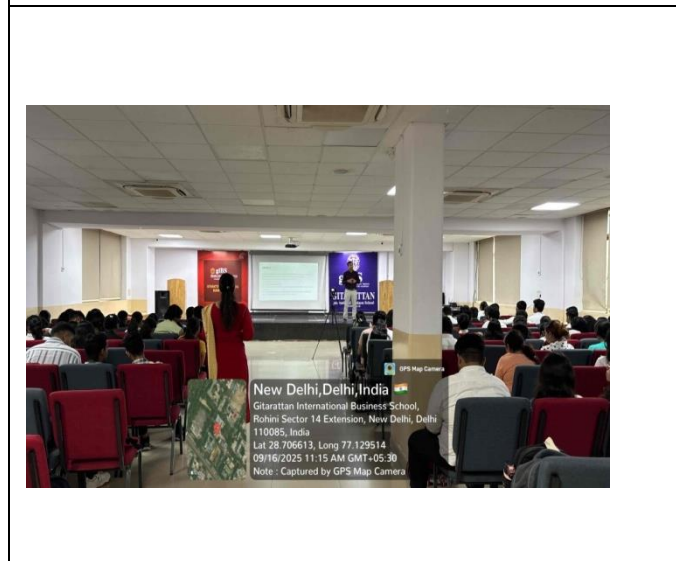


STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO JUSTICE THROUGH LEGAL AID: INNOVATIONS, CHALLENGES, AND THE ROLE OF LAW STUDENTS

16th SEPTEMBER 2025 (TUESESDAY)



The Legal Aid Clinic of Gitarattan International Business School organized an interactive session under its series of initiatives for enhancing legal awareness and practice-based learning. The session was titled “*Strengthening Access to Justice through Legal Aid: Innovations, Challenges, and the Role of Law Students*” and was held on 16th September 2025 at the Institute campus. The programme brought together students, faculty members, and distinguished experts to deliberate on the significance of legal aid in advancing justice and to highlight the evolving role of law students in this domain.

The interactive session was graced by two eminent resource persons – Dr. Ajay B. Sonawane, Assistant Professor (Senior Scale) in Law Centre-II, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, and his colleague Dr. Anjay Kumar Sharma, Sr. Assistant Professor (Selection Grade), Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. Both speakers shared their extensive academic and professional experience with the participants and provided valuable insights into the working of legal aid as a mechanism for ensuring access to justice for marginalized sections of society.

Dr. Ajay B. Sonawane, in his address, emphasized the *innovations* introduced in legal aid mechanisms, including the use of technology, digital platforms, and community outreach models to ensure broader access to justice. He discussed how new crimes, especially against vulnerable groups like women and children, require innovative approaches to legal awareness and aid. His deliberation encouraged students to adopt modern tools and methods to connect with society effectively.

Following this, Dr. Anjay Kumar Sharma engaged the audience with a critical discussion on the *challenges* faced in the legal aid system, such as lack of awareness, resource constraints, and societal barriers. He highlighted the *role of law students* as change agents who can bridge the gap between law and society through clinical legal education, para-legal volunteerism, and active participation in legal aid clinics. His presentation inspired students to see themselves as key contributors to the justice delivery system.

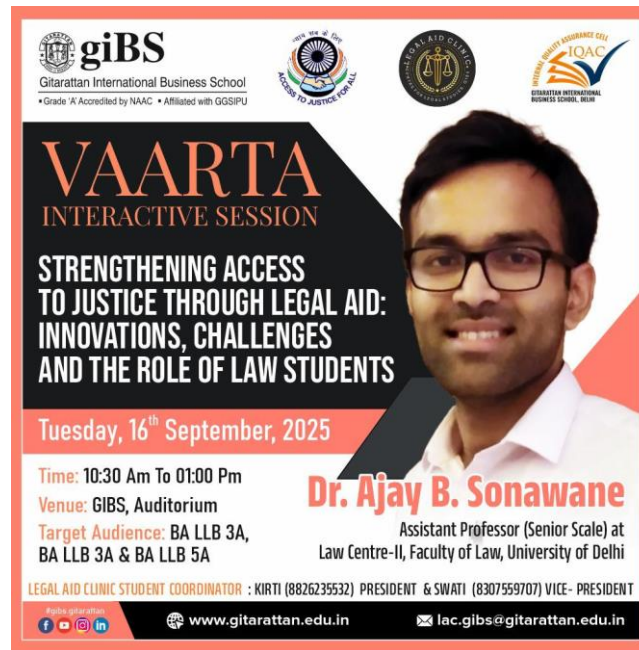
The session was highly interactive, with students posing queries on practical issues related to free legal aid, barriers to justice, and the responsibilities of budding legal professionals. The responses of

the speakers were rich with examples and guidance, enabling students to gain clarity on the scope of their role beyond classrooms.

The event successfully created an atmosphere of experiential learning, equipping students with an understanding of how legal aid strengthens democracy by ensuring inclusivity in justice. It also reaffirmed the commitment of Gitarattan International Business School’s Legal Aid Clinic towards sensitizing students and fostering a culture of service to society through legal education.

On behalf of the Institute, a formal vote of thanks was extended to the resource persons for their gracious presence and invaluable contribution. The programme concluded with a collective resolve among students to actively participate in legal aid activities and to uphold the ideals of justice and equality.

FLYER OF THE EVENT



TYPE OF EVENT	Co-Curricular
VENUE	Auditorium, GIBS

TIME & DURATION	10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
CONDUCTED BY	Legal Aid Clinic-GIBS
ORGANISED FOR	Integrated BA (Hons.) LLB Students 3A and 5A
NAME OF THE COORDINATOR	Dr. Sonia Rajoria, Legal Aid Clinic Coordinator & Assistant Professor, Center for Legal Studies
ATTENDANCE	200 Students
RESOURCEPERSON	Dr. Ajay B. Sonawane , Assistant Professor (Senior Scale) in Law Centre-II, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, and his colleague Dr. Anjay Kumar Sharma , Sr. Assistant Professor (Selection Grade), Faculty of Law, University of Delhi.
OBJECTIVES OF THE EVENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To sensitize students on the significance of legal aid in ensuring access to justice. • To deliberate on the innovations, challenges, and evolving mechanisms in legal aid delivery. • To highlight the role of law students as vital contributors to legal aid initiatives. • To inspire active student participation in clinical legal education and community outreach.
LEARNING OUTCOMES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students understood the contemporary challenges and innovations in legal aid delivery. • Participants realized the importance of their role in bridging the gap between legal education and social service. • The session encouraged critical thinking, community sensitivity, and experiential learning among students.
SHORTFALL DURING EVENT	None

LINK OF ONLINE VIDEO	https://youtu.be/T8vmaOYdyB8
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PREPARED & SUBMITTED BY: DR. SONIA RAJORIA, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, CLS-GIBS