

EVENT REPORT

Event Name: Visit to National Lok Adalat – Empowering Future Lawyers

Date of the Event: 22nd March 2025

Duration of the Event: 11:00 A.M. to 03:00 PM

Name of the Event Coordinator: Ganesh Gadekar (Assistant Professor, SOL), Anuja Nehe (Assistant Professor, SOL) Sandip University, Nashik.

Event Overview:

On March 22, 2025, the School of Law, Sandip University organized an educational visit for its students to the National Lok Adalat held at the Nashik District and Sessions Court, in collaboration with the Nashik District Legal Services Authority (DLSA). This initiative aimed to provide students with practical exposure to the functioning of Lok Adalats and enhance their understanding of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms.

The National Lok Adalat, often referred to as the “people’s court,” focuses on resolving disputes amicably through conciliation and mutual settlement, ensuring faster, cost-effective, and satisfactory outcomes for all parties involved.

Objectives of the Visit:

1. **Practical Exposure:** To provide students with firsthand experience of how Lok Adalats operate and demonstrate the significance of alternative dispute resolution in reducing the burden on the formal judicial system.
2. **Promoting Legal Awareness:** To deepen students' understanding of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and the role of Lok Adalats in delivering access to justice.
3. **Fostering Social Responsibility:** To instill a sense of responsibility and commitment toward ensuring that justice is accessible to all, especially marginalized and underprivileged sections of society.
4. **Analyzing Legal Procedures:** To enable students to observe the conciliation process, assess dispute resolution techniques, and critically analyze the role of presiding officers and panelists.

Event Highlights:

1. The visit began with an orientation session conducted by the officials of the Nashik District Legal Services Authority.
2. Students were introduced to the structure, objectives, and functioning of the Lok Adalat, along with its role in providing speedy justice through amicable settlements.
3. Students had the opportunity to observe the live proceedings of the Lok Adalat, where disputes related to civil, matrimonial, motor accident claims, and bank recovery cases were taken up for settlement.
4. They witnessed the interaction between parties, legal representatives, and presiding officers, gaining insights into how disputes are resolved through dialogue and mutual agreement.
5. The proceedings demonstrated how Lok Adalats facilitate conciliation and negotiation to resolve disputes, avoiding prolonged litigation.
6. Students analyzed the role of judicial officers, advocates, and mediators in ensuring equitable settlements that uphold the principles of justice.
7. An interactive session was organized where students engaged with legal experts and panel members who shared their experiences and insights on the efficacy of Lok Adalats in promoting access to justice.
8. The discussion highlighted the importance of ADR in reducing the backlog of cases and promoting a culture of dispute resolution through conciliation.

Key Learning Outcomes:

1. **Practical Knowledge:** Students gained real-world exposure to the legal processes involved in resolving disputes through Lok Adalats. They learned how ADR mechanisms can provide faster and more cost-effective solutions to legal conflicts.
2. **Enhanced Analytical Skills:** Observing live proceedings helped students critically analyze dispute resolution techniques and identify key factors contributing to successful settlements.
3. **Commitment to Social Justice:** The visit inspired students to advocate for alternative dispute resolution methods and work toward ensuring access to justice for marginalized communities.
4. **Impact and Student Feedback:** Students expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to observe real-time dispute resolution, which enriched their theoretical knowledge with practical insights.

Many students acknowledged that witnessing Lok Adalat proceedings deepened their understanding of the role of ADR in the Indian legal system and motivated them to explore careers in mediation and dispute resolution.

Conclusion:

The visit to the National Lok Adalat was a transformative experience for the students of the School of Law, Sandip University, empowering them with practical knowledge and deepening their understanding of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. The event was a testament to the university's commitment to providing holistic legal education by blending theory with real-world exposure.

PHOTOS OF THE EVENT





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Sandip University, Nashik (MS), India
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Anuja

Event Co-ordinator
Anuja Nehe