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A STUDY ON LEGAL AID AND AWARENESS FOR THE POOR THROUGH PARALEGAL VOLUNTEERS IN RURAL AREAS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

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Abstract

The constitutional law of India has been provided equal rights for all without discrimination and equal opportunities in economic, political and social spheres. In a democratic country people will have right and power to question when any executive authority or political leader not appropriate at their duty. Poor people are also equipped with power to question for their rights and empowerment. Poor people rights and freedom will play a crucial role for the advancement of the country in all fields and also their individual development. Articles 14, 15, 19, 21 and 39/A speaks about equality, no discrimination basing on the gender, fundamental rights. Article 39/A directs the courts to operate the legal system to promote justice on the basis of equal opportunity without gender discrimination and also to provide free legal aid to the needy. Legal aid and awareness to the poor people will play an important role in all aspects of human life. Each and every poor people whether literate or illiterate urban or rural should know about exclusive enactments meant for them and also constitutional provisions which are specially meant for poor people welfare and freedom. A Para-Legal Volunteer (PLV) plays a crucial role in educating people, especially those from weaker sections of society, about their right to live with dignity and to enjoy all constitutionally and legally guaranteed rights, along with their duties under the law. The primary goal of paralegal assistance is to address the root causes of poverty by working to change social and economic structures, while educating and empowering marginalized communities to raise awareness and influence lasting institutional reforms in Andhra Pradesh. Paralegal and other legal aid systems support vulnerable and poor individuals in protecting their rights. The paper focused on impotence of legal aid and legal awareness through paralegal volunteers in Andhra Pradesh and in need of legal aid and are essential in helping the public understand their rights, helping with paperwork, and making legal aid services more accessible.

Key Words: Legal Aid and Awareness, Role of Paralegal volunteers, Role of judiciary in Legal Aid

Introduction

India is a welfare state which has adopted the idea of welfare state. The constitution has defined and declared the common goal for its citizens in this preamble. The Constitution speak of equality, social justice, freedom and secularism. But at the same time, the constitution by its same provisions creates inequality, injustice, particularism etc. the poor and weaker section people should be given differential treatment by law to extend social justice. ¹According to the preamble of the Constitution, all Indians will be afforded economic, political, and social justice without exception. The 42nd Amendment, which was ratified in 1976, included Article 39-A, which states that the government is obligated to provide free legal aid through legislation or programs. Social justice requires legal aid, particularly in rural areas where access to justice is hampered by poverty, illiteracy, and a lack of adequate legal infrastructure. Legal aid is essential to ensure that underprivileged groups in Andhra Pradesh are not denied legal protection.

The basic legal awareness and legal aid will play an important role in human society and as well as poor and weaker section people. To create legal awareness and importance of legal aid among citizens of India the Indian Parliament has enacted the National Legal Services Authority Act (1987), but the fruits of the Act not been reached many parts of India yet. In addition to that, illiteracy and poverty is also primary bar to the legal unawareness. Among all states in India, the

¹ D.D. Basu, Introduction to the Constitution of India, p. 23 (3rd ed. 1954).



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state Andhra Pradesh is lagging behind with low rate of literacy². **The rural poor and weaker section people in Andhra Pradesh have low awareness of their rights to free legal aid due to insufficient outreach and legal education at the grassroots level.** Without legal awareness and legal aid regarding existing laws it is difficult to empower the poor people to know about their rights and duties that provided by law which is obstacle for the development of the country. Legal aid is particularly vital for a healthy democracy because it recognises every person’s dignity and helps develop a fair society.³ It is not charity but a right and an obligation. Justice P.N. Bhagwati said legal assistance gives a method for people to access the legal system easily and affordably, especially those who need it most. Poor and illiterate people must be able to seek support from the courts so they are not denied justice because they cannot speak the legal language.⁴ Judges, lawyers, law schools, social workers, and others have become more aware of legal assistance and are working hard to promote it in India. Changes in the statutes of criminal and civil process have made legal aid possible in many circumstances. The Legal Service Authorities Act 1987 is a key step in this direction.

“Paralegal Centers with a steady stream of young men and women who will take up this as a mission can definitely help in resolving the land problems of the poor and tribal. We have shown in Andhra Pradesh that a vigorous five-year plan with a committed civil administration and a sensitive judiciary, these paralegals can make a huge difference on the ground” Jaiam Ramesh, minister for rural development, Government of India {2011}.

Meaning and Objectives of Paralegal System

Legal assistants, sometimes referred to as paralegals, are experts who provide vital assistance to attorneys in a range of legal contexts, such as government offices, law firms, business legal departments, and non-profit organizations. Legal research, document drafting, case management, trial preparation, and client relations are all included in their duties⁵. The main objectives of Paralegal education are to see that help because of the financial weakness people could not lose their rights. Not only financial weakness, social or cultural insignificance also should be the reason for injustice in the society⁶. Para-Legal services are the basic supportive, imitative and primary aid or help for the poor and weaker section people as a basic structure to bridge the gap among the people and the legal operation system for getting the justice in “sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic and republics. In order to make Para-Legal Services an effective wheel of Social Justice, and to bridge the gap among the people and the legal system for the interest and welfare of the poor, weaker sections in the society.

Importance of Paralegal Volunteers

Para-Legal Services play a very important role in the justice system. They serve as the first step and starting point in helping deliver justice to people who are economically weak, differently-abled, or belong to vulnerable sections of society. However, these services are currently facing several challenges in India. These challenges come from a wide range of factors, including social, economic, cultural, political, religious, psychological, and scientific issues, as well as traditional customs, everyday practices, human interactions, illiteracy, lack of education, and problems related to access and implementation. The biggest obstacle among them is the proper implementation of laws and legal as well as para-legal services by the authorities and committees responsible for delivering justice⁷.

² Sunil Desta (1995) Lok-Adalat in India Genies and functioning , Deep and Deep Publication , New Delhi issue 2, p.14

³ John Dewey, Democracy and Education, True house publishing , House, Bengaluru, 1st ed., 2022

⁴ Baxi , upendra, the Crisis pf the Indian Legal System , New Delhi; Vikas Publishing House, 1982.

⁵ Ravi kumar K V, Legal education its challenges in the era of globalization. International conference in NLU, New Delhi, 2012, p. 47

⁶ BB.Pande, (2013) moral and Ethical issues confronting student’s’ legal aid clinics in the outreach of legal services to the resources less and the poor issue 1 (1) Journal of National Law University, Delhi, 43

⁷ Report of the Legal Aid Committee, 1971, Government of India, P.5



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Paralegal education aims to spread awareness about laws and the interpretations provided by legal experts, especially among the poor and disadvantaged. Most common people are unaware of laws, and since laws change frequently to match the needs of society, it becomes even harder for them to keep up. It is widely known that the average person finds legal terms and courtroom processes hard to understand. Therefore, it becomes essential for paralegals to share judgments and legal updates from the Supreme Court, High Courts, District Courts, and other judicial bodies with the poor in simple ways. Paralegals can serve as the main source of legal information and assistance for these people.

Legal awareness remains low because law as a subject is hard to grasp. The legal language used is often complicated and difficult for ordinary citizens to follow. The present study suggests that awareness should be created by simplifying legal knowledge for the public. This can be done through symposia, workshops, and seminars, helping people understand what the judiciary is doing and how laws work. Special focus should be given to laws related to women, students, senior citizens, environmental protection, and human rights, and efforts should be made to share these laws clearly and widely among the general population.

Need for Legal Aid to The Poor in Rural Areas

Due to the socioeconomic and infrastructure barriers that impede access to justice, legal aid is crucial in rural India, especially for the impoverished. In order to achieve justice, legal aid is crucial, particularly for the underprivileged and disenfranchised in rural areas. These groups frequently have institutional barriers, such as poverty, illiteracy, a lack of legal knowledge, and geographic remoteness, that keep them from using the formal judicial system. Many people living in rural areas are not aware of their constitutional and legal rights. Legal aid assists in educating and enabling people to assert their rights, such as labour benefits, property rights, and protection against domestic abuse. The impoverished in rural areas are unable to pay for advocates, court charges, and documents. By offering these services at no cost, legal assistance makes sure that justice is not postponed or denied. Legal aid makes the system accessible by offering representation, advice, and interpretation. By guaranteeing that every person, regardless of status, has equal access to the legal system, legal assistance advances social justice. It encourages trust in democratic institutions and upholds the rule of law in rural India.⁸ A number of significant social, economic, and legal issues in rural areas make legal aid necessary.

Legal Aid in Rural Areas of Andhra Pradesh

Legal aid services are not available to impoverished rural residents. Additionally, they are not aware of the legal services' schemes. Additionally, they are unaware of the legal services' schemes. Government organisations and welfare programs that would allow citizens to take use of the advantages. Illiteracy, poverty, social and economic servitude, cultural encroachment, and corruption are all blamed for the impoverisher's incapacity to access the judicial system, which denies them impartial justice. To preserve a stable equilibrium between the poor and the affluent, legal aid for the needy is important.⁹

Approximately 70% of Indians reside in rural areas. The hard truth of Indian existence is poverty. Deprivation of material or financial resources is merely one facet of poverty; another is the violation of human dignity. Poverty is the lowest standard of living in India. A social phenomenon, poverty is a vulnerability to the rule of law. Despite the fact that poverty is ubiquitous in Asia and Africa, our nation is essentially a place of destitute disorder. The idea that economists debate poverty but not below it is plain awful. Due to their poverty, the underprivileged are unable to join in political processes at all levels, and it is tough to create legislation that will end their poverty and give them with equal opportunity to address

⁸ Nalini Kanta Dutta , Contemporary Socio- Legal Problems, ANMOL, Publications Pvt.Ltd, New Delhi,2007.p.1.9

⁹ Kainth and G.S and Bawa R.S (1984) , Economic development and structural Changes; an empirical investigation, inter publication, New Delhi.p. 1-2



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their problems. The key cause is their limited financial solution, which prohibits people from being able to pay for the services of experienced and skilled solicitors. Every civilised nation's principal purpose is justice. The basic objective of the law is to ensure that everyone in society is treated equally. The principle of socioeconomic justice is established in the preamble of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The state of Andhra Pradesh is in the forefront of implementing legal assistance services, administrative machinery, and the operation of legal services agencies from the national to Mandal level. The declaration forbids discrimination and protects the rights of life, equality, liberty, and security of a person, as well as fair trial, social security, and more. Lok-Adalats. Additionally, it encourages the use of Lok-Adalats for conflict mediation and permits for the formation of legal aid camps. at order to support weaker programs and legal aid clinics at universities, law colleges, and other institutions, the act required the central government to take the needed acts through social action lawsuits.

The administration of justice was also covered by the act. The legal services authority's motto is "access to justice for all." Securing justice for the weaker sectors of society especially the destitute, oppressed, socially disadvantaged women, children, and disabled people is the purpose. However, efforts must be made to assure that no one is denied the chance to pursue justice owing to a lack of resources or experience, to successfully implement all federal and state laws, and, among other things, to construct a functional legal system. Among other things, a functioning legal system and resources for legal education and legal support for qualified individuals are necessary for the successful application of all federal and state legislation.

Role of Paralegal Volunteers Service in Rural area

The conception of Legal & Para-Legal Services has been united in India under supreme law of India namely the Constitution of India under articles 14, 21, 22, 38, 39A, 41, 32, 226, and 332 etc., together with the leading, landmark and other relevant case laws delivered by Hon’ble Indian Judiciary¹⁰. The goal of paralegal assistance is to address the underlying causes of poverty by working to alter social and economic structures while also educating and organizing the impoverished to help them become aware and influential and to help the institutional changes become unaffected and lifelong. Paralegal support the weaker and poor people in their efforts to get protected rights. The main objectives of paralegal to get that help because of the financial weak and poor people could not lose their rights. Not only financial weak, social or cultural insignificance also should be the reason for injustice in the society. Lack of awareness is one of the reasons people to do not claim their legal rights.¹¹ The Paralegal volunteers can launch legal literacy programmes to make the people aware of the legal aid services to the poor and weaker section people. Legal aid a fundamental tool in ensuring justice for all, particularly for those who are economically or socially disadvantaged in Andhra Pradesh, where rural populations face widespread illiteracy , poverty, and marginalization , legal aid services play a vital role in the bridging the gap between law and the common people.

Legal aid to Target group through Act

The need for legal aid in rural areas is both urgent and foundational to achieving inclusive justice. Without it, the rural poor remain voiceless in the face of legal and societal challenges. Strengthening legal aid services in rural areas, helps fulfill the constitutional promise of “access to justice for all.” The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, Section 12 the LSA Act requires LSAs to give free legal aid to Members of Scheduled Castes, Members of Scheduled Tribes, Victims of trafficking in human beings, backward Classes people, Women and Children, Persons with disabilities, Industrial workers,

¹⁰ Veera Reddy Gade (1999) Public Interest Lawyering, Legal Aid and Para Legal Service, Sujatha Law Books Pvt.LTD, Hyderabad, p.298-299

¹¹ Abhishek Reddy. K (2025) Strengthening Legal aid and access to justice iin Rural India: A Roadmap for Viksit Bharat 2047, international journal of Creative Research thoughts, vol. 13, issue 2, p.797



Persons in Jail custody, Economically vulnerable peoples. Under Section 4(1) of the LSA Act, the Legal Service Authority's should spread legal awareness particularly among the weaker sections about their rights, powers and rights.

Legal Aid Provisions to the Poor and disabled section

- 1 In order to guarantee that no citizen's ability to obtain justice is restricted due to financial or other limitations, an act establishing legal service authorities is necessary. Additionally, Lok- Adalat Is to be established in order to guarantee that the legal system operates in a way that advances justice for all.
- 2 As per the preamble of the constitution, financial, social, and governmental equity is a guarantee for every Indian citizen. The state is impliedly required by article 14 and article 16 of the Indian constitution to ensure that no one fails to obtain legal help because of financial or other limitations, therefore guaranteeing that all citizens of the country receive equal justice.
- 3 The Indian constitution's article 39-A mandates that the state ensure that every citizen obtains free representation in court through relevant legislation, programmes, or other channels and that no one's access to justice is impeded by their inability to pay or by other barriers.
- 4 Legal assistance committees may be established by a bar council, and each committee will have a maximum of nine members and a minimum of five, as 5directed by the council. The requirements, the selection process, and the tenure of legal assistance committee members shall be prescribed.
- 5 Along with implementing preventative and strategic legal aid programmes, the law also advances the goal of providing legal assistance the goa; of providing legal assistance to the impoverished and offers legal services to those who satisfy its requirements.

Article 39A and Free Legal Aid

The core principle of the nation's legal system must be the idea of social justice. India is among the world's most powerful democracies. Some individuals, who are an exception to the rule, alter the law to fit their own interests. One of the aspects that contributes to the system's complexity is an unorganised and chaotic society. The well-established natural justice principle is the cornerstone of the idea of legal help for the poor: Under Article 39-A of the Constitution, a new provision for the provision of free legal aid was added by the 42nd Amendment Act of 1976. As an important component of our Constitution, legal aid functions as an interpretive principle that represents the intended achievement of the fundamental principles of equality. Equal justice corrects the injustices that lead to societal imbalance, which is important for the formation of true justice in society. Equality and justice are unachievable in a society where a large segment of the public is unable to use the legal system to safeguard their rights and ensure an honourable existence¹². The continuation of a vibrant democracy, which is built on the equality, dignity, and value of every individual as a vital and significant member of society, rests greatly on legal aid. Therefore, the foundation of a democratic society is the brotherhood of man; a society that is riddled with social and economic inequality is not democratic. Today's democracy is a social democracy that prioritises the well-being of all social classes. We cannot sustain our political democracy on the path of social and economic growth if we do not have a competent framework for administering justice, which prohibits social justice from being accessible to everyone. Thus, it is pointless to discuss the benefits of democracy when the impoverished nevertheless face unfair social repercussions despite having equal legal protection¹³.

¹² Madhava Menon R. (1991) Public legal education, Project on legal literacy for women, National Law school of India university, Bangalore

¹³ Lodha, G.M.: Judiciary – Fumes Flames and Fire, Unique Traders, Jaipur (1983) p. vii.



Legislative Framework for Legal Aid in India

The government has expressed worry about the state of the justice delivery system as it is. It has accepted that under the current system, the poor and disadvantaged elements of society have suffered the most. It has been accepted that the underprivileged require free legal aid. In order to guarantee free legal aid to the underprivileged and impoverished, it has therefore included legislative measures like the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, and established organisations like the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) and the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA). under the 42nd Amendment Act of the Constitution. The Constitution was altered to provide a new provision for free legal aid under Article 39-A. The principle of equal justice was also reflected in Article 39A, which was added under Part IV: Directive Principles of State Policy. By a resolution dated September 26, 1980, the Indian government established the "Committee for Implementing Legal AidS chemes" (CILAS), chaired by Mr. Justice P.N. Bhagwati, to oversee and administer legal aid programs uniformly across all States and Union Territories with the goal of providing free legal aid. A number of Legal Aid and Advice Boards were created throughout the States and Union Territories as a result of CILAS's establishment of a model program for legal aid programs that could be adopted state-wide. Section 3 of the Act established the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) to manage and supervise the nation's legal aid activities. To carry out the Legal Aid programs, a State Legal Services Authority must be established in each state¹⁴.

Role of The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society and to organize Lok- Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) is India's apex body responsible for providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of society. Established under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, NALSA aims to ensure that justice is not denied to any citizen due to economic or other disabilities. The Sate legal services authority has been established at the state level to give effect of NALSA's ideas and to Lok-adalats in the states¹⁵.

NALSA's prime goal is to expedite the disposal of cases while reducing the weight of the legal executive, other objectives include spreading legal awareness, sorting out Lok-Adalats, promoting question settlements and finally, compensating victims of wrongdoing. The panel lawyers are not permitted to receive any remuneration from the person to whom they have rendered their services under these regulations. They undergo training periodically as per modules prepared by the NALSA and SLSA. If such person engaged does not perform satisfactorily or acts contrary to the act, appropriate steps such as withdrawal of the case and removal from the panel are taken. They are paid fees in accordance with the scheduled of fees, approved under the state regulations. Legal services by way of legal advice, consultation, drafting and concerning is provided by a panel of senior lawyers, law firms retired judicial officers, mediators, conciliations and law professors in the law universities or law colleges which is maintained by the chairman of the legal services institution. A special panel is also maintained consisting of retired senor bureaucrats , senior executives retired police officials, doctors, engineers, psychiatrists, marriage counselors, chartered accounts, educationists and other experts of the specialized field for legal services.¹⁶

State Legal Service Authority (SLSA)

Section of 6 Chapter III of the Legal services authorities act, 1987 defines the constitution of the sate legal services authority. It is present so to exercise the powers and perform the functions conferred on, or assigned to a state authority

¹⁴ Sharma .S.S (1993) Legal Aid to the Poor, Deep and Deep Publication, New Delhi, p.xi,243

¹⁵ Kabir.J, SC 1, editorial by India, Nyaya Deep, NALSA, special issue on law day,2009

¹⁶ <https://lawbhoomi.com/summary-of-the-national-legal-services-authority-rules-1955-and-regulations/>



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under the said act. He linkage between article 21 and the privilege to free legitimate guide was produced in the decision in Hussaina Khatoun v. state of Bihar, where the court was shocked at the situation of thousands of undertrials moping in the prisons in Bihar state for quite a long time while never being spoken to by a legal counsellor or delivered in court of law. The court declared that their can be no doubt that speedy trial, and by speedy trial, we mean reasonably expeditious trial, is an integral and essential part of the fundamental right to life and liberty enshrined in Article 21". The court pointed out that Article 39 –A emphasized that free legal service was an inalienable element of reasonable, fair and just' procedure and that the right to free legal services was implicit and inherent in the guarantee of Article 21.

District Legal Services Authority (DLSA)

An act to constitute legal services authority to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of this society to ensure that opportunity for securing justice are not denied to any citizen because of economic to other disabilities, and to organize lok-Adalats to secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on basis of equal opportunity. Article 39-A of the Indian Constitution directs the state to provide free legal aid and equal justice to all citizens by suitable legislation of schemes. The parliament has enacted the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, with the primary objective of providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of society and to organize Lok-Adalats for achieving the said goals.

Key functions of DLSA in Andhra Pradesh

1. **Free Legal Aid:** Offers legal representation, counseling, and assistance to eligible individuals (e.g., women, children, SC/ST, persons with disabilities, victims of disasters, etc.).
2. **Lok-Adalats:** Organizes Lok-Adalats to facilitate quick and amicable settlement of disputes without going to court.
3. **Legal Awareness:** Conducts legal awareness camps, seminars, and workshops to educate people about their rights and duties.
4. **Victim Compensation:** Assists in processing applications under the victim compensation scheme.
5. **Legal Literacy Clubs:** Promotes legal literacy in schools and colleges through clubs and training programs.
6. **10 Para Legal Volunteers Are To Be Identified From The Following Target Groups**

Advocates, Teachers and lectures of Government and Private schools and colleges of all levels. Anganvadi Workers Private or Governmental doctors and other Government employees , Field level officers of different departments and agencies of the state and Union Governments , Students pf graduation and post-graduation in law, education, social services and humanities, members of apolitical service oriented non –governmental organizations and clubs , members of women neighborhood groups, Maithri Sanghams, Educated prisoners serving long sentences in central prison and district prison. Social workers and volunteers , volunteers of panchayat Raj and Municipal institutions ember of cooperative societies, Member of trade unions, any persons which the district Legal services authority or Taluk legal services committee deems fit to be identified as para legal volunteers.

Need of Judiciary in Legal aid

The **judiciary plays a vital and indispensable role** in the effective implementation and enforcement of legal aid in India. While the Constitution and statutes such as the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** lay down the framework for free legal aid, it is the judiciary that ensures these rights are not merely symbolic but actively realized. In a country where the poor and marginalized often lack awareness of their rights, fear the legal system, or are unable to afford representation, **judicial intervention becomes a safeguard** against systemic exclusion. The courts, particularly the higher judiciary, have continuously interpreted **Articles 14, 21, and 39A** to uphold **free legal aid as a fundamental right**, ensuring that the principles of **fair trial, equality before the law, and access to justice** are not compromised. Through **public interest**



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litigation (PILs), suo motu actions, and landmark judgments, the judiciary has expanded the scope of legal aid, holding the State accountable for its constitutional obligation. In this way, the judiciary acts not only as a neutral arbiter but also as a **protector of the rights of the disadvantaged**, ensuring that justice is not the privilege of a few, but a **reality for all**.¹⁷

The **judiciary is central to the realization of legal aid in India**, serving as both a guardian of constitutional mandates and a catalyst for legal reform. While legal aid is guaranteed under **Article 39A** of the Indian Constitution and institutionalized through the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987**, the effective enforcement and expansion of these provisions have largely depended on the proactive role of the judiciary. In a society marked by widespread poverty, illiteracy, and social inequality, the majority of citizens are unaware of their legal rights or lack the resources to claim them. In this context, the judiciary steps in not just as a dispenser of justice, but as a **protector of the vulnerable**, ensuring that legal aid becomes a meaningful and enforceable right.

Through landmark rulings in cases such as *Hussainara Khatoon v. State of Bihar*, *M.H. Hoskot v. State of Maharashtra*, and *Khatri v. State of Bihar*, the Supreme Court of India has firmly established that **free legal aid is an essential part of a fair, just, and reasonable procedure**, making it a **fundamental right under Article 21**. The courts have also emphasized that the State must actively provide legal assistance, especially to undertrials and the indigent, reinforcing the idea that **access to justice cannot be a privilege reserved for the affluent**. The judiciary, by interpreting and expanding the scope of legal aid, has played a transformative role in bringing justice closer to the common man. Without judicial vigilance, the constitutional promise of equal justice would remain largely unfulfilled, making the **judiciary indispensable to the success of legal aid in India**.

Conclusion

The basic knowledge of law imparted by Para-Legal Volunteers to common man would help him/her to identify his legal problems and solve them within the community itself without resorting to litigation which is a problem and vast procedure. Legal awareness is a powerful tool that helps citizens understand and effectively use the legal system in their daily lives. It ensures easier access to justice by informing people of their rights and the means to enforce them. For the poor and illiterate, legal awareness removes barriers of ignorance and poverty, empowering them to approach courts and seek justice without fear or disadvantage.

Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs) are responsible for educating people, particularly those from the poorer sections of society, about their right to live with dignity, to enjoy all constitutionally and statutorily guaranteed rights, and to perform their duties and obligations in accordance with the law. Para-Legal and Legal-Aid services are co-related, Interrelated and complement any to each other. Legal-Aid Programs, Schemes, Services, Legal Services and other related things are implemented with the help of Paralegals by means of Para-Legal Services, providing supporting assistance, aid for fulfilling the ends of justice. Need of Para legal Services to aware the weaker section and poor people about his rights. Government organizations and judiciary department have been offered various programs to its users on social, cultural, legal field etc. Legal awareness camps should to conduct by paralegal volunteers focus on educating the public about basic legal rights and laws that affect daily life. Key topics include fundamental rights, free legal aid, family and child laws, women's rights, labor laws, property rights, criminal procedures, and government welfare schemes.

Legal services are just one of the many valuable services that non-governmental organizations provide to society. Non-governmental organizations, in collaboration with NALSA, SLSA, DLSA, and TLSA, are conducting legal aid camps, awareness seminars, and cultural programs to increase public legal awareness and empower poor people to lead dignified lives in society. Paralegals act as vital links between the legal system and marginalized communities, paralegal volunteers

¹⁷ Pathak, Vann (2021) A Brief History of legal aid , Vol. xxIII, No. 12 (VI)



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by conducting awareness campaigns, assisting in legal aid clinics, and spreading knowledge in simple, understandable terms. These efforts not only resolve immediate legal issues but also plant the seeds for long-term social change