



“We educated, privileged lawyers have a professional and moral duty to represent the underrepresented in our society, to ensure that justice exists for all, both legal and economic justice.”

-Associate U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor

REPORT OF GAUTAM BUDH NAGAR DISTRICT JAIL VISIT ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2018

About Legal Aid Cell, Lloyd Law College

The Lloyd Law College Legal Aid & Services Clinic is the body, which inducts students to use their knowledge of law to provide free legal aid to those who are most in need of it through various media. The Legal Aid functions that it performs are preventive, remedial, activist and reformative.

Our aim is to spread legal awareness among students and people at large. we endeavours to achieve the target by organizing legal literacy camps, Seminars, Legal Counseling, public Speaking, Poster Making, Street Plays, liasoning with Legal Services Authorities, Jail Visits and through various other communicable medium.

INTRODUCTION

A significant part of the jail population in the country consists of under trials prisoners and prisoners who are in jail due to not paying a mere amount of money due to their financial capacities which has been awarded by the court as punishment and those inmates whose trials have yet to be initiated. Thus, access legal aid as well as financial support is essential for providing justice to these inmates.

On the question of inequality in the administration of justice, Justice P.N. Bhagwati, speaking through the Legal Aid Committee in 1971 had famously observed, ***“Legal aid means providing an arrangement in the society so that the mission of administration of justice becomes easily accessible and is not out of reach of those who have to resort to it for enforcement... the poor and illiterate should be able to approach the courts, and their ignorance and poverty should not be an impediment in the way of their obtaining justice from the courts. Legal aid should be available to the poor and illiterate, who don’t have access to courts. One need not be a litigant to seek aid by means of legal aid.”***



REPORT

Members of Legal Aid cell of Lloyd Law College, Greater Noida got an opportunity to visit GautamBudh Nagar District Jail, which is situated in Greater Noida on Wednesday, October 17, 2018. This visit gave us immense pleasure to roam from corner to corner of the jail. As per the report of Government of Govt. of Uttar Pradesh there are almost 70 jails in the state of Uttar Pradesh. GautamBudh Nagar District Jail is one of them and has the capacity to keep approximately 3750 inmates at a time.

After discussion with the Jailor and Deputy Jailor of the GautamBudh Nagar District Jail members of Legal Aid Committee got to know that there are three inmates who were charged and convicted under sections(s) 308, 420, 411 etc. of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and are staying in prison even after completing their terms of punishment and after knowing this members of the committee asked the department of jail for the reason behind this and in response of that jailor mentioned that apart from punishment of imprisonment they have also been awarded the punishment to pay fine of a mere amount. Jailor added that they (the three inmates) belong from a poor family and due to not having a good financial condition they are staying in prison instead of paying the fine. Taking this into consideration faculty in-charge of the Legal Aid Committee discussed the same situation with the management of the Lloyd Law College and requested them to allot money so that they can get release the three prisoners from Jail. The management agreed on the same and allotted the fund for this noble cause.

Keeping the concept of economic and social justice in mind Legal Aid Clinic of Lloyd Law College again made their effort to get release the inmates from Gautam Budh Nagar District Jail who was staying in jail due to not paying a petty amount of money, which has been awarded by the Hon'ble Court as punishment. These inmates were kept back in prison because of lack of legal aid and failure to pay the fines imposed on them by Court.

Access to legal services prolonged to be a challenging situation for an extensive section of the Indian population. Since legal representation is costly and out of reach for the disadvantaged, the need for legal aid arises. The problem has been compounded by the failure to mainstream legal-aid services, particularly for the marginalized sections.

This time on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 three prisoners got released from Gautam Budh Nagar District Jail by the effort of Lloyd of Law College. The Committee completed all the



required formalities to get release those three inmates including verification, documentation etc. and lastly paid the fines imposed on the below-mentioned persons viz.

- 1. Suraj S/o Suresh, charged under section(s) 380 and 411 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.**
- 2. Pavitra Mehto S/o Shankar Mehto, charged under section(s) 420, 467, 468 and 471 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.**
- 3. Rajesh S/o- Bharat Jha, charged under section(s) 392 and 411 of the India Penal Code.**

The cumulative fine of all the three above-mentioned prisoners was Rs. 19,000/- only.

This Nobel endeavor has been witnessed by-

- 1. Ms. Neelu Menwal, Secretary, DALSA, Gautam Budh Nagar/ Civil Judge Senior Division, Gautam Budh Nagar**
- 2. Mr. Vipin Mishra, Gautam Budh Nagar District Jail Superintendent**
- 3. Mr. Satyaprakash, Jailor, Gautam Budh Nagar District Jail.**
- 4. Mr. Pradeep, Deputy Jailor, Gautam Budh Nagar District Jail.**
- 5. (Dr.) Md. Salim, Director, Lloyd Law College**
- 6. Mr. Anil Thakur, Assistant Prof. Lloyd Law College**
- 7. Mr. Piyush Sharma, Assistant Prof. Lloyd Law College -cum- Faculty in-charge, Legal Aid Cell**
- 8. Mr. Vinayak Vijay, Assistant Prof. Lloyd Law College -cum- Faculty in-charge, Legal Aid Cell**

This was a wonderful experience visiting the jail and knowing the gaining the practical knowledge of jail manual.

This report has been prepared by Assistant Prof. Vinayak Vijay (Faculty Coordinator)

