

Report on Legal Literacy Camp at Basavagiri, H.D. Kotte, Mysuru District

The Legal Services Clinic of the Ramaiah College of Law participated in the Legal Literacy Camp organised by District Legal Services Authority, Mysuru from July 11 to 15, 2022 at Basavanagiri village (Haadi A & B), H. D. Kote Taluk, Mysuru District. A team of 20 selected students and two faculty members were deputed to the camp (Annexure I)



Date: July 11 to 15, 2022

Venue: Basavanagiri (Haadi A & B),
H.D. Kote Taluk, Mysuru District

The Legal Literacy Camp was organized by the District Legal Services Authority, Mysuru, as per the directions issued by the Hon'ble Justice R. Gururajan, former Judge, Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka & Designated Judge Heading the Committee to implement the NALSA (Protection and Enforcement of Tribal Rights) Scheme 2015 in the meeting held on June 30, 2022. The main object of the Camp was to conduct the on-ground Survey to identify the needy beneficiaries from the tribal community and conduct the document enrollment drive to provide them the basic documents such as Aadhar Card, Ration Card, Birth Certificates, Caste Certificates, etc. Accordingly, the District Legal Services Authority, Mysuru through its letter dated July 5, 2022, (Annexure II) required the College to depute the faculty and the selected students for the Camp at the Basavanagiri village, H. D. Kote Taluk, Mysuru District.

A team of 20 students and two faculty members Dr. Nikhila S. Tigadi and Mr. Manohar Bhat departed for the camp. The team departed for the Basavanagiri village at around 7.00 AM on July 11, 2022. Dr. Omprakash, Principal, Ramaiah College of Law was present on the occasion.



The students were briefed about the discipline, and code of conduct to be observed during the camp by the Coordinator, Student Convenor, Co-Convenor, and team heads of LSC. The general rules of the code of conduct were also released on July 8, 2022 (Annexure III).

Day 1

July 11, 2022

The team reached Basavanagiri village at around 1:30 PM. The officials of the District Legal Services Authority introduced us to other teams from Vidyavardhaka Law College, Mysuru, and Mahajan College, Mysuru. The team was informed that the meeting shall be scheduled post lunch with the Hon'ble Member Secretary, DLSA, and the District Tribal Welfare Officer.

The Meeting was convened around 4:00 PM. The meeting was presided by Shri. Devaraj Bhute, Hon'ble Member Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Mysuru, Ms. Prabha Aaras, District Tribal Officer. Ms. Sahana, the Village Accountant, the teams of all the three colleges, and their faculty coordinators and School teachers of Basavanagiri Aashrama School were present at the meeting. During the meeting, all the teams from the said colleges were briefed about the Basavanagiri Haadi and were divided into seven teams comprising 4 students headed by the school teacher of Basavanagiri Aashrama Shale. The teams were also appraised about the modalities of conducting the survey during the camp.

Team LSC of Ramaiah College of Law was divided into five groups. The first three groups were allotted Haadi A and the other two groups were allotted Haadi B, partially. It was informed that Haadi A had around 190 houses and Haadi B has approximately 155 Houses.



Day 2

July 12, 2022

On day two, the teams headed to Haadi A and B followed by breakfast at around 9:30 AM. As Haadi A and B was located at around the distance of 500 meters to 3 Kms respectively, the team heads on the way elucidated the significance of each Haadi and the reasons why the people were rehabilitated from Bandipur and Nagarhole forest to the Basavanagiri village in 2015. Meanwhile, the students also had a pleasant experience watching the village atmosphere, which for most of them was quite new.



On reaching the respective Haadi, the team heads distributed the necessary documents to the concerned teams and gave the instructions to fill out the birth certificate petition, caste certificate and Income certificate application, procure the documents such as a copy of Death Certificate, bank passbook, Passport size photographs, Aadhar card (If they had). To ensure that all the documents as suggested are procured and avoid any inadvertence, the team LSC of Ramaiah College of Law prepared the Questionnaire (Annexure IV) and thereby facilitated the ease in the process of gathering the information. After the necessary instructions, each team conducted the door to door to survey to gather the said information.





By the end of the day, teams were able to visit as much as houses as possible, as in a few cases some of the family members had been to work and few were out of the station. As obtaining their signature was a must on the Birth certificate petition and application, teams thought to revisit them the next day.

Teams utilized the evening hours to fill the birth petitions and income and caste certificates. As the teams were also informed to scan a few of the basic documents including the passport size photographs, aadhar card, death certificate, etc, the team uploaded all the documents to google drive by segregating them to the folder created in the name of each applicant, Haadi-wise. The link of which was shared with the concerned authorities after the Camp.

As the Basavanagiri ashram shale was a residential school, the teams made sure to spend some time with the school children, who were so welcoming, understanding, empathetic, and disciplined. Day two ended with dinner served at the Dinning hall of the School.

Day 3

July 13, 2022

On Day 3, the teams were accompanied by the team heads to the respective Haadi after breakfast. Shri. Devaraj Bhute, Hon'ble Member Secretary, District Legal Services Authority visited the village to check the status of the survey. He interacted with the students and gathered information on the survey. He also convened the meeting with the faculty coordinators of all three colleges and examined the progress of the work being done. He also meanwhile coordinated with all the inter-departmental authorities and also proposed to set up a documentation enrollment drive on the campus of the Basavaangiri aashram shale and in this regard, sir had discussions with all the departments concerned.

The major task for day 3 was to cover all those houses where documents could not be collected due to their non-availability on the previous day, in the first half and to cover the rest of the houses by the end of the day. Accordingly, the teams headed to each house and were able to cover a maximum of houses in both the Haadi.





In the afternoon, an enrollment drive for issuing the caste and income certificate, and opening the bank account were facilitated on the campus. Team members of Ramaiah College of Law coordinated with the bank and revenue officials and facilitated the tribal people in availing of the benefits.

Ms. Sahana, Village Accountant, informed Dr. Nikhila S. Tigadi to instruct the team to segregate all the applications and documents as per the schemes and program-wise. Therefore, the team members were instructed to keep apart applications and documents in seven different sections (Birth Certificate Petitions/ Caste & Income Certificate Applications, Addhar Applications, Widow Pension Scheme documents/ Bank Account opening applications/ Old age Pension documents/ Ration card)along with the cover letter containing the detailed list of all the applicants preferably with their phone numbers.

Accordingly, the teams divided the task amongst themselves and a few continued to prepare the documentation and a few proceeded to procure the printout of the scanned documents, as the teams were also informed to take the printout of the documents. In the late evening, a few members of the team had to procure the printouts from the computer lab of the school. The rest of the team members continued to do the documentation after dinner, which extended to late at night.

Day 4

July 13, 2022

Despite the heavy rains on the previous day and gusty winds, the teams continued to work with spirit and commitment the next day. The teams had decided to mutually cooperate in finishing the survey, and thus the teams shuffled to facilitate the process of completing the task assigned. Thus, a few headed to the village and the rest of the team members continued to do the documentation at the school.



A few team members were involved in assisting the tribal people visiting the school for availing the benefits.





By the end of the day, the team members were occupied with the task of documentation and procuring the printout, which continued even after dinner.

Day 5

July 15, 2022

On day five, the team was required to finalize all the documentation and submit a detailed handwritten report. Based on the reports of all five teams, a consolidated brief report (Annexure V) was prepared and submitted to District Legal Services Authority, Mysuru. The team also submitted the handwritten report along with the all documents and a copy of the consolidated report to Ms. Sahana, the Village accountant for the necessary action.

Around 12:30 PM, Shri. Devaraj Bhute, Hon'ble Member Secretary, DLSA, Mysuru also arrived at the Basavanagiri Ashram shale and convened a review meeting. The team headed back to Bangalore around 3.00 PM following lunch with the Member Secretary, District Tribal officer, and Village Accountant.



The Legal Services Clinic of Ramaiah College of Law is grateful for the opportunity provided by District Legal Services Authority, Mysuru, and Karnataka State Legal Services Authority for their kind cooperation in this regard. The Clinic also acknowledges and places on record the arrangements provided during the camp by the District Tribal Welfare Department. The Camp really gave us good insight into the Socio-economic conditions of the tribal people and their vulnerability. A team of students had an on-hand learning experience about the procedure followed by various government departments for providing the basic documents to the tribals and their significance. The students were also exposed to the ground realities and challenges in providing the basic documents to the people given their vulnerability, which would surely help them in developing a sense of social responsibility and perhaps may motivate them in taking up social action litigations in the long run.

The Clinic also places on record the love, affection and warmth extended by the students of Aashram Shaale in general and the children residing on campus, in specific. A sense of maturity, belongingness, and their care and concern for each other at such tender age sets an epitome of kindness and certainly leaves a subtle message for all. The Clinic treasures the time spent with such young minds and wishes them the best!

The Clinic expresses heartfelt gratitude to Shri. Shashidhar Shetty, Hon'ble Member Secretary, Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), Shri. Vignesh Kumar, Public Relation Officer, KSLSA, Shri. Devaraj Bhute, Hon'ble Member Secretary, DLSA, Mysuru, all the KSLSA and DLSA officials, Mysuru, Smt. Prabha Aaras, District Tribal Welfare officer, Ms. Sahana, Village Accountant for their kind cooperation. The Clinic extends sincere thanks to the teachers and the staff of the Aashrama Shale, and Shri Devendra sir for extending the timely support. The Clinic also thanks Prof. (Dr.) Rose Varghese, Director (Academics), and Dr. Omprakash, Principal for the constant support and guidance. The team expresses sincere gratitude to Mr. Manohar sir for his time and consideration and also to all the volunteers and team members for their untiring efforts and commitment to completing the task assigned on time.

Photo Gallery



Newspaper Clippings of the Mysore Camp



As reported in the Times of India, dated July 18, 2022