

VILLAGE LEVEL LEGAL SERVICES CLINIC

IN COLLABORATION WITH





KARNATAKA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

LEGAL AID TRUST

30th Sept 2024 to 5th Oct 2024

AT



MARENAHALLI GRAMA PANCHAYAT

- 1. MARENAHALLI BANDE
- 2. MARASANDRA
- 3. MANCHAPPANAHALLI
- 4. M. HOSAHALLI
- 5. CHOKKANAHALLI

REPORT ON VILLAGE LEVEL LEGAL SERVICES CLINIC

This report presents a detailed account of the one-week Village Level Legal Aid Camp conducted by the Legal Services Clinic at CMR University – School of Legal Studies, in collaboration with the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority and Legal Aid Trust. The camp was held at Marenahalli Grama Panchayat in Bengaluru North, with the primary objective of enhancing access to legal services and fostering legal awareness within the local community. By providing essential legal services, information, and educational resources, the camp sought to empower villagers with a comprehensive understanding of their rights and responsibilities.

This report encompasses the planning, execution, and outcomes of the legal aid camp, illustrating the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders involved and assessing the impact of the initiative on the community.

We express our sincere gratitude to all authorities, volunteers, and participants who facilitated and contributed to the success of this camp. It is our hope that this report serves as a valuable resource for future initiatives and continues to inspire similar efforts to advance legal empowerment throughout Karnataka.

ABOUT CMR UNIVERSITY LEGAL SERVICES CLINIC



No Justice No Peace Know Justice Know Peace

LEGAL SERVICES CLINIC CMR UNIVERSITY – SCHOOL OF LEGAL STUDIES

CMR - University Legal Services Clinic intends to provide legal services to the socially and the economically backward sections of the society who have difficulty in accessing the judicial system. Legal service clinic provides legal services to the people. The thrust is on the basic legal services to achieve Social, Economic and Political Justice that are enshrined in the Preamble of the Constitution of India and under the Directive Principles of State Policy. The legal services clinic is a great opportunity to understand the difficulties faced by people in distant villages lacking access to justice and to deliver to them the much-needed access to justice.

ABOUT CMR UNIVERSITY LEGAL SERVICES CLINIC

National Legal Services Authority (Legal Services Clinics in Universities, Law Colleges and other Institutions) Scheme, 2016 and Bar Council of India mandated all law colleges and universities in India to establish and run legal services centres or clinics as a step towards ensuring effective access to justice. Section 4(k) of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 mandates the National Legal Services Authority to develop, in consultation with the Bar Council of India, programs for clinical legal education and promote guidance and supervise the establishment and working of legal services clinics in universities, law colleges and other institutions.

Through this the students can gain professional as well as practical knowledge through the programs. Regardless of the path they choose, the students will gain practical skill while bringing life-changing legal services and by spreading more legal awareness. Students develop skills such as leadership, problem solving and social management which are otherwise difficult to acquire. This knowledge and experience will empower them in making social changes for the benefit of the community at large.

ABOUT CMR UNIVERSITY LEGAL SERVICES CLINIC

The CMR University Legal Services Clinic had previously conducted a legal aid camp in 2022 which turned out to be a huge success. The camp was conducted in Chintamani taluk covering around 18 villages surveying more than 2000 houses and benefitting around 200 people from the survey. There were also several tasks and activities that were organized for spreading awareness amongst the citizens.



Village Level Legal Aid Camp at Chintamani Taluk, 2022

CMRU Legal Services Clinic aspires to guarantee equal access to justice for all by conducting a similar village level legal aid camp at Marenahalli Grama Panchayat.

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INTRODUCTION

The CMR University Legal Services Clinic organised a village level legal aid camp with an objective of spreading awareness and helping the rural people by conducting a survey and understanding their problems and help them obtain basic legal documents.

This report provides an overview of the said Village-Level Legal Aid Camp, recently organised at Marenahalli Grama Panchayat. The camp was aimed at making legal support more accessible to everyone in our community. The camp served as a valuable opportunity to connect villagers with legal resources and information.

During the camp, around 58 students of CMR University Legal Services Clinic conducted a survey to gain a better understanding of the specific legal needs and challenges faced by residents. The students also held multiple awareness sessions in schools on various important and prevalent concerns in the society such as hygiene, bullying, digital addiction etc.

The report provides a summary of the activities conducted and tasks completed during the camp. It shares key insights from the survey, and discusses the impact of our awareness efforts.

DETAILS OF THE CAMP

Objective of the Camp:

The fundamental objective of the Legal Aid Camp was to spread legal awareness and provide basic level assistance to the rural population in obtaining the basic legal documents that every individual is supposed to have.

Location: Marenahalli Grama Panchayat

Villages Covered: Marenahalli Bande, Marasandra, Manchappanahalli, M. Hosahalli, Chokkanahalli.

Duration of the Camp: 30th Sept. 2024 to 5th Oct. 2024.

Approximate number of houses intended to be surveyed: 900 houses across five villages.

Tasks: Door-to-Door surveys, Awareness campaigns involving school visits and interaction with children and women, organisation of booths for people to register and obtain certain basic legal documents.

SUMMARY OF THE CAMP

	Inauguration of the camp	
Day 1	Visit to B.M. English School	
	Survey at Marenahalli Bande	
	Visit to the Marenahalli Higher Primary School	
	Visit to the Chokkanahalli Lower Primary School	
Day 2	Interaction with women at Marenahallli Panchayat Office	
	Visit to the Maralakunte Higher Primary School	
	Survey at Chokkanahalli Village	
Day 3	Survey at Chokkanahalli and Marasandra	
Day 4	Survey at M.Hosahalli and Manchappanahalli	
Day F	Data handling	
Day 5	Visit to the orphanage	
Day 6	Valedictory Ceremony	

PRE - CAMP PROCEDURE

The first step for organizing and conducting a legal aid camp, was the identification and finalization of villages for the camp. After spending significant time identifying rural areas around Bengaluru, the clinic identified and picked five villages falling under the Marenahalli Panchayat, namely, Marenahalli Bande, Marasandra, Manchappanahalli, M. Hosahalli and Chokkanahalli for the camp. The finalization was done after due consultation and discussion with the Core Committee of the Clinic which includes faculty coordinator and Advocate Ms. Vidya Selvamony and Prof. (Dr.) V. J. Praneshwaran, Director, CMR University School of Legal Studies.

After finalization of the location for the camp, important information and details about the villages such as the population and type of occupation practiced by the majority of the said population was obtained and analyzed. The activities to be conducted were then structured and customized based on the need of the hour of the population.

The information collection process also included a visit to the villages by the student coordinators of the clinic for spot inspection and to have a brief idea about the villages to plan things accordingly.

PRE - CAMP PROCEDURE

Therefore, after the successful collection of the necessary information followed by the finalisation of the activities, the student coordinators of the clinic along with the faculty coordinator visited all the necessary departments such as the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Bengaluru Urban District, Tahsildar's office, Grama Panchayat, Marenahalli Village, and other such appropriate authorities for the process of approval for conducting the legal aid camp in the village for the duration of one week i.e., 30th Sept. 2024 to 5th Oct. 2024.

Following the completion of approval process, a team of around 60 students was formed who would be participating in the one-week legal aid camp. the students were given a brief orientation prior to the commencement of the camp wherein the students were briefed and assigned with their roles and responsibilities that must be fulfilled during the visit.

PRE - CAMP PROCEDURE

Besides the fundamental task of conducting survey regarding the awareness among the people and existence of basic legal documents with them, the clinic planned to adopt creative approaches and methods to conduct awareness campaigns.

The clinic planned to organise the following two tasks as a part of awareness campaigns in the village.

- 1. Visit to the schools
- 2. Interaction with women

A total of four schools across the five villages were identified and chosen for spreading awareness about various topics. Furthermore, to conduct awareness and have a communicating environment in the school, four different groups were formed among the 60 participants to the village which included one group each for Primary, Secondary School and High School and one group to perform a skit or street play.

Additionally, one more group was formed for the task of interaction with women.

The groups came up with themes and planned activities to execute during the visits and interactions.

PROCEDURE FOLLOWED DURING THE VISIT

The student groups were assigned with their respective tasks which they were supposed to complete on a particular day of the survey.

The distribution of students and their bifurcation into groups changed on the initial days of the camp since those days involved awareness campaigns. The first two days of the camp involved completion of awareness campaigns as well as survey simultaneously. Half of the students participated in awareness campaigns while the rest half conducted door-to-door surveys. The next two days involved only the completion of survey across all the villages. The fifth day of the camp was assigned for compilation of data and making arrangements for the stalls on the last day of the camp. It also involved a visit to an orphanage. The final day of the camp involved a valedictory ceremony and organisation of stalls for villagers to apply for and obtain their basic legal documents.

The day-to-day activities carried out by the clinic have been discussed in detail in the coming sections of this report.

The students were accompanied by their faculty coordinators university who supported the students throughout their journey in completion of their task successfully.

The legal aid camp commenced with an inauguration ceremony at a temple in Chagalatti village in the presence of officials of the Grama Panchayat on Day 1 of the camp.

Only two tasks were planned on the first day. A visit to a school was planned which was followed by survey at Marenahalli Bande. The activities that were completed on Day 1 are as follows.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED ON DAY 1

- 1. Inauguration of the camp
- 2. Visit to the B.M. English School
- 3. Survey at Marenahalli Bande

Inauguration Ceremony

The camp's first day began with an inaugural ceremony of the camp which was conducted at the Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple in Chagaletti. The attendees of the ceremony included Mr. Rahul. P, President, Marenahalli Gram Panchayat, Suma T.P, P.D.O, Marenahalli Gram Panchayat, Geetha Anandkumar, Member, Marenahalli Gram Panchayat, Premamma, Member, Marenahalli Gram Panchayat, Nagaraj, Member, Marenahalli Gram Panchayat and Mr. Yerragudla Vikranth, Faculty Co-Ordinator, CMR University – School of Legal Studies as the chief guests.



The ceremony gave the audience an insight on the importance and outcome of village level legal aid camp. The local panchayat leaders also gave some information about their locality and works that have been carried out there. Furthermore, the students were briefed about the working of the digital survey forms, importance of the village level camp and the huge impact on the community people.







Visit to the B.M. English School

The inauguration ceremony was followed by a visit to the B.M English School near Marenhalli Bande wherein the students of the clinic conducted an awareness session on the theme of digital addiction and bullying. The session was successfully conduct by a group of around 6 students led by Syed Owais Khadri and Sana Erum Siddiqui with Surya Lakshmi, Geetha Amritha, Prajwal, Dhanesh.



The group had planned four small tasks as a part of awareness session, two each on bullying and digital addiction which included a quiz, a challenge of kindness, a small act showcasing the effects of digital addiction, and a small game. The children were also rewarded for their active participation as a token of appreciation.





The session extremely interactive with all children participating in all the four activities. The teachers and the principal of the school as well actively participated in the discussion.





Survey at Marenahalli Bande

The visit to the school was followed by the survey in the post lunch session of Day 1. The students of CMR SOLS conducted door-to-door digital survey in Marenahalli Bande village along with spreading legal awareness with respect to different schemes given by the government to the public and the basic documents that a person should have, being a citizen of the country. The students covered around 43 houses during the survey in the said location. The students weren't able to complete the survey of other houses as they were locked.









Second day of the camp was an extremely busy day with multiple activities planned on the said day. In fact, all the awareness sessions and other activities that were planned for the camp were completed on the second day except survey.

Visit to two schools and the activity interaction with women was preponed due to vacation of schools and other reasons.

The activities on day two included visits, discussions and survey simultaneously. A group of around 20 to 28 students conducted survey while the rest of the students completed visit to the schools and the activity of interaction with women.

The activities that were completed on Day 2 are as follows.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED ON DAY 2

- 1. Visit to the Marenahalli Higher Primary School
- 2. Visit to the Chokkanahalli Lower Primary School
- 3. Interaction with women at Marenahalli Panchayat
 Office
- 4. Visit to the Maralakunte Higher Primary School
- 5. Survey at Chokkanahalli Village

Visit to the Marenahalli Higher Primary School

The students of the clinic commenced the second day of camp by visiting Marenahalli Higher Primary School wherein students from grade 1 to grade 8 were engaged in different activities to impart knowledge about moral values, good touch and bad touch, digital addiction, bullying and measures to counter both, crime, dangers of crime, their punishment etc. The school students also had an interactive session with regard to career opportunities.





Visit to the Chokkanahalli Lower Primary School

The students then visited Chokkanahalli Lower Primary School where various fun activities were planned and executed with the students.





Interaction with women at Marenhalli Panchayat Office

The interaction with women was organised at Marenahalli Gram Panchayat Office wherein around 150 women had participated who were made aware of the menstrual health and hygiene. This session was also addressed by Ms. Chaitra, a representative of the Department of Women and Child Welfare.



The students, spoke about the importance of their overall physical health wherein few simple exercises for physical fitness were demonstrated. Secondly, their menstrual health was discussed which received a lot of input from the audience with their experiences. Lastly, health schemes as given by the health department and the women and child department were briefed by Ms. Chaitra, who spoke about the Thaayi Card, Health Card and amenities provided by the government to a woman during the course of her pregnancy.







Visit to the Maralakunte Higher Primary School

The students also visited another school in Maralakunte village which was of Higher Primary Education and the school students were engaged for a period of two hours with different levels of activities and knowledge dissemination that was conducted based on the basis of their level of understanding. It ranged from spreading awareness on basic important values and skills up until interaction and awareness on crime, their punishments and career paths.





Survey at Chokkanahalli Village

The door-to-door survey on day two was conducted simultaneously along other activities i.e., visit to schools and interaction with women. Around 20 to 24 students of clinic survey in Chokkanahalli village. The students covered around 147 houses during the survey in the said location on Day 2 of the camp gathering important information and spreading legal awareness with respect to different schemes given by the government to the public and the basic documents that a person should have, being a citizen of the country.









Third day of the camp had survey as the only remaining activity of the camp as all the other activities such as visits and interaction with women were completed on day 2.

The students of the clinic conducted door-to-door survey in two villages i.e., Chokkanahalli and Marasandra on the third day of the camp.





Survey at Chokkanahalli and Marasandra

Survey on Day 3 was resumed in the Chokkanahalli village to cover the remaining houses that weren't completed on Day 2. The students covered around 207 houses on the third day in both the villages gathering important information and spreading legal awareness with respect to different schemes given by the government to the public and the basic documents that a person should have, being a citizen of the country.













Day 4 of the camp, like the previous day, had survey as the only remaining task of the camp as all the other activities such as visits and interaction with women were completed on day 2.

The students of the clinic conducted door-to-door survey in two villages i.e., M. Hosahalli and Manchappanahalli on the fourth day of the camp.

Besides, the students once again conducted survey in Marenahalli Bande since many houses were locked on day 1 when the survey was conducted in that location.





Survey at M. Hosahalli and Manchappanahalli

The students covered around 231 houses on the fourth day in both the villages gathering important information and spreading legal awareness with respect to different schemes given by the government to the public and the basic documents that a person should have, being a citizen of the country.

Moreover, the students conducted survey of additional 12 houses at Marenahalli Bande. This also marked the completion of the survey planned in all the five villages of the panchayat.













The fifth day of the camp majorly involved the task of data handling. The other important task was to call and inform/remind villagers about the organisation of booths on the final day for the registration of basic legal documents.

Additionally, an unplanned and spontaneous visit was also conducted by all the students of the clinic to an orphanage.





Data handling

The fifth day of the camp commenced at the Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple in Chagaletti, where the inaugural ceremony was conducted on the first day. The students were allocated designated space within the temple to facilitate the completion of their data handling and segregation tasks. The statistical information obtained after the completion of the task has been provided in the forthcoming sections of the report.



Some students were divided into four groups, each comprising three members. Each group was assigned a specific day to conduct a survey aimed at data collection and segregation, focusing on identifying villagers who lack essential legal documents. The data was categorized based on the specific documents that individuals were missing. This methodical approach was to ensure precise identification of the needs within the community, facilitating specific support and intervention.





Two students, Sana Erum Siddiqui and Vibha H.V., were assigned the responsibility of designing the certificate and preparing the invitation of the valedictory ceremony scheduled for the following day.

Simultaneously, a few other students were designated preparation tasks for the valedictory ceremony. The remaining students were instructed to compile a comprehensive report summarizing the activities and accomplishments of the previous four days.







Visit to the orphanage

The second half of the fifth day commenced with an unanticipated visit to an orphanage. During this visit, the caretakers brought to the attention of the students from the clinic the lack of essential legal documents for the children residing at the facility. In response, the clinic took proactive measures to coordinate with the appropriate authorities to facilitate the registration of Aadhaar cards for the children. This initiative aimed to ensure that the children obtained the necessary documentation to access vital services and opportunities.









The latter half of the day was allocated to activities at the orphanage, during which four groups, each comprising five to eight students, were formed. Each group was assigned the responsibility of contacting villagers using the information collected previously. The primary objective of these calls was to inform and remind the villagers about the upcoming booths scheduled for the final day, where they would have the opportunity to apply for any essential legal documents

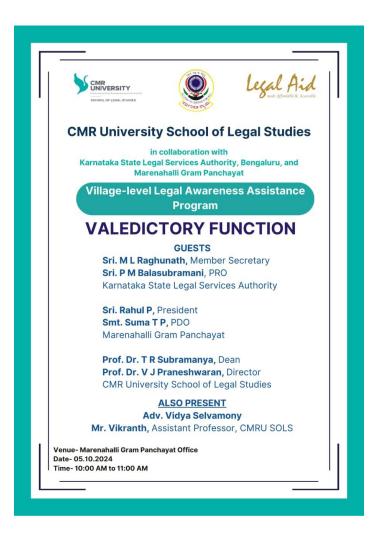






Day 6 was the final day of the one-week legal aid camp at Marenhalli. Valedictory ceremony was organised at the Marenahalli Grama Panchayat office

Besides, two booths, Grama one and one from health department were arranged at the Panchayat office for the registration of documents.



Valedictory Ceremony

Valedictory ceremony marking the successful completion of the camp was organised at the Marenahalli Grama Panchayat on the final day.

The ceremony was presided over by Sri. M.L. Raghunath, Member Secretary and Sri. P.M. Balasubramani, PRO, Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, Sri. Rahul. P, President and Smt. Suma. T.P, PDO, Marenahalli Grama Panchayat, Prof. T.R. Subramanya, Dean, Prof. (Dr.) V.J. Praneshwaran, Director, CMR University – School of Legal Studies as the chief guests.

The other attendees of the ceremony included Adv. Vidya Selvamony and Mr. Vikranth, Assistant Professor and Faculty Co-ordinators, Legal Services Clinic, CMR University – School of Legal Studies. The students of the Legal Services Clinic were also present along with some of the villagers during the ceremony.





Document Registration

Several villagers arrived at the Marenahalli Panchayat office to make use of the booths arranged by the Legal Services Clinic for the registration of their documents. The statistics relating to the registration of documents that was done on the final day at provided in the forthcoming sections of the report.









A total of 638 houses were successfully surveyed by the students of the Legal Services Clinic while around 900 houses were estimated to be surveyed. Rest of the houses were unfortunately not surveyed due to non-availability of residents/villagers. The statistical information relating to the survey has been presented as follows.

Number of houses covered (village wise)

Village	Number of Houses	
Marenahalli Bande Chokkanahalli and Marasandra	55 354	
M Hosahalli and Manchappanahalli	229	
Total	638	

Number of houses covered (Day wise)

Day	Villages Surveyed	Number of houses
Day 1	Marenahalli Bande	42
Day 2	Chokkanahalli	147
Day 3	Chokkanahalli and Marasandra	207
Day 4	M. Hosahalli, Manchappanahalli and Marenhalli Bande	242
Total		638

Issues related to documents

DOCUMENT	NUMBER OF VILLAGERS HAVING ISSUES
AADHAR	21
BIRTH CERT.	250
RATION CARD	122
VOTER'S ID	59
SENIOR CITIZEN CARD	513
PENSIONER'S CARD	444
HEALTH INSURANCE	423
HEALTH CARD	405

Beneficiaries from document registration booths

Document	Number of Beneficiaries
Old Age pension Application	12
New Voter id Application	17
Voter id Correction	8
Adhaar Adress Update	18
Caste Certificate	5
Income Certficate	7
New Ration card Application	11
Ration Card Correction	5
Senior Citizen card	1
Total	84

CONCLUSION

The one-week Village Level Legal Aid Camp held at Marenahalli Grama Panchayat represents a meaningful advancement in the pursuit of legal awareness and access to justice within the community. The collaborative efforts of the Legal Services Clinic, CMR University, the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, and Legal Aid Trust have been instrumental throughout the camp in delivering basic legal assistance and help to the villagers while empowering participants with a deeper understanding of their rights.

As we reflect on the achievements of this initiative, it is clear that ongoing efforts in legal education and support are vital to nurturing a well-informed and empowered community. We remain committed to building on this foundation and look forward to further initiatives aimed at promoting legal aid and social justice throughout the region.

CMR University – School of Legal Studies expresses gratitude towards Sri. M.L. Raghunath, Member Secretary and Sri. P.M. Balasubramani, PRO, Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, Sri. Rahul. P, President and Smt. Suma. T.P, PDO, Marenahalli Grama Panchayat for their continuous guidance, support and assistance throughout the duration of the camp.





Briefing by Director, Prof. (Dr.) V.J. Praneshwaran (Pre - Camp Procedure)





Briefing by (Prof.) Adv. Vidya Selvamony on the first day









Preparation for Inaugural Ceremony and Instructions to students about tasks on Day 1









Inaugural Ceremony



Practice and preparation for school visit and interaction with women





Photographs from school visits









Photographs from school visits

























