



3RD NLUJ-LAAC STAKEHOLDERS' SUMMIT, 2026

*Strengthening Clinical Legal
Education through Legal Aid Cells*

by Legal Aid and Awareness Committee,
National Law University, Jodhpur

October 10 – 11, 2026



ABOUT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, JODHPUR

National Law University-Jodhpur (NLUJ) is one of India's leading law schools situated in the vibrant and colourful city of Jodhpur, Rajasthan. Since its establishment in 1999, NLUJ has endeavoured to produce exceptional lawyers and legal scholars who aim to push and challenge the existing boundaries of knowledge.

NLUJ is known for its rigorous academic curriculum and its commitment to providing students with a comprehensive education in the field of law. The faculty consists of experienced and well-respected legal scholars, and the university is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and resources to support student learning and research. In addition to its academic programs, NLUJ is also known for its strong commitment to social justice and human rights, and for its focus on practical skills training. The university provides students with numerous opportunities for internships, clinical programs, and other hands-on experiences that help to prepare them for careers in the legal field.



ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

The Legal Aid and Awareness Committee (LAAC), under the aegis of National Law University, Jodhpur, works to ensure justice for all and underscores that no one should be left behind in this quest for justice. The Committee is dedicated to promoting legal awareness and providing free legal assistance to disadvantaged sections of society, striving to build a more inclusive, equal, and just society.



Through its flagship projects, including Project PRISM, Project Saahas, Smart Village, Project Unnati, Project CARE and many more, the committee addresses diverse socio-legal challenges through sustained community engagement and grassroots interventions.

Through these initiatives, the committee remains committed to advancing access to justice, strengthening civic participation, and contributing towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.



ABOUT THE STAKEHOLDERS' SUMMIT

The Stakeholders' Summit is one of the flagship initiatives of the Legal Aid and Awareness Committee, National Law University, Jodhpur. Conceived as a platform for meaningful engagement between academia, policymakers, legal practitioners, civil society organisations, and students, the Summit seeks to facilitate informed discussions on pressing issues of rights, justice, and social welfare. Through a combination of panel discussions, policy dialogues, and capacity-building workshops, the initiative aims to bridge the gap between legal scholarship and grassroots realities while encouraging collaborative and solution-oriented approaches to contemporary social challenges.



Since its inception, the Committee has successfully organised two editions of the Summit, each centred on a significant issue affecting vulnerable and marginalised communities.

The *inaugural edition*, held in October 2024, marked ten years of NALSA v. Union of India (2014) with a workshop for para-legal volunteers and police personnel, followed by a panel discussion on transgender rights, law, and social justice.

The *second edition*, organised in 2025 with the Azim Premji Foundation, commemorated ten years of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, through a policy dialogue on probation and rehabilitation, a capacity-building workshop, and a discussion of a student-prepared policy proposal.

The Summit also provided a platform for presenting and discussing a policy proposal prepared by Committee members, thereby connecting student-led research with expert perspectives and practical policy considerations.

The Stakeholders' Summit has benefited from collaborations with institutions and organisations committed to advancing social justice and public welfare. Most notably, the second edition was organised in partnership with the Azim Premji Foundation, whose support contributed to strengthening the Summit's engagement with policy and practice in the field of juvenile justice. Through such collaborations, the Committee continues to expand the Summit's impact and foster multidisciplinary dialogue on issues of public importance.



ABOUT THE 3RD STAKEHOLDERS' SUMMIT, 2026

🎯 Why this summit?

India is ranked **86th of 143** countries on the Rule of Law Index, and a single legal aid clinic still has to cover **163 villages** on average. The law exists on paper, but it often fails to reach the people who need it most. Clinical Legal Education offers a practical way to close that distance.

LAAC has spent the last decade working towards this goal. The 3rd Stakeholders' Summit is an opportunity to look back on what has worked, identify what has not, and shape what legal aid cells should look like in the years ahead.

Academia, policymakers, practitioners and students will come together with a shared purpose. In India, that means giving real meaning to Article 39A. Globally, it means moving closer to SDG 16's promise of justice for all.

📈 Impact at a glance



120 crore

People eligible for free legal aid in India



Only 5%

Of eligible beneficiaries reached in 30 years



Rs. 6

Per capita legal aid expenditure per year



Rank

86/143

India's place on the Rule of Law Index



10 years of LAAC

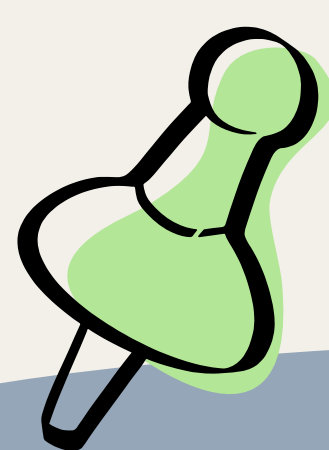
Marked this year by the 3rd Stakeholders' Summit

Although law school clinics, institutionalised under the NALSA Legal Services Clinics Scheme, 2013, have significant potential to bridge this gap, the Supreme Court's 2024 report on Legal Aid Through Law Schools identified persistent challenges, including weak community outreach, language barriers, trust deficits, inadequate infrastructure, and limited access to trained lawyers.

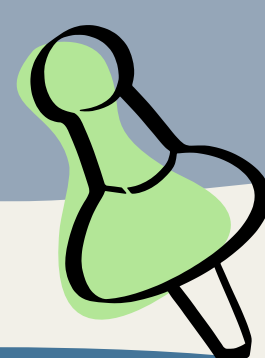
LAAC has thus decided to invite key stakeholders to take stock of the progress made in and challenges on the road towards providing access to free and quality legal aid via the medium of legal aid cells. The Summit seeks to conduct various types of events, as detailed further, that will invite discussions on the theme through an empirical and doctrinal approach.



Collaborators for Summit



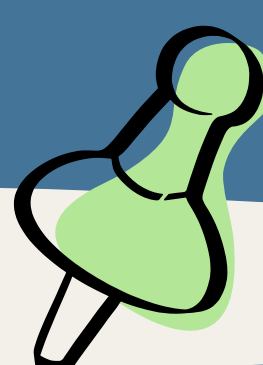
UNICEF



Margins to Access Project



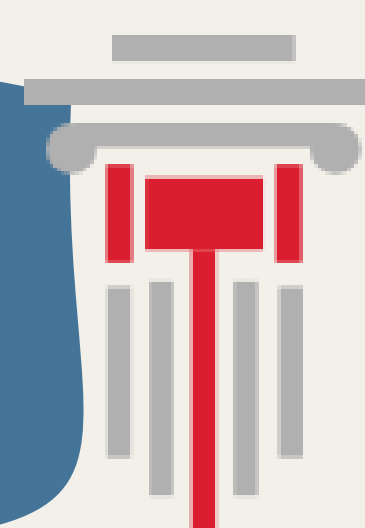
Centre for
**Social
Justice**



Centre for Social Justice



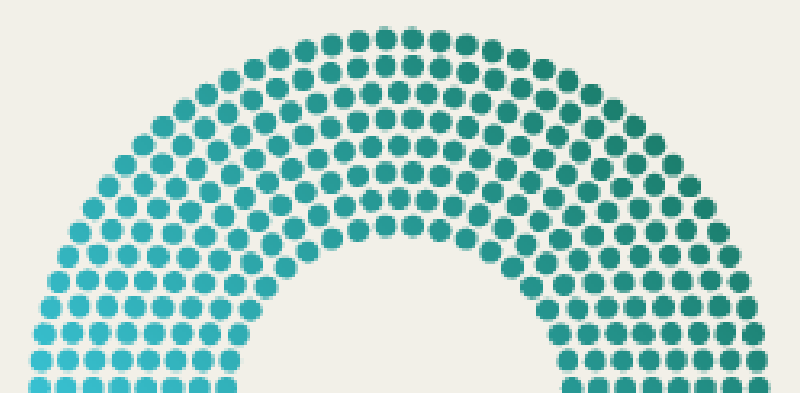
India Justice Report



**India
Justice
Report**



Nyaaya

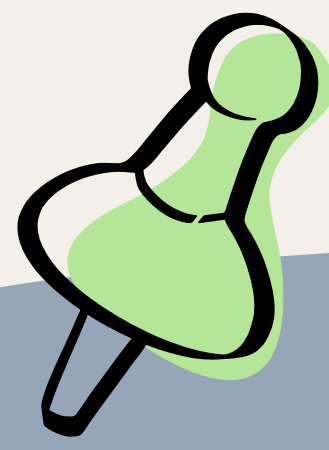


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Collaborators for Summit



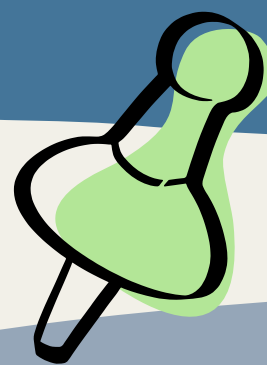
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IDEAS
THAT SERVE
JUSTICE

Agami



Outlawed India

Out
Lawed
INDIA



Awaaz Leadership Labs

AWAAZ
LEADERSHIP LABS



NATIONAL LEGAL AID INNOVATION COMPETITION

Stage 1 Proposal Submission

Submit an online proposal comprising:

- Concept Note: Identify the access-to-justice gap from the recommended themes, explain the adopted research methodology, and provide the basis for identifying the gap (including any secondary research or prior work undertaken by the Legal Aid Clinic). Outline the objectives, implementation plan, feasibility analysis, beneficiaries, timeline, resources, partnerships, and roles of stakeholders.
- Video Presentation (Maximum 2 minutes): Briefly present the identified issue, the proposed intervention, its necessity, and its feasibility.



NATIONAL LEGAL AID INNOVATION COMPETITION

Screening & Shortlisting

- Proposals will be screened by an Expert Independent External Committee.
- Evaluation will be based on the identified access-to-justice gap, the quality of the Concept Note (including research methodology and feasibility analysis), and the Video Presentation.
- The decision of the Committee shall be final and binding.

Stage 2 Report Submission

- Teams qualifying in Stage I shall submit a comprehensive report on the identified access-to-justice gap, incorporating empirical findings, doctrinal legal analysis, relevant secondary literature, and primary research (including field data, surveys, and interviews) to substantiate the identified gap and the proposed intervention, along with recommendations. The report shall comply with the prescribed format, word limit, and submission timeline.
- During the Stakeholders' Summit, shortlisted teams shall present their reports and proposed intervention before an Expert Evaluation Panel and key stakeholders.



THEMES

1



Role of Legal Aid Clinics in Connecting Victims to the Criminal Justice System through DLSA and Other Institutions

2



Role of Legal Aid Clinics in Assisting Juveniles as Children in Conflict with Law or as Victims

3



Role of Legal Aid Clinics in Providing Gender-Inclusive Legal Aid

4



Role of Legal Aid Clinics in Bridging the Digital Divide to Ensure Access to Justice

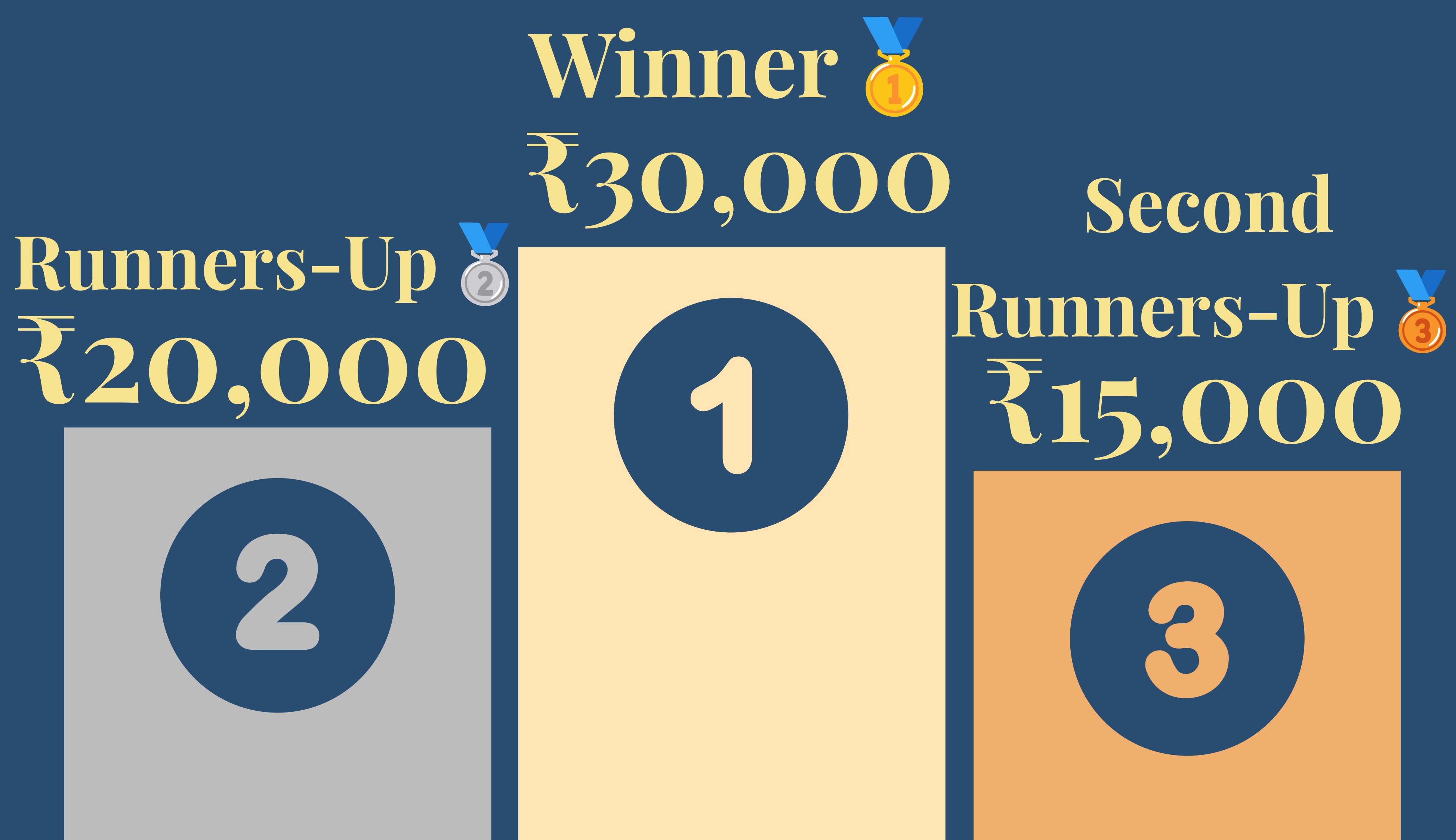
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Role of Legal Aid Clinics in Data Governance

AWARDS, RECOGNITION & OPPORTUNITIES

Prize Money to Winning Teams



Certificate



Certificate of Participation for Teams that:

- **Submit the Final Report;**
- **Present before the Evaluation Panel;**
- and
- **Attend all three Summit sessions.**

Certificates of Merit for the Winning Teams.

AWARDS, RECOGNITION & OPPORTUNITIES

1



Internship Opportunities with Select Collaborators for the Winning Teams (subject to the Rules & SOP of the Competition)

2



Publication of Outstanding Reports & Videos on the Website of the Legal Aid & Awareness Committee

3



Mentorship from Experts to further develop and scale innovative legal aid projects.

4



Opportunity to attend the 3rd Stakeholders' Summit with Capacity-Building & Networking Sessions

5



A chance to be a part of a national conversation on legal aid through law schools

ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

Eligibility

- Open to students of UGC & BCI-recognised law schools.
- Registration only through the Participating Institution's Legal Aid Clinic.
- One Team per Institution.
- Team size: 3–5 undergraduate law students.
- Each Team must be accompanied by 1 Faculty Coordinator.
- Team members must belong to the same Participating Institution and be authorised as its sole representatives.

Fee Structure

Stage	Particulars	Amount (INR)	Payable By
I	Competition Application	₹ 1,500/- per Team	All registering Teams, at the time of registration
II	Summit Accommodation, Boarding, Food and Internal Travel Arrangements (3 days)	₹ 4,500/- per Team	Teams shortlisted for the report submission round, upon confirmation of qualification
	Faculty Coordinator Registration	₹ 2,500/- per Faculty Coordinator	Faculty Coordinator accompanying a qualified Team, upon confirmation of qualification

Note: Stage II fees are payable only upon qualification for the Report Submission Round.

REGISTRATION



How to Register?

Interested institutions must complete the registration by filling out the Google Form available at:

[Click here to register](#)

Registration Deadline

August 20, 2026

Important Note

Registration will be considered complete only upon:

- Successful payment of the registration fee; and
- Submission of the duly filled registration form.

Payment Details

[Click here to pay](#).

Confirmation of Registration

Upon successful verification of the registration form and payment, the Organizing Committee will send a confirmation email, which shall serve as the official confirmation of the team's registration.

TIMELINE

of the event



Schedule

DAY 1 : OCTOBER 9, 2026

Boarding, Lodging, and Registration of
Guests and Participants

DAY 2 : OCTOBER 10, 2026

9:00 am – 10:00 am	Registrations and Opening Ceremony
10:00 am – 1:00 pm	Capacity-Building Sessions on Child-Friendly Legal Aid
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Lunch Break

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Panel Discussion on Juvenile Justice & Trends in Legal Aid
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm	High Tea
5:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Segment 1 of Presentation of Empirical Reports by Participating Universities
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Networking Dinner

DAY 3 : OCTOBER 11, 2026

9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Segment 2 of Presentation of Empirical Reports by Participating Universities
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Capacity Building Workshops on Legal Aid
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Lunch Break
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Panel Discussion on Clinical Legal Education
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Closing Ceremony and Award Distribution
6:00 pm onwards	High Tea and Dispersal

CONTACT DETAILS



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nlujlaac.in



[@laac_nluj](https://www.instagram.com/laac_nluj)



[@AidCommittee](https://twitter.com/AidCommittee)



[@legalaidandawarenesscommit4353](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)



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