

LAC

Visit to Prathmik Vidyalaya, Village Chauganpur, Noida Extension

Legal Literacy camp organized in collaborations with the District Legal Services Authority, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh

Thursday, 20 September, 2018

Report By: Vaishali Singh & Yogesh Sharma, PLVs



ABSTRACT

Legal Awareness Camp was organized on Thursday, 20 September 2018 by Legal Aid Centre in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority, Gautam Buddha Nagar at Prathmik Vidyalaya, Village Chauganpur, Noida Extension. Prof. Ankur Sharma introduced the LAC to the students and explained about the roles and responsibility of LAC. The students got an opportunity to interact with the students and teachers. Further volunteers Shiwani, Naysa and Tanya gave a speech and the students presented a play.

I. Concept Note

Under the auspices of Article 39A of the Constitution, the Parliament enacted Legal Services Authority Act of 1987, which establishes authorities and committees at all level (National, State, District & Taluka) for providing legal Aid. District Legal Services Authority, Gautam Budh Nagar engaged with Legal Aid Centre Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA for discharging their functions while promoting the aim & ambitious of Article 39A. The Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA has been showing success with its members and its Head committed to work for betterment of society. The aforesaid Legal Literacy camp at Prathmik Vidyalaya, Village Choganpur was part of endeavor of the centre in furtherance of its 'aim & objectives'. The working areas identified through these programs are of vital importance and extremely necessary to be discussed and acknowledged. With this aim & objective, the Legal Literacy Program was conducted and successfully culminated. Law schools have been recognized as playing a pivotal role promoting and providing justice, through this field. This strategic meeting was organized to make a action plan for the events organizes by Legal Aid Centre in the year 2018-19.

The legal aid center at Symbiosis Law School NOIDA is moving forward in achieving its goals for the betterment of the society and fighting for human rights. The aforesaid program was part of endeavor of the center in furtherance of its 'aim and objectives'. The areas and the topic identified through these programs are of vital importance and extremely necessary to

be discussed and acknowledged. Keeping its aim in mind, the visit was conducted and successfully culminated.

A campaign was conducted at Prathmik Vidyalaya which was aimed at spreading awareness on various issues like the importance of education prevailing, stereotype against women, child marriage, the difference between good touch and bad touch, the various legal provisions such as help lines that are available. The objective of this campaign was fully successful as the crowd which were students of class 5th – 8th were very responsive to the play and understood the meaning behind it, they were very interactive throughout the session and responded well to all instructions, they were overall very enthusiastic throughout.

II. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the visit were as follows:

1. provide legal awareness to the students about child rights, women rights, right to education and dowry.
2. get the necessary information regarding the conditions in the government schools.
3. identify the problems faced in the schools and preparing to address the same in our next visit.

III. Preliminary Preparations

To fulfill the objectives of the event, the volunteers of the Legal Aid Center:

- Made Posters and Pamphlets that would attract attention of the students.
- Read up on the various rights of the women and child that we need to make them aware of
- Prepared a short speech on all the issues mentioned above which was delivered by volunteers Shiwani, Naysa and Tani.
- Prepared and presented a play regarding the rights of women, children and discussed about the social evil of dowry.

The topics were divided between the members and the members took turns to talk on the topic.

IV. Response of the Students

The volunteers got a first-hand interaction with the students and the teachers and the various problems that they were facing. The students actively participated in the event and told the volunteers their view.

V. Future plan of action

Such visits will also be conducted in the near future and the information gathered subsequently would be conveyed to DLSA so that the shortcomings observed can be rectified. Efforts shall be made to ensure that the best education should be made accessible to the students.

VI. Conclusive remarks

The volunteers got an opportunity to interact with the students and the teachers and got to know about the problems faced by in the government and how still after so many schemes the facilities and quality of the education system is still lacking and come up with ways to improve the same.

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE OF VOLUNTEERS

1: Write up of Mr. Yash Jain, LAC Volunteer

In a recent visit to a government school at the outskirts of Noida, many things were observed and although education in India is progressing – are the implications same for both the genders?

On entering the government school in Kheda Choganpur, there was a small playground with a handpump installed in the right side of the ground , surrounded by trees. Moving forward we saw small classes with huge number of students excited to meet us, one very important reason for this good number could be the Right to education implemented by the government where children between the age group of six to fourteen years have the right to free and compulsory education in India. They are also entitled to the mid-day meal scheme where they get free food for lunch.

We conducted a small play with the theme of domestic violence and telling the right age both for boys and girls to marry, a workshop on good touch and bad touch was also organised by us. The motive was to make the young minds clear of the fact the legal rights they have , We made them learn various helpline numbers like 1098,1094, 100 etc in case of any help.

There was a discussion held with the teachers and in the discussions it was pointed that the student teacher ratio is of fifty plus students to one teacher. So, the teachers find it extremely difficult to pay individual attention to each student. Many teachers were not permanent in nature and therefore the teachers also keep changing. The teachers feel so overburdened with work that they have no time to discuss anything with their students. The only thing that concerns them is the urgent need to complete their syllabus. Most of the students in the govt school are from economically very weak backgrounds and are first generation students. The parents mostly work as laborers and therefore they do not have enough time for their children. One teacher pointed out that they often do not attend the parent's teachers meeting and do not understand the importance of education. According to the teachers, one of their main reasons to send

the children to school is the free food and free uniform. The government has also relaxed promotion criteria and every student is compulsorily promoted up to class 8. The teachers complained that this has made studies the least priority and the learning standard has steeply deteriorated.

Most students do not know what options exist after their school education. Coming from households that have economic pressure, they are scared to dream. They are not aware of the many government schemes that give free higher education, the scholarship opportunities and the value of their present education. More importantly, the education at this age is not free and therefore girl's education is not prioritized. Along with tuition fees, there are other expenses like- uniform, textbook, copies, stationery, lunch.

Another point which was not an issue in this school is the lack of proper infrastructure and toilets, the campus was really clean and the school has proper toilet both for females and males. But I would like to point against the drinking habit available, there was no water filter or water cooler, everyone was dependant on the only handpump in the playground. As its not a safe source of drinking and can affect the health of the students. Also the blackboards of the school are really dirty, things were not clearly visible . And the question came to my mind was were is technology in this school, no compuers? Answer was shortage of funds. How will these students know the use of computers. The govt should take necessary actions regarding these problems.

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NAME- YASH JAIN

DIV- A

BATCH – 2018-23

2: Write up of Ms. Devanshi Tiwary, LAC Volunteer

A campaign was conducted at Pratham Vidyalaya which was aimed at spreading awareness on various issues like the importance of education prevailing, stereotype against women, child marriage, the difference between good touch and bad touch, the various legal provisions such as help lines that are available. The objective of this campaign was fully successful as the crowd which were students of class 5th – 8th were very responsive to the play and understood the meaning behind it, they were very interactive throughout the session and responded well to all instructions, they were overall very enthusiastic throughout. It was my first time visiting a government school and getting a chance to interact with the students and the faculty members there as well as get a peak in their life was an enriching experience. We interacted with students of all classes from nursery to class 8th. We observed various trends like the decline in total number of students as the classes increased as many students drop out of school and aren't even able to receive basic primary education and end up getting engaged in labour work. The students who were in the senior classes of the school talked about how encouraging their parents were and how they were the ones who motivated them to take their education seriously, highlighting the importance of correct socialisation. Absenteeism was a problem as many students weren't present in class and when asked it was found that that was a common trend, lack of latest technology is another issue, archaic measure of punishment such as hitting with a ruler or stick was still prevalent there. Such campaigns should be conducted regularly as they help to become aware and understand the actual situation in the Indian society as well as help promote the various provisions of law to the masses. Using the mediums of plays and interactive sessions is also helpful as it makes the campaign easy for all to comprehend.

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3: Write up of Mr. Ishpreet Singh, LAC Volunteer

Last week on Thursday, 27 September 2018 our Legal Aid Centre in collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority, Gautam Buddha Nagar organised a Legal Awareness Camp at Prathmik Vidyalaya, Village Chauganpur, Noida Extension. As soon as we reached I was a bit shocked to see the infrastructure of the Vidyalaya and a huge beautiful mansion just opposite to it. Both of them so contrary to each other. And in the same lane were various other huge mansions. In a conversation with one of the natives of that place I got to know that these were the mansions of the rich landlords. A place of education is said to be equivalent to a temple and to see such a place in a dilapidated texture while the mansions structured so magnificently seemed quite ironic to me. Anyways let's come back to the actual visit. The Vidyalaya was affiliated to the 8th standard only. In total there were around 135-150 students while the majority of the left ones were out for intra sports carnival. There were primarily two teachers who were very kind and polite to us as well as the students. All the events that were presented were witnessed by the principal of the school well. The first event, the one of which I was also a part of was the play 'SAUDA'. I also recited a poem at the end of the play written by our co-convener Shashwat Patwa. The para legal volunteers gave presentations on dowry, domestic violence , good touch and bad touch, minimum age for marriages, various helpline numbers etc. At last we distributed parle g biscuits to all the students. The students were very intelligent, interactive and participative. I am looking forward to more such visits that helps us change the society.

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BATCH : 2018-2023

PHOTOGRAPHS



