REPORT ON LEGAL AWARENESS PROGRAMME ORGANIZED BY PRO BONO CLUB AND CENTRE FOR CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION AND LEGAL AID CELL (CCLELAC), NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM, IN COLLABORATION WITH LACHIT GARH GAON PANCHAYAT, AMINGAON

The National Law University is engaged in making continuous efforts to interact with organizations in the North East region as well as with the general public in order to increase legal literacy and make it easier for the general public to access the legal system. The Pro Bono Club (under the aegis of the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India) and the Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell strive to provide free legal services and legal knowledge to the general public.

In this regard, the Pro Bono Club and the Centre for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell conducted a legal awareness campaign on 23th February, 2023 in collaboration with Lachit Garh Gaon Panchayat, Amingaon at the Gaon Panchayat office. The University was represented by the Dr. Diptimoni Boruah(Pro Bono Club Coordinator), Dr. Kailash Jeenger and Dr. Monmi Gohain, (members, CCLELAC) and student-volunteers.

We reached the Panchayat office at 02:30 PM. Soon the villagers also came to the venue. The President of the Panchayat had already assumed the responsibility to invite the local people. After some time, he also arrived. The teachers, the Panchayat President and Panchayat Secretary shared the dais and the programme was started. Dr. Diptomoni Boruah welcomed the guests and the villagers. She also set the plot of the event and shared her views on access to justice. She informed the audience about how the access to free legal services are provided by the Legal Aid Clinic and the District Legal Services Authority. She also provided beneficial insights regarding domestic violence, victim's compensation, child marriage and Motor Vehicles Act 1988. She explained the audience how Alternative Dispute Resolution Centres, Lok Adalats, Mediation Centres, State and District Legal Services Authority, Pro Bono and Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell can be helpful as a conduit between the common people and their pursuit of justice.

Thereafter, Mr. Himangshu Sonowal, an LLM student at NLUJAA addressed the audience. His topics of discussion were consumer rights and cyber awareness. He explained the local people the main provisions of the Consumer Protection Act. He made the audience aware of their consumer rights and explained them how to use the consumer helpline and consumer forums. Additionally, he also told people how to save themselves from cyber frauds, fake calls, etc.

Next, Mr. Siddhant Das, a BALLB 5th year student at NLUJAA expressed his views on criminal law. He especially made the people aware of their rights under the criminal justice system. He deliberated elaborately on how to file an FIR, right to get a copy of FIR, different types of FIRs, provisions regarding bail, types of warrant, etc.

Thereafter, the audience interacted with the speakers on legal issues and sought answers. According to their responses of the people present in the hall, the program was helpful to them. They got some basic legal information about day-to-day matters. Later on, they were offered refreshment. The program got over with a group photograph.

Ms. Prosfutita Singha, a BALLB 2nd year student at NLUJAA and Mr. Abhigyan Singh Choudhury a BALLB 1st year student at NLUJAA who are the members of the reporting committee of Center for Clinical Legal Education and Legal Aid Cell, NLUJAA acted as rapporteurs for the event. They recorded the proceedings of the programme and prepared the reports.