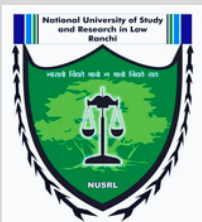


NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF STUDY AND RESEARCH IN LAW, RANCHI

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN ADVANCING ACCESS TO JUSTICE

*ORGANIZED BY
CENTRE FOR LEGAL AID PROGRAMME
IN COLLABORATION WITH
PRO BONO CLUB, NUSRL*

**MARCH 22, 2024
HYBRID MODE**





ABOUT NUSRL

The National University of Study and Research in Law (NUSRL), Ranchi, established in 2010, as the 14th National Law University of India is a premier law university of the state of Jharkhand dedicated to legal research and education. The University has been recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC) in September 2011 u/s 22, u/s 12B in the year 2018 of the UGC Act of 1956 and Bar Council of India (BCI).

ABOUT CLAP

Center for Legal Aid 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 which 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 marginalized sections 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.



ABOUT THE SEMINAR

Article 39A of the Constitution of India places responsibility on the Indian State for securing justice to all and providing legal remedies for poor and marginalized sections who cannot afford it on their own. The National Legal Services Authority Act was enacted in 1987 to expand the concept of legal aid. However, it is unfortunate that despite the constitutional and statutory recognition of legal aid as a right of the citizens and an obligation of the state, it has not been formalized and institutionalized effectively. Establishing a resilient legal aid mechanism can be achieved by involving students in the process and institutionalizing their participation.

Higher educational institutes play a pivotal role in promoting 'Access to Justice' and legal aid by contributing to the development of a knowledgeable and skilled legal community that is committed to serving the underprivileged sections of society. Sadly, law schools in India exhibit a detachment from social realities, as evidenced by a UNDP study titled "Access to Justice Project on Study of the Law School-Based Legal Service Clinics." The study reveals that law colleges have either faltered or allocated insufficient attention to the promotion and dissemination of information regarding legal aid services within their institutions.

The seminar aims to delve into the multifaceted role of Higher educational institutions in India in advancing 'Access to Justice' by shaping the mindset of future legal professionals, facilitating practical experience, conducting research, and actively engaging with communities in need. The integration of legal aid principles into the core curriculum and extracurricular activities ensures that graduates are not only knowledgeable in law but also committed to serving the underserved. The seminar will serve as a platform for insightful discussions and exchange of ideas among academicians, scholars, legal experts, educators and students passionate about fostering a culture of legal awareness and ensuring that justice is accessible to all members of society, irrespective of socio-economic background.

SEMINAR DETAILS

CALL FOR PAPERS

- **Eligibility:** Research papers are invited from legal professionals, academicians, administrators, social activists, research scholars, lawyers, practitioners, students and the representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations.
- **Date and Venue:** The Seminar will be organized on **March 22, 2024**. The mode of presentation of papers will be **hybrid [Offline/Online]**.
- Co-authorship of up to **two** authors is permitted.
- Cross-institutional participation is allowed.
- **Participation Certificates** will be provided to all the participants.
- **Publication:** The selected papers, with double-blind review process, will be published by a reputed publisher in the form of an edited book with an ISBN number. However, submission/presentation of the paper does not guarantee publication, and the decision of the editors regarding suitability for publication shall be final.

THEMES & SUB-THEMES

The Theme of the seminar is: 'Role of Higher Educational Institutions in Advancing Access to Justice.'

List of sub-themes:

- Involvement of the Bar, Bench and Law Universities in promoting a Pro Bono Culture in India
- Curriculum Development and Integration of Legal Aid
- Public Interest Lawyering and Social Justice Advocacy
- Role of Technology in Access to Justice
- ADR and client-centred Lawyering in Pro Bono Services
- Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibilities in Access to Justice and Pro Bono Practice
- Student Engagement and Volunteerism in Legal Aid
- Assessing the Effectiveness and Achievements of Pro Bono Initiatives

Kindly note: The list is only indicative and not exhaustive. Any other topic related to the Seminar theme may also be submitted.

ABSTRACT GUIDELINES

1. Abstract submission must be strictly in MS Word format only.
2. Abstract shall not exceed more than **350 words** including Keywords (maximum 5).
3. **Format:** All submissions must be in Times New Roman, font size 12, justified and with 1.5 line spacing, Paper size: A4 sheet with a margin of 1 inch.
4. Abstract must be accompanied by a Cover letter which must include the following details:
 - Title of the Paper
 - Name of the Author and Co-author (if any)
 - Designation
 - Affiliation
 - Contact details of Author and Co-author (if any) (Email, Contact number etc.,)
5. Submit your abstract at submissions.clap@nusrlranchi.ac.in by **February 15 2024**.
6. The **subject** of the mail for submitting your abstract should be 'Abstract Submission- [Title of your paper]'
7. The abstracts will be peer-reviewed by the Editorial Board and only shortlisted abstracts will be invited to submit final papers as well to present them in the Seminar. The final paper should be submitted after the intimation of acceptance of the abstract.

FINAL PAPER GUIDELINES

1. The word limit for final paper submission is **3000-6000 words** (excluding footnotes).
2. Full Paper submission must be strictly in MS Word format only.
3. All submissions must be made in the English language only.
4. Paper should be original and unpublished work of the author(s) and any form of plagiarism is strictly prohibited. Plagiarism shall not exceed more than 10% (excluding footnotes).
5. **Format:** Submission must be in Times New Roman, font size- 12, justified and with 1.5 line spacing, Paper size: A4 Sheet with a margin of 1 inch.
The heading should be in Times New Roman, Font Size 14, Bold, 1.5 line spacing, center-aligned while the sub-heading should be Times New Roman, Font Size 13, Italicized.
Footnotes must be in Times New Roman, Font Size 10 with 1.0 spacing.
6. **Citation Style:** Bluebook 20th edition
7. Full paper shall be submitted via email at submissions.clap@nusrlranchi.ac.in by **March 10, 2024**.
8. The **subject** of the mail for submitting your final paper should be 'Final Paper Submission- [Title of your paper]'
9. The Author(s) should also send a declaration along with the abstract & final paper that their work is original and unpublished and that it does not infringe the copyright laws. The organizing committee is not responsible for any copyright infringements by the authors and if found the paper is liable to be disqualified at any stage.

REGISTRATION GUIDELINES

1. The registration fee is as follows: -
 - For Students- Rs. 1000
 - For academicians and professionals- Rs. 2500

** In case of co-authorship, the above-mentioned fees have to be paid by each author individually.
2. The Registration link and payment link will be shared after the acceptance of the abstract.
3. Accommodation charges: - Rs. 1500/per day
4. The accommodation charges include a 1-day stay with three meals. Participants can register with or without accommodation facilities.
5. Limited shared accommodation for outstation participants will be provided by the organizing committee on a **first come, first serve basis** on the University campus.

TIMELINE

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE ABSTRACT	February 15, 2024
INTIMATION OF ABSTRACT SELECTION	February 18, 2024
DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT	February 24, 2024
FULL PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE (SOFT COPY)	March 10, 2024
DATE OF EVENT AND PAPER PRESENTATION	March 22, 2024

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

PATRON

Prof. (Dr.) Ashok R. Patil
Vice- Chancellor, NUSRL

FACULTY IN-CHARGE(S)

Dr. Koushik Bagchi
Assistant Professor, NUSRL

Dr. Shweta Mohan
Assistant Professor, NUSRL

STUDENT COORDINATOR(S)

Harsh Anmol
Convenor, CLAP

Shreya
Co-convenor, CLAP

For any further clarification, mail us at: submissions.clap@nusrlranchi.ac.in
(With the subject of the email titled 'Query')