

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Centre for Legal Aid Programme of the National University of Study and Research in Law in association with the Pro Bono Club, NUSRL is inviting submissions of papers to be presented in a seminar on the account of National Mental Health Month that is being observed from September 10, 2022 to October 10, 2022.

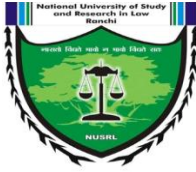
ABOUT THE CENTRE:

The Centre for Legal Aid and Programme (CLAP), NUSRL is a student and faculty-run society with an aim to spread legal awareness and give real-time effective legal aid to the people belonging to marginalized sections of our society. Over the years, CLAP has run various programmes and started social empowerment initiatives in order to ensure the progress and upliftment of the people. The events have turned out to be a great success. CLAP along with its volunteers, members and supporting collaborators have managed to create an impact within a short period of time.

ABOUT PRO BONO CLUB, NUSRL:

Pro Bono Club, NUSRL was established in April 2022 under the *Nyaya Bandhu (Pro Bono Legal Services)* programme of the Department of Justice, Government of India with the primary objective of extending legal aid to the marginalised section by improving the efficiency and quality of Pro Bono Legal Services and providing assistance to pro bono advocates through competent law students of NUSRL, Ranchi. They follow the overarching goal of fostering the positive development of society with a strong socio-legal perspective. The Pro Bono Club team promotes legal activism and holds the view that law and society are intertwined. Because of their close ties, law and society must both be changed in equal measure if we are to bring about the desired change in the world.

We live in a world where various kinds of stress, tensions and problems are rather common. All of us as individuals are struggling in our own way. With the fast pace of the world, expectations



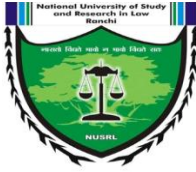
and deadlines to meet, these struggles are consuming mankind more than ever. According to the World Health Organization's *World Mental Health Report of 2022*, about one in every eight people suffer from some kind of mental disorder.

There is no doubt mental health is an area that requires an understanding of all the people and needs to be collectively worked upon. There is no doubt that the legislatures have also not been silent about it. Across the world, there are many countries that hold some kind of Mental Health legislation. India has also been a part of the same.

Mental Health related legislation has existed in India since the mid-20th century. Over the years, it has gone through various changes. Indian Psychiatric Society helped in drafting independent India's first mental health bill in 1950. More than three decades were taken to receive the President's assent for the bill. Finally, in May 1987, the bill was given the green signal and was implemented as an Act in 1993. This Act defined mental illness in a progressive way, placing emphasis on care and treatment rather than on custody. While it was still a progressive step, it lacked a humanistic approach. Human rights and mental healthcare delivery were not adequately addressed in this Act.

The most recent addition in this field is the Mental Health Care Act, of 2017. Under the Mental Health Care Act 2017, every person shall have the right to access mental health care and treatment from services run or funded by the government. As such, a patient with mental illness will be able to access services and facilities such as the provision of essential psychotropic medications, free of cost; insurance coverage for mental illness. It further ensures that treatment and rehabilitation will be available in the least restrictive environment and will respect the rights and dignity of patients, including those from disadvantaged socioeconomic backgrounds.

The new enactment seems to be very progressive as it has been influenced by the World Health Organization (WHO) Resource Book and the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and thus brings into effect numerous provisions such as mental health insurance, rehabilitation etc. But practically, taking the scenario into consideration, it seems impossible to



implement the Act because of the lack of infrastructure facilities and financial crunches. It is noteworthy to mention that only 19 States have ratified the enactment and all the other states have failed to create even the legal framework under the same. The enactment is subjected to many challenges in issues regarding its implementation. It is for the same reason that deep study and proper analysis of the same must be done in order to ensure that the same issues are not reflected in its future course.

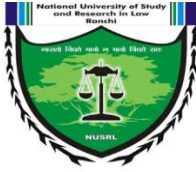
It is with the same thought in mind that CLAP is currently soliciting submissions for papers and articles which are scheduled to be published. Given below are the details for the same.

THEMES:

1. Mental Health and Digital India;
2. Mental Health and Economics;
3. Mental Health and Law;
4. Mental Health and Politics;
5. Mental Health and Sociology; and
6. Mental Health and Challenges regarding the treatment.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

1. Word Limit
 - a. Abstract: 150 words
 - b. Paper/Article: Minimum 5000 words, no upper limit.
2. The document needs to be submitted in word format.
3. Co-authorship of up to two authors is allowed.
4. Abstract should mention the following specific details on the front page:
 - a. Name of the Author
 - b. Affiliation
 - c. Designation
 - d. Contact Number



- e. Email ID
- f. Title of the Submission.

*For detailed guidelines of formatting for the research paper/article, please visit this [link](#).

CATEGORIES UNDER WHICH SUBMISSION SHALL BE MADE:

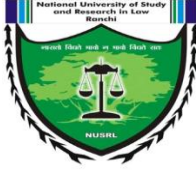
- Submission has to be made under the following categories:
 - Mental Health Professionals;
 - Academicians;
 - Research Scholars; and
 - Students.

REVIEW MECHANISM:

- The paper will be reviewed as per the following guidelines:
 - Papers will be reviewed independently through a double-blind peer review process, allotted on a random basis; and
 - The review will be based on the scientific rigour of the paper, the originality of the research, and its relevance to the conference themes.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE:

1. Submit your abstract at submissions.clap@nusrlranchi.ac.in by October 17, 2022.
2. The subject of the mail for submitting your abstract should be 'Abstract Submission'.
3. The abstract file format should be in the form of .doc or Docx.
4. The shortlisted abstracts would be reverted back with further guidelines regarding the final submission of the paper.
5. A registration fee would be charged to the candidates upon selection of their abstract.
6. The selected abstracts will have to present their full paper in the workshop to be organised by NUSRL.



DEADLINE:

- Abstract Submission: October 17, 2022 (extended)
- Paper Submission: November 10, 2022

FOR QUERIES, PLEASE CONTACT US AT:

- Phone: +91 – 95079 27593
- Email: submissions.clap@nusrlranchi.ac.in
(With the Subject titled 'Query')