

**LEGAL AID CAMP:
“SENSITIZATION OF SOCIETY
TOWARDS THIRD GENDER
PERSONS” & “HOW TO FILE AN
APPLICATION UNDER THE R.T.I.
ACT”**

*(Report on the events conducted in
Mumbai, Maharashtra on 7th June, 2015)*

Abstract: These two events were conducted by a para-legal volunteer from Legal Aid Centre, S.L.S.-Noida. The participants, employees of Idea Cellular Ltd. Co., were informed about their ‘right to file an application under the Act’. later on, they were taught: ‘how they can file such application’, ‘issues about which such applications can be needful for them’, ‘how an appeal can be filed if they don’t receive information’.

Besides this, they were also informed about the apathy through which persons belonging to third gender have to undergo because of the attitude & behavior of society towards them.

Conducted by:
**Ms. Maithili
Moondra
(Para-legal
Volunteer, Legal
Aid Centre,
Symbiosis Law
School, Noida)**

**Under the
guidance of:**
**Dr. Madhuker S.
(Head – Legal
Aid Centre,
Symbiosis Law
School, Noida)**

REPORT: SENSITIZING THE SOCIETY TOWARDS THE THIRD GENDER PERSONS

I. Concept Note

Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA has become a celebrated name amongst the aspirants of professional legal education. In its effort to holistically develop the personality of its learners, has formulated various cells, one of them is the Legal Aid Centre. Legal Aid Centre can also be known as centre for providing para- legal services to weaker and unaware sections of the society. The Centre, with new members for the year 2015- 16, conducted two programs. These programs were conducted with objective to create awareness in the society regarding filing of an R.T.I application and sensitization towards the third- gender community.

The event was conducted in Mumbai. One of the tasks was to create awareness and make people sensitive towards the third gender community. Transgender community accounts for lakhs of people in India. They are a part of the society but people consider them out cast and treat them in the same manner. They consider that they have some disease. 57% of them are not supported by their own family and are thrown out. People do not accept them; they are not given treatment in hospitals, etc. Therefore, to make people considerate towards them, the event was conducted.

II. Objectives

The trans- genders, a minority community in India, are considered out cast and are not treated with respect and dignity. This is the case because of stereotypical mentality of the people. The objectives were:

- Make people aware, considerate and sensitive towards this community.
- To tell them that they don't have any disease, it is natural.
- To make them realize that they are also humans with feelings and desires, and treating them with such dishonour devastates them and they lose hope and desire to live.

- It was told that these people neither disturb others nor interfere in others' work and that when they are not creating any problem for us, they why should we make their lives difficult.

III. Preliminary Preparations

For conducting the event, the preliminary work done was:

- Talk to people, regarding where such programs can be conducted.
- Informing the people that such helpful programs are being conducted, therefore they should attend them.
- Talk to your acquaintances and friends for becoming a volunteer.
- Getting posters, pamphlets and banners printed.
- Research, read and prepare yourself for making such presentation.
- Translating few terms and sentences into Marathi, for making it easy for people to understand.
- Make them aware that the law of the country has accepted them and if they are mistreated, it can be considered as a serious offence.

IV. Conducting the Event

I spoke to my supervisor regarding conducting such events, they appreciated the initiative and suggested that the supporting staff, sweepers, cleaners, security guards, etc., can be given such training. They were informed of the same; therefore they came in a presentable manner that day.

The programs were conducted in one of the conference rooms of Idea Cellular Limited, Corporate Office, Mumbai. The C.F.O of Idea Cellular supported in making all the arrangements for the programme.

Restricted

The event started by giving them a brief description of myself and the organization which I am representing. Then we distributed the pamphlets and posters.

Then brief was given about the trans- gender community in India and the way they are treated in our country. Then the information given in pamphlets were discussed. The people were made to realize that they are a part of society and are not indifferent. They are normal human beings, without any disease or impairment; therefore they should be accepted without any discrimination.

V. Response of the Target Population

The target population was first cynical about the issue and the people of such community, but gradually they started discussing that how such people are treated in their society and families. Such discussion, made them realize that they are doing something very wrong and they can also be penalized for the same. Their opinion changed and they promised that they would not misbehave with them and also make sure that they are not discriminated by anybody.

VI. Future Plan of Action

In future, more sessions should be conducted. One city at a time should be chosen and every corner of the city should be covered. We can also take up a case where people of such community are suffering and we can provide them aid till justice is ensured to him. More workshops should be conducted.

VII. Suggestions/Feedback

The points are:

- More volunteers should work collectively. (At the same place)
- The place where it can be conducted should already be decided.
- There should be collaboration with NGOs or organizations, which work for the same cause.

VIII. Concluding Remarks

The initiative taken up by Legal Aid Centre of Symbiosis Law School, Noida was very wisely chosen and was appreciated at different levels. This program gave me an opportunity to conduct an event on my own and speak in front of so many unknown people. It was a learning experience for me. It helped me gain a lot of confidence. I would like to work for such cause, more.

(DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCES ANNEXED AT LAST)

Restricted

REPORT: LEGAL LITERACY CAMP: HOW TO FILE AN APPLICATION UNDER THE R.T.I. ACT

I. Concept Note

Symbiosis Law School, NOIDA has become a celebrated name amongst the aspirants of professional legal education. In its effort to holistically develop the personality of its learners, has formulated various cells, one of them is the Legal Aid Centre. Legal Aid Centre can also be known as centre for providing para- legal services to weaker and unaware sections of the society. The Centre, with new members for the year 2015- 16, conducted two tasks, in order to create, awareness in the society regarding, filing of an R.T.I application and sensitization towards the third- gender community.

The event was conducted in Mumbai. The first task was to create awareness regarding R.T.I and filing of an application. Right to Information is one of our fundamental rights; still there are many sections of the society who are not aware of such right. The idea behind doing this programme was to help people know about R.T.I and teach them how to file an R.T.I application, in cases, when they need some information which is very important to them. This can also represent transparency of the government. People can ask information regarding various government and government aided organizations and departments. The main philosophy behind it was to make people aware of such provision by the government, which can be used by them, in time of need.

II. Objectives

The programme was initiated to spread awareness about the Right to Information Act, which was introduced in 2015 as a means to ensure greater transparency and accountability in the Indian Government and Public Utility Services. The objectives were:

- Make people aware about such an important fundamental right, which can be very useful to them.
- To help them learn, the procedure of filing an R.T.I.

Restricted

- To empower, strengthen and help them realize that the government authorities cannot make them feel helpless and it also cannot torture them.

III. Preliminary Preparations

For conducting the event, the preliminary work done was:

- Talk to people, regarding where such programs can be conducted.
- Informing the people that such helpful programs are being conducted, therefore they should attend them.
- Talk to your acquaintances and friends for becoming a volunteer.
- Getting posters, pamphlets and banners printed.
- Research, read and prepare yourself for making such presentation.
- Translating few terms and sentences into Marathi, for making it easy for people to understand.

IV. Conducting the Event

I spoke to my supervisor regarding conducting such events; they appreciated the initiative and suggested that the supporting staff, sweepers, cleaners, security guards, etc., can be given such training. They were informed of the same, therefore they came in a presentable manner that day.

The programs were conducted in one of the conference rooms of Idea Cellular Limited, Corporate Office, Mumbai. The C.F.O of Idea Cellular supported in making all the arrangements for the programme.

The event started by giving them a brief description of myself and the organization which I am representing. Then we distributed the pamphlets and posters.

Then the importance of R.T.I and filing of an application was told to them. And for what purposes can it be filed, to whom should it be addressed, how it can be beneficial to them,

Restricted

within how many days the reply should come, if there is delay in response- how an appeal can be made, everything was told to them. Then some of their queries were answered which was followed by a discussion.

V. Response of the Target Population

The target population was glad to know about the topics. They were happy that filing is so easy and that also, at Rs. 10. They also had queries regarding the steps that should be followed if the authority failed to reply within the time period mentioned in the Act, i.e. 30 days. One of them had filed an application and still no proper response had come, therefore he was told how he can make an appeal for the same. There were other queries also. They showed interest in the programme.

VI. Future Plan of Action

In future, more sessions should be conducted. One city at a time should be chosen and every corner of the city should be covered. We can also take up a case where people are suffering and we can provide them aid in filing an application and aid him/ her till justice is ensured to him. More workshops should be conducted. The pamphlets showcasing the 4 steps and other information in brief can be distributed in various areas.

VII. Suggestions/Feedback

The points are:

- More volunteers should work collectively. (At the same place)
- The place where it can be conducted should already be decided.
- There should be collaboration with NGOs or organizations, which work for the same cause.

VIII. Concluding Remarks

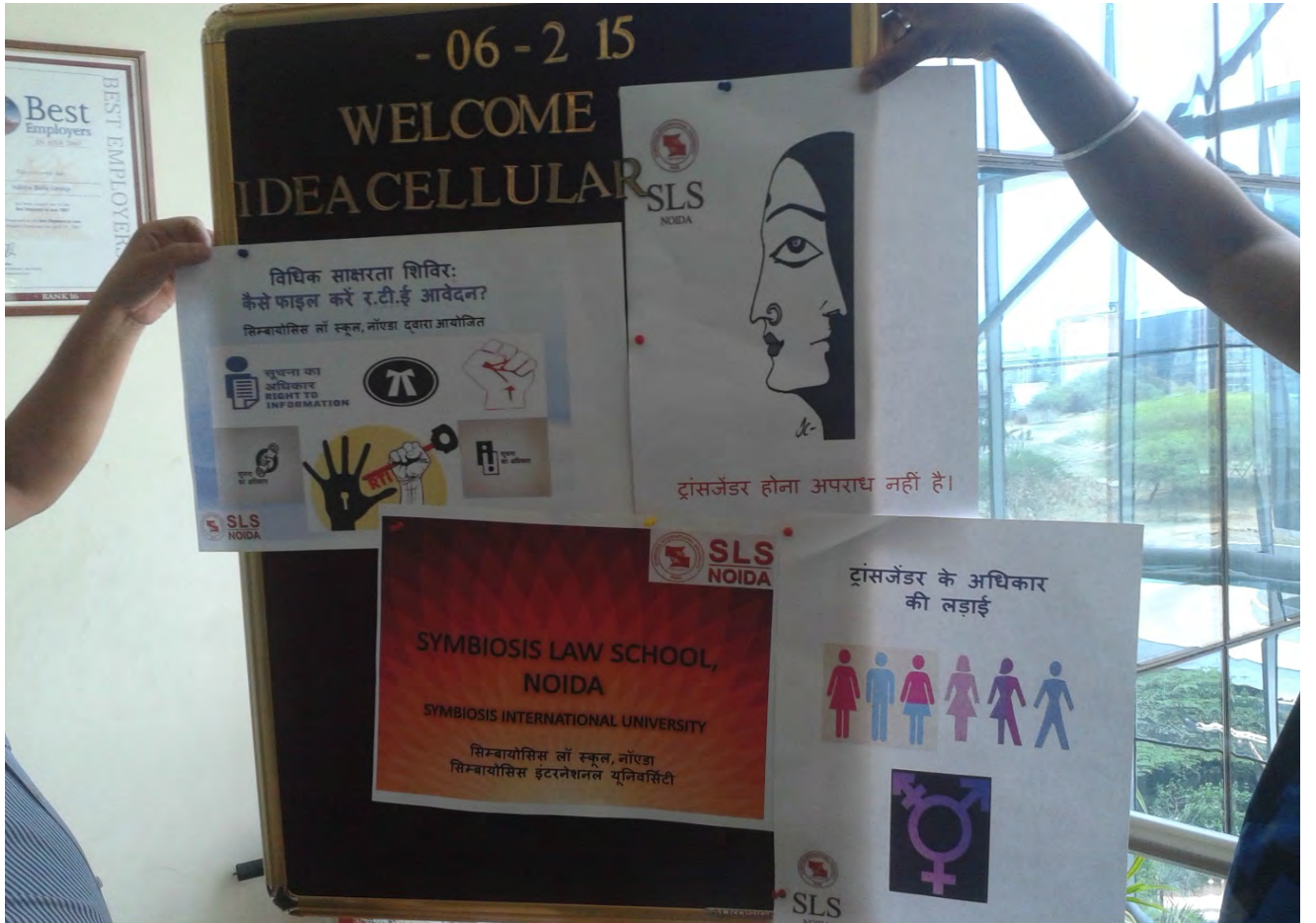
The initiative taken up by Legal Aid Centre of Symbiosis Law School, Noida was very wisely chosen and was appreciated at different levels. This program gave me an opportunity to

Restricted

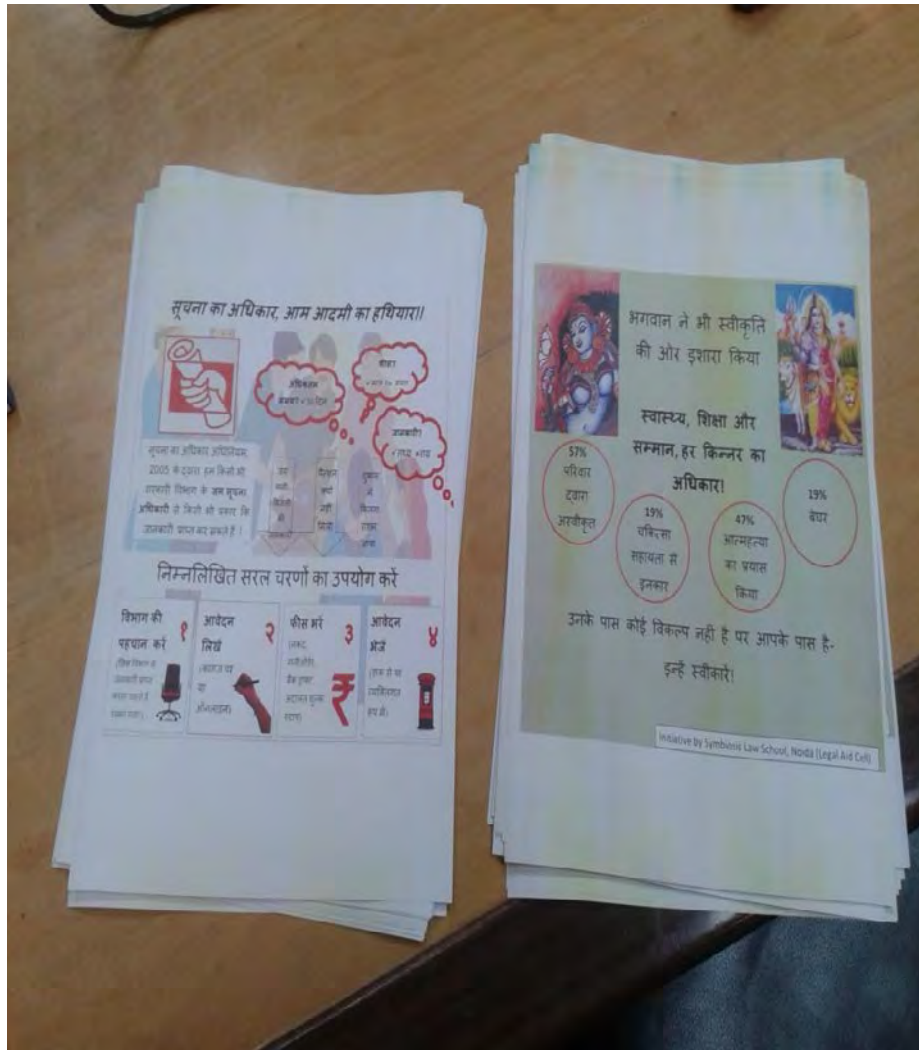
conduct an event on my own and speak in front of so many unknown people. It was a learning experience for me. It helped me gain a lot of confidence. I would like to work for such cause, more.

(DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCES ANNEXED AT LAST)

Restricted



Restricted



Restricted



Restricted



Restricted



Restricted



Restricted



Restricted



Restricted



Restricted

List of 'office bearers' of Legal Aid Centre, Symbiosis Law School, Noida

Sl. No.	Name	Profile	Contact No.
1	Dr. Madhuker S. (Asstt. Prof. of Law)	Head	9811083999
2	Ms. Sugandha Sharan (Batch 2011-16)	Convener	9654140774
3	Mr. Aakash Gakhar (Batch 2012-17)	Co-convener	9958187490
4	Ms. Aerika Singh (Batch 2012-17)	Para-legal Volunteer	8882880000
5	Ms. Shivani Dang (Batch 2012-17)	Para-legal Volunteer	9650800500
6	Ms. Srishti Girdhar (Batch 2013-18)	Para-legal Volunteer	9871017608
7	Ms. Jasveen Kaur (Batch 2013-18)	Para-legal Volunteer	9911121638
8	Ms. Maithili Moondra (Batch 2013-18)	Para-legal Volunteer	8826307196
9	Mr. Yash Kotak (Batch 2013-18)	Para-legal Volunteer	8527272859
10	Ms. Srijata Majumdar (Batch 2013-18)	Para-legal Volunteer	9871855424
11	Ms. Antara Rastogi (Batch 2013-19)	Para-legal Volunteer	8030887782

Restricted

12	Ms. Nayanika Ruia (Batch 2013-18)	Para-legal Volunteer	8826779686
13	Ms. Nikhita Kansal (Batch 2014-19)	Para-legal Volunteer	9814843024
14	Ms. Sohini Chaudhary (Batch 2014-19)	Para-legal Volunteer	9088100513
15	Ms. Aastha Garg (Batch 214-19)	Para-legal Volunteer	9999510912
16	Mr. Saurabh Vamsi (Batch 2014-19)	Para-legal Volunteer	7042254054

Email: lac@symlaw.edu.in

Restricted