

Legal Awareness Programme on Legal Service Day, Nov. 09, 2022

Venue: Lachit High School, Jalah village

Legal Services Day is celebrated on 9th November every year to commemorate the enactment of the Legal Services Authority Act. Therefore, the Pro Bono Club and the Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell (CCLELAC), NLUJAA, in collaboration with the Judicial Academy Assam and the Office of the Circle Officer, North Guwahati Revenue Circle, Amingaon organized a Legal Awareness Program on 9th November 2022 at the premises of Lachit High School, Jalah, Changsari.

Our team consisted of twenty four students and three teachers. We all reached the venue at 11:00 AM by the university bus. The guests of the event were Hon'ble Judge Ratna Deb Bhattacharjee, Circle Officer Rashmi Pratap, Gaon Bura Abbas Ali and Lat Mondol Girish Mazumdar. The event was anchored by Saranga Phukan, a IInd year BALLB student.

The program started with welcoming and presenting mementoes to the guests. The inaugural speech was delivered by the Circle Officer Rashmi Pratap. She explained the significance of celebrating the day and necessity of free legal aid to the poor people. Subsequently, Hon'ble Judge Ratna Deb Bhattacharjee spoke about access to justice very elaborately. Few of the villagers present in the program asked him about the issue of slow justice delivery system, role of fast track courts and the rising issue of drugs. He answered very lucidly the questions put up by the audience.

Next speaker was Dr. Diptimoni Boruah, Associate Professor, NLUJAA. She talked about why Legal Services Day is celebrated and why it is important to grant free legal aid. She said that the purpose of the Day is to raise awareness among the people about Legal Services Authorities Act as well as the rights of litigants.

Next, a BALLB IVth year student, Rajat Garg made a presentation on "*Rights of an Arrested person*" in a very elaborate manner. At the beginning he talked about how to get a First Information Report (FIR) registered and the duties of the Police in this regard. Then, he explained the importance of Zero FIR and the legal requirements of arrest, especially in case of a female accused.

Meanwhile, refreshment arranged by the University was served to the audience present in the hall.

As millions of people, especially youth, have been addicted to drugs, a BALLB IVth year student Swaswat Das discussed the socio-legal aspects of drug-abuse. He stated that the belief that drug abuse is basically an urban phenomenon is a lie. He talked about some of the important provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS Act), 1985.

At the end, Ms. Monmi Gohain, Asstt. Prof., NLUJAA presented the vote of thanks. The program ended with the concluding remarks of the anchor, Saranga Phukan.

Thereafter, a photo was clicked with all the students, teachers, school staff and dignitaries. Then, after having a fulfilling lunch, the student and teachers returned to the campus.