus they restrict themselves from using it. Elderly rights are one of the fundamental rights of India. The rights of senior citizens are the entitlements (including basic necessities) and independence. Many old people are not alert of their rights

because of their illiteracy or ignorance, thus this event was organised to educate them about the human rights and how elder rights are an important part of the same.

2. Objective:

The main objective was to sensitize the elderly people about the laws that are present and how they can avail these laws. Moreover the focus was also laid upon the small issues which the senior citizens face on day-to-day basis

- To make the senior citizens aware of the Maintenance and welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007.
- To create awareness about the different schemes given by the government and the methods to avail it.
- To spread the basic information that will help the senior citizens in their daily life.

3. Preliminary preparations:

The preparations were made beforehand in order to make this event successful.

- Making multiple calls in order to get in touch with them. Taking an appointment which was suitable for the elderly people.
- Making charts and posters in order to spread the information effectively.

- Gathering the knowledge of the essential acts and the schemes provide by the government.

4. Conducting the program:

The program was conducted in Karkardooma, Delhi. The NGO was very supportive as it allowed the volunteers to impart and share the knowledge that they wanted to share. Three volunteers went to the NGO named as "*Ashirwaad Old Age Home*" in order to spread the awareness and sensitized the senior citizens about their right. Out of all the distinct topics under the umbrella of human rights, the topic related to the elderly people was selected because it's a less talked topic and it doesn't fall in the mainstream. Keeping in mind the engagement of the old people a suitable time was selected for the visit. The NGO had seven old age people. The event started with spreading awareness about the small topics like reservation in metro seats which the people are not normally aware of because of their illiteracy, then the volunteers preceded with the reservation in trains and aviation sector. The volunteers also spread the awareness among the discount offers that the Indian government gives to the old age people of 60 years and above.

Further the emphasis was laid on the pension scheme that is given by the Indian government and an effort was made to make them familiar of the procedures followed in order to avail this scheme. The "*Indira Gandhi national pension scheme*" given by the government which can be availed by

a person aged 60 years and above was discussed in length and the process for receiving this benefit was also explained. Then the volunteers talked about the maintenance act and CrPc 125 where the senior citizens were enlightened about their rights and how for these rights they can approach the Hon'ble court.

The event not only focused on the substantial matter which is present under the codified law but also explained the procedural function for the same. This made the practical aspect of the laws much easier and it was trouble-free for the senior citizens to understand the rules, schemes or any other thing that the volunteer explained.

5. Response of the target population:

The senior citizens already knew a majority of the rules that are available for them. Moreover they welcomed the volunteers with open heart and their eagerness was on the zenith point. They asked innumerable number of questions and showed enthusiasm during the discussion. They asked the volunteers to carry forward this task in rural areas where majority of the senior citizens pay no heed to the above schemes and the acts. The target audience were attentive when the Maintenance and welfare act was being discussed; they were inquisitive and wanted to learn more as the event progressed.

6. Future plan of the action:

The volunteers have planned to arrange more events for the same discipline of Human Rights. The number of senior citizens is increasing day by day and the decreased knowledge will lead to suppression of this category so in order to fight for this cause awareness should be spread and elderly people should be sensitized. More events will be organised and especially in rural areas in order to make this a better place to live in.

7. Suggestions and Feedbacks:

- It is suggested to reach to as many NGO'S as the cell can because this is the least discussed topic.
- Putting up camps in parks where old people come for walking and spending time will be great move for this sensitization programme.
- Sharing the procedural methods of availing the schemes and not only stick to the text.
- Primary research should be done which will give a clear view of the problems being faced by the elderly.

8. Conclusion and Remarks:

The experience that this event gave was speechless; the love imparted by the elderly cannot be expressed. It was really overwhelming to see the enthusiasm and inquisitiveness of the senior citizens. Their participation in the event was full-fledged and thus it created a sense of hope in the volunteers.

ANNEXURE 1







ANNEXURE 2: PHOTOS POSTED ON INSTAGRAM



📍 OLD AGE HOME
#SLSNOIDA #LACSLs
@SINGHRUCHIKA059