



**Symbiosis Law School, Pro Bono Club
Under Nyaya Bandhu
(Pro bono Legal Services)
An Initiative under Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice,
Government of India
&
Symbiosis Centre for Rights of Differently Abled, Nagpur**

**Value added Short Course on Disability under Pro Bono Scheme in
association with National Centre for Promotion of Employment for
Disabled People**

(9/1/2023-13/1/2023)

Report

Value-added course on “An Introduction to Disability Studies- A Legal Perspective” is being jointly organized by **Pro Bono Club, Centre for the Rights of the Differently Abled (SCRDA), Symbiosis Law School- Nagpur** and the **National Centre for Promotion of Employment for Disabled People (NCPEDP)** supported by **Pro Bono Club- an initiative of Government of India under Department of Justice.**

The purpose of conducting this course was to inculcate the subject as a core part of student’s academic curriculum. The course has been designed in such a way that one doesn’t just learn about the laws, entitlements and concepts that revolve around disability but also develops the skills on research and writing and prove helpful for those who want to take the subject a part of their academic research. This value- added course is conducted over a period of 5 days from 9th January 2023 to 13th January 2023 in Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur. The course comprises of ten lectures, one mid-term test, assignment and one final exam. The course was designed under the guidance of the Dr. Sukhvinder Singh Dari, Director, Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur.

The first session was started with the welcome of the guest speakers. Dr. Deepti N. Khubalkar, in charge of the centre welcomed the guest. First and second session was conducted by Mr. Rajive Raturi, on Introduction to UNCRPD & other International Conventions and Access to Justice: Challenges, Barriers and Solutions/ Key Supreme Court Judgments on 9th January, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:50 p.m. Mr. Rajive heads Law and Policy at NCPEDP in New Delhi. During his lecture he pointed out the importance of safe physical accessibility on roads and public transports. He explained various international conventions and rights of disabled person. He also discussed supreme court judgements on the rights of disabled people. There are sixty to seventy million disabled persons in India and the fundamental concern is the safe accessibility to movements on footpaths and accessibility to roads and transport. Further he also dealt with the education

of disabled children and duties of educational institutions to provide education, sports and recreation facilities to the disabled people without any discrimination.



Mr. Rajive Raturi, on Introduction to UNCRPD & other International Conventions and Access to Justice: Challenges, Barriers and Solutions/ Key Supreme Court Judgments

Third and fourth session on 10th January, 2023 was conducted by Mr. Akshay Jain, a program associate at NCPEDP. He covered the topic 'Introduction to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016'. In his session he introduced the Act to students and discussed various rights guaranteed under the law to provide safeguard to people with disability in India. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 aims to provide certain rights to disabled people and protect them from social stigmatization and discrimination. Mr. Akshay explained the meaning of the term 'person with disability' and various rights covered under the act such as right to equality and protection from discrimination, right to live in the community, right not to be forced to undergo infertility medical procedures, social security and health care etc.



Mr. P. Rajasekharan, Mr. Akshay Jain with participants and Faculty in charge, Dr. Deepti Khubalkar.
On 11th January, 2023, Fifth and the sixth session was taken by Mr. P. Rajasekharan, co-founder of V-shesh, an enterprise that prepares students and job seekers for suitable

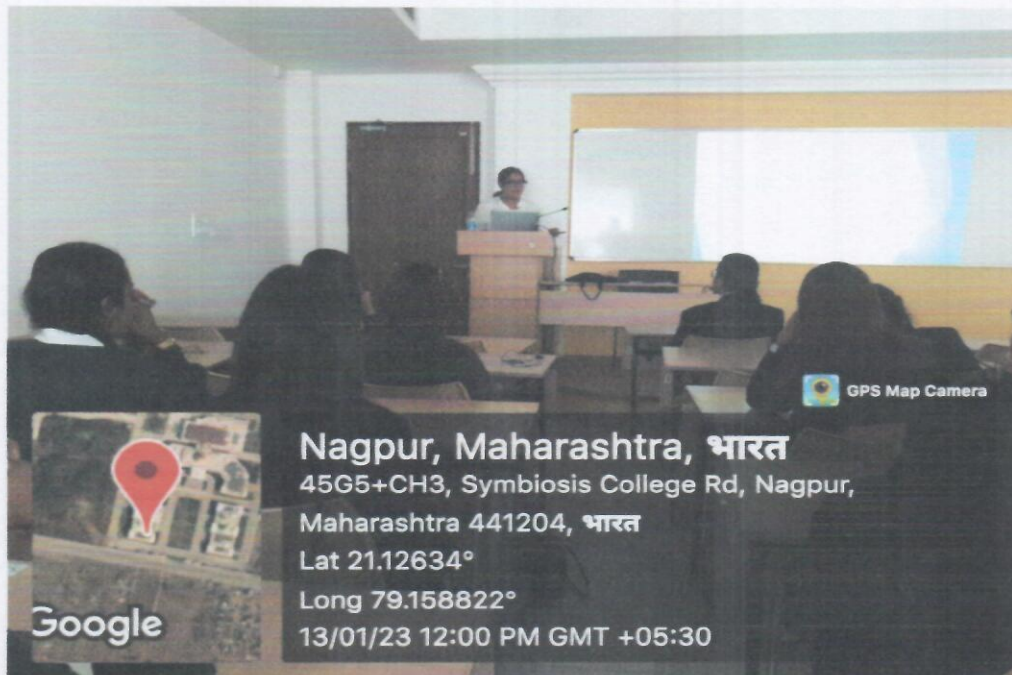
opportunities. Mr. Rajasekharan thrown light on impact of disability on employment and job. He said around 80 million adults in India live with a disability and 61 million people in the states live with a disability. 8 % of Indian population have some type of impairment. He explained why do we rarely come across persons with disabilities in our daily lives. He explained the difference between disability and impairment, equal opportunity and equal treatment, long term and short term disability. He further talked about employment in private sector and public sector for disabled people and requirement of framing and publication of equal opportunity policy with government, appointment of Liaison officer and revamp HR policies and hiring system. He further emphasized on reasonable accommodation and how job accommodations benefit all transcriptions for deaf people, grab bars and other features in toilets helpful for all.



Mr. P. Rajasekharan addressing the class on employment, education and rehabilitation: and future for Persons with Disabilities

On 12th January, 2023 the speaker for the day was, Ms. Anjali Vyas, who updated the students on the topic social inclusion for persons with disability along with gender and disability. In her deliberation she pointed out that, women with disabilities are doubly marginalised because of both their gender. They have less social, political, and economic prospects and little access to essential amenities, making them potentially more prone to poverty and social marginalisation. The danger of sexual and physical abuse and violence may be higher for women with disabilities. Discrimination against girls with impairments is common, especially in the family and in the workplace. She further added, the inter-personal relationships between those with disabilities and those who are able-bodied are influenced and determined by a variety of circumstances. The degree and type of disability is one of the most important considerations. She pointed that a common man's reactions to gross physical deformities, like cerebral palsy, the victim of which presents and ghastly appearance, with constant jerky movements of the limbs, incoherent speech

and saliva dripping down the mouth, are at one's indicative of repulsion apprehension and avoidance. In contrast a leg amputee wearing an artificial limb may not cause such an embarrassment to the onlooker, for his deformity is not visible to the eye.



Ms. Niharika Das addressing the students on the topic Accessibility: Reasonable Accommodation vs Universal Design

On 13th January, 2023, Ms. Niharika Das, explained the difference and significance of reasonable accommodation and universal design. In her deliberation she talked about the elimination of barriers for individual by creating inclusive environment. There is a difference between making something accessible or providing accommodations, providing some additional benefits to the users. The session was followed by the concluding session on Practical Classes: Learning tools of Advocacy conducted by Mr. Akshay Jain. During the session students were given demonstration of reasonable accommodation and universal design around the campus.

All the participants attended the session with enthusiasm. At the end of the course, students were given the certificate of merit/ appreciation after successful completion of assignment as well as exam.



Group Photograph

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Director
Symbiosis Law School
Nagpur