

# **LAC IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NYAAYA**

## **Report on Symbiosis Law School NOIDA's Ongoing Collaboration with the Vidhi Vertical, Nyaaya, for the Academic Year 2022-2023**

**ABSTRACT:** Article 39A of the Indian Constitution, the Legal Aid Centre at SLS-NOIDA, operational since 2015, is committed to providing free legal aid to ensure justice for all citizens, irrespective of economic constraints. In furtherance of this goal, the Centre has collaborated with Nyaaya to provide legal advice in languages that are accessible to all persons.

Conducted by:  
Ms. Vanshika Rana,  
Co-Convener

Under the Guidance  
of:  
Dr. Charvi Kumar,  
Administrator -  
Legal Aid Centre,  
Symbiosis Law  
School, NOIDA

## **I. Concept Note**

In the landscape of our legal system, an undeniable gap exists—one that hinders the accessibility of justice for a significant segment of our population. There is evidently a pressing concern: the need for law schools to actively engage in providing legal assistance and aid to the communities they serve.

In a country as diverse as India, the pursuit of justice should be an inclusive endeavour, accessible to all, regardless of socio-economic status. Unfortunately, millions of fellow citizens navigate the complexities of the legal system without adequate support or representation. As law students and educators, there lies a unique opportunity—and, arguably, a responsibility—to bridge this justice gap.

The Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, Noida, aptly named "*Noblesse Oblige*," embodies the profound concept that privilege carries a moral obligation to uplift others, aligning with Immanuel Kant's categorical imperative. It underscores our commitment to use our privilege to make the legal system more accessible and just.

In accordance with Article 39A, which recognizes the right to legal aid for all, we endeavour to provide equitable access to justice. However, navigating the labyrinth of India's legal landscape, particularly the laws drafted during the 19th century by the British, can be an intimidating task for the average layperson. The complexity of these laws often poses a significant barrier.

Furthermore, it is crucial to establish a connection between our efforts and the Right to Information Act, which empowers citizens with the right to access information held by public authorities. In essence, our initiative aligns with the spirit of transparency and empowerment enshrined in this important legislation.

## **II. Objectives**

The main objectives of this event were twofold:

1. To simplify the complex laws of the country which intersect with sociolegal realities of the people.
2. To provide legal aid in the form of easy-to-understand answers to the questions asked.
3. To eradicate language-barriers for persons who are more comfortable with their local vernacular when seeking legal aid.

## **III. Preliminary Preparations**

Before conducting the event, the organiser made the following preparations:

1. Conducted meetings with Nyaaya in order to ensure the quality and type of answers it was seeking.
2. Identified the strengths and language preferences of volunteers in order to maximise their capacity to offer legal assistance to persons in need.

## **IV. Conducting the Event**

Navigating India's legal landscape, particularly laws drafted during the 19th century under British rule, can often appear intricate and daunting to the average layperson. This complexity can be a formidable barrier for those seeking legal assistance. To address this challenge, NYAAYA has initiated a commendable collaboration with various law schools. Through this partnership, individuals with legal queries can pose their questions on matters of legal significance.



In response to these inquiries, our institution law students, undertakes extensive research to provide accessible and easily comprehensible answers in the same language as the question asked. We take pride in offering solutions that are free of unnecessary legal jargon, ensuring that the information is presented in a manner that empowers individuals from diverse backgrounds to understand their rights and responsibilities. These inquiries encompass a wide spectrum of topics, ranging from process to submit affidavits to issues such as domestic violence. Notably, these questions are posed by individuals without a legal background, emphasising our commitment to inclusivity and accessibility.

In the academic year 2022-2023, 19 dedicated students actively contributed to this endeavour, ensuring that legal knowledge becomes a tool for empowerment rather than a barrier to justice.

Through our collaborative efforts with NYAAYA, we have been able to assist numerous individuals in understanding their legal rights and navigating complex legal issues. We have received positive feedback from those who have benefitted from our responses. These success stories reinforce our commitment to promoting legal aid and legal literacy.

The event was led by Ms. Vanshika Rana, who served as Co-Convener as well as the Official Student Liaison for Nyaaya. She would help Dr. Charvi Kumar assign questions to students and review answers once they had been provided.

## **V. Response of the Target Population**

The target population's response was not measured by the Legal Aid Centre, but Nyaaya did inform us that we managed to answer almost 200 questions over the course of our partnership this year.

The response received to these answers was overall positive, and it was very rare for a person to ask for further information, especially since the answers were vetted by the Co-Convener and Student Liaison, Ms. Vanshika Rana.

## **VI. Future Plan of Action**

Both Nyaaya and the Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA are keen on continuing the collaboration into the future. It is hoped that we can expand the number of languages spoken by our students in order to reach even more sections of the population.

## **VII. Conclusion**

In conclusion, this partnership with Nyaaya has proved to be very fruitful and an excellent way to inform the masses of their rights, even when they are several hundred kilometres away from the physical office of the Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA.



## GLIMPSES OF THE EVENT

The following are the learners who contributed to the Nyaaya partnership. As this was an ongoing event that was worked upon by learners on their laptops, there are no dynamic images of them in action.



## LIST OF STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

The following are the learners who contributed to the Nyaaya partnership:

S. No.	Prefix	Name	Batch
1	Ms.	Aprajita Tyagi	2018-2023
2	Ms.	Aadhya Seth	2019-2024
3	Ms.	Aditi Pandey	2019-2024
4	Ms.	Akansha Agarwal	2020-2025
5	Ms.	Anushka Singhal	2020-2025
6	Ms.	Ayushi Chaubey	2019-2024
7	Ms.	Mahak Agarwal	2019-2024
8	Ms.	Mridula Trivedi	2019-2024
9	Mr.	Mrityunjay Joshi	2019-2024
10	Ms.	Pragya Patel	2019-2024
11	Ms.	Twinkle Madaan	2019-2024
12	Ms.	Vanshika Rana	2019-2024
13	Ms.	Vibhuti Rao	2020-2025
14	Ms.	Shasya Singh	2020-2025
15	Ms.	Bhavya Vijaya Lakshmi	2020-2025
16	Ms.	Vanshika Ahlawat	2018-2023
17	Mr.	Vipulaaksh Moondra	2018-2023
18	Ms.	Medhika Sharma	2018-2023
19	Ms.	Bhavya Singhal	2018-2023