

Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Management Studies

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Date: 14 September 2024

VISIT TO LOK ADALAT, ROHINI DISTRICT COURT

Academic Year: 2024-25

Name of Event: Educational Visit to the 3rd National Lok Adalat

Organizing Unit: Legal Services Clinic, Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Management Studies (MAIMS)

Collaborating Unit/Name and Designation of Resource Person: North West District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), represented by PA to Ld. Secretary, Sh. Durgesh ji

Date of the Event: 14th September 2024

Time of the Event: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Location: Rohini District Court, Delhi

Number of Students Participated: 25

The 3rd National Lok Adalat of the year 2024, orgalnizedunder the guidance of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), took place across India on 14th September 2024. Under the leadership of Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Judge of the Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman of NALSA, this event sought to facilitate the swift resolution of disputes while promoting access to justice for all. The nationwide Lok Adalat was held simultaneously in various courts across the country, making legal remedies more accessible, especially for economically disadvantaged and marginalized communities. As part of this important legal event, students from the Legal Services Clinic at Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Management Studies (MAIMS) participated in an educational visit of the Lok Adalat held at Rohini District Court. Guided by Dr Purnima Gupta, the faculty convenor, this visit allowed the students to observe Lok Adalat's proceedings firsthand and gain insight into the alternative dispute resolution system.

Lok Adalats, or "People's Courts," are an essential part of India's legal framework, aimed at promoting the settlement of disputes outside the formal court system. The simplicity and efficiency of these courts make them a crucial tool in reducing the backlog of cases in regular courts. The 3rd *National Lok Adalat at Rohini District Court* was well-organized, with courtrooms dedicated to handling various cases. There were 2 courtrooms for Motor Accident Claims Tribunal (MACT) Matters, 1 courtroom for Pre-Litigation Matters of Banks/Financial Institutions, 1 courtroom for Electricity Matters, 3 courtrooms for Civil Cases, 12 courtrooms for Criminal Compoundable Cases, 3courtrooms for 138 NI Act Cases, 15 courtrooms for NBT Challan Cases.

After visiting the courtrooms, the students visited the North West District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) office at Rohini District Court where the *PA to Ld. Secretary Sh. Durgesh ji* provided an overview of the DLSA's role in promoting access to free legal aid. He made the students aware of the functioning of the Delhi Legal Services Authority which provides free and competent Legal Aid, conducts programs to promote legal awareness and also it conducts legal literacy classes, and administers a victim compensation scheme, which provides financial assistance to victims of crimes, collaborates with NGO's and other institutions to extend its reach and impact and conducts LOK ADALAT on regular basis to resolve some types of disputes quickly and efficiently. Additionally, the Pro Bono Club from Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Management Studies accompanied the Legal Services Clinic during the visit to Lok Adalat.

A significant number of 1,14,56,529 cases (One crore fourteen lakh fifty-six thousand five hundred twentynine) have been settled at the 3rd National Lok Adalat on 14.09.2024, including 94,60,864 prelitigation cases (Ninety-four lakh sixty thousand eight hundred sixty-four) and 19,95,665 pending cases (Nineteen lakh ninety-five thousand six hundred sixty-five).

The present success reflects the trust of the people in Lok Adalats, significantly enhancing access to justice, especially for the underprivileged and marginalised sections of society. NALSA remains committed to organising more Lok Adalatsand promoting alternative dispute resolution mechanisms across the country.

The educational visit to the 3rd *National Lok Adalat* at Rohini District Court offered students from Maharaja Agrasen Institute of Management Studies a valuable opportunity to observe real-time dispute resolution across various sectors. By witnessing the court proceedings and engaging with a representative from the DLSA, the students gained a deeper understanding of the crucial role Lok Adalats play, as well as the importance of DLSA in ensuring access to free legal aid. Under the expert guidance of Dr. Purnima Gupta, the visit enhanced the student's learning experience, providing insight into alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and highlighting the significance of legal services authorities within India's judicial system.



