



ILS LAW COLLEGE PUNE

(Established 1924)

Chiplunkar Road (Law College Road), Pune 411004, India

“Remembering S P Sathe” Professor S P Sathe 20th National Consultation on

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN INDIA: STRENGTHENING LEGAL AID CENTERS THROUGH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND LEGAL REFORM

JANUARY 10-11, 2026



PROPOSALS FOR BEST PRACTICES AND INNOVATIONS IN LEGAL AID IN LAW SCHOOLS IN INDIA

ABOUT US

THE INDIAN LAW SOCIETY



The Indian Law Society was established in the year 1923 with an aim of advancing legal education in pre-independent India. In 1924, with this profound vision, the Indian Law Society formally established the Law College, Poona—now known as ILS Law College, Pune—with a focused agenda to provide socially relevant and professionally rigorous legal education grounded in scientific principles. This initiative, widely regarded as ‘Justice Education,’ was designed not only to impart comprehensive legal knowledge but also to inculcate a commitment to social justice and ethical practice among future legal professionals.

101 years since its establishment, the Law College has acquired the reputation of being a premier institution imparting quality legal education. The College is accredited with ‘A’ grade by NAAC and is persistently ranked amongst top 10 law schools in the country. Since its inception, ILS Law College has produced some of the most highly regarded contributors in the field of law.

SISTER INSTITUTIONS



INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

The Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (IALS) was established in 1991 to spread comprehensive knowledge of various relevant laws amongst the general public. Professor S. P. Sathe, former Principal of the ILS College, was the Founder-Director of the Institute. The Institute aims to promote research in law and to generate awareness through various courses designed for lay persons on different laws.

CENTRE FOR MENTAL HEALTH LAW AND POLICY

Founded in 2007, the Centre for Mental Health Law & Policy (CMHLP) aims to strengthen and transform the mental health of communities and to be holistic and responsive in addressing individual and collective well-being.

CMHLP primarily focuses on policy change, implementation, research, and capacity-building. It has provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in drafting India's Mental Health Care Act 2017. Atmiyata by CMHLP, an innovative, evidence-based, high impact, community-led model to reduce the mental health and social care gap in rural communities, has been listed as one of the 25 good practices for community outreach mental health services around the world by the World Health Organization.

ILS CENTRE FOR TRAINING FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE

Founded on 7th July 2022, the Centre for Training for Good Governance was inaugurated at the hands of Hon'ble Justice Mr. Abhay Oka, Judge, Supreme Court of India. The aim of this Centre is to train government officers, semi-government officers, NGOs, and other stakeholders who are implementing the relevant laws and procedures.

ILS CENTRE FOR ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION

The ILS Centre for Arbitration (ILSCA) was established on 3rd December 2016 with the sole purpose of providing facilities for settlement of disputes through arbitration and mediation. ILS envisaged ILSCA as a trustworthy, independent, efficient, and transparent arbitration centre, wherein the disputant parties could resolve disputes by taking recourse to various methods like ad-hoc arbitration, institutional arbitration, and international and domestic commercial arbitration.

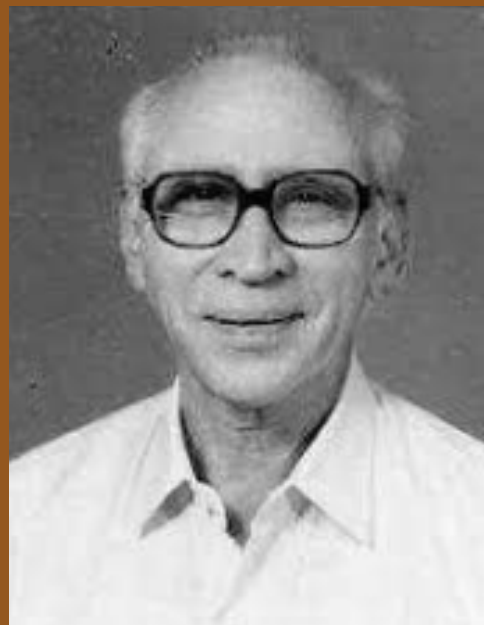
CENTRE FOR HEALTH EQUITY, LAW & POLICY

Established in 2019, the Centre for Health Equity, Law & Policy (C-HELP) uses the law as a tool for health transformation, embedding its work in the right to health as envisaged within India's constitutional framework and her international commitments. It advocates for equity and justice in health through generation, sharing, and use of knowledge that informs related law and policy.

REMEMBERING PROFESSOR S. P. SATHE



Professor Satyaranjan Purushottam Sathe was a distinguished legal luminary and a renowned academician in India. He held various positions in universities and law institutes of repute. Professor S. P. Sathe had a long association with the Indian Law Society. He was the Principal of ILS Law College from 1976 to 1991. He was also the Secretary of the Indian Law Society until 2002. He was the Founder-Director of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. He was also the President of the Maharashtra People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL), and a Vice President of the National PUCL.



He is an acknowledged authority on Constitutional and Administrative Law, within the country and abroad. His work on 'Judicial Activism' is appreciated worldwide. More than 100 articles written by him were published in national and international legal periodicals, magazines, and journals. Books to his credit are, 'Administrative Law,' 'Judicial Activism in India: Transgressing Borders and Enforcing Limits,' and 'Right to Know.' He has also written extensively in Marathi, and has made significant contributions to the Marathi Vishwakosh published by the Government of Maharashtra.

He was invited to deliver lectures, and to participate in seminars as a resource person to different law universities and institutions, within and outside India. Known for his humility, Professor Sathe endeared himself to his colleagues and students alike. His commitment to rights and liberties of the people was deep and abiding.

ABOUT THE ‘REMEMBERING S. P. SATHE’ EVENT



Every year, ILS Law College organises its flagship event “Remembering S P Sathe” held in the memory of Professor Dr. Satyaranjan Purushottam Sathe. Professor Dr. Satyaranjan Purushottam Sathe was a distinguished legal luminary and a renowned academician in the judicial universe of India. He held various positions in Universities and Law Institutes of repute. Professor S.P. Sathe had a long association with the Indian Law Society. He was the Principal of ILS Law College from 1976 to 1991. He was also the Secretary of the Indian Law Society until 2002. He was the Founder Director of the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. He was also the President of the Maharashtra People’s Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL), and a Vice President of the National PUCL

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Professor S. P. Sathe was a pioneer in the establishment of ILS Legal Aid Centre in 1976. The Legal Aid Centre was conceived with dual objectives: to provide free legal assistance to marginalized and economically disadvantaged sections of society, and to impart practical, community-centric legal training to law students through clinical legal education. Over the course of five decades, the Centre has progressively expanded its scope and outreach, demonstrating unwavering commitment to advancing access to justice and legal empowerment.

For nearly five decades, the Legal Aid Centre at ILS has diligently upheld the principles and ethical mandates enshrined in the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, and the Advocates Act, 1961. Its multifaceted activities embody a steadfast commitment to the promotion of pro bono legal services and the advancement of access to justice for vulnerable populations. As we commemorate the Golden Jubilee of the Legal Aid Centre this year, ILS Law College reaffirms its unwavering commitment to socially relevant and community-responsive legal education.



ABOUT THE THEME



Thus, to celebrate the golden jubilee of the ILS Legal Aid Centre and as a humble tribute to our beloved Principal Prof. S. P. Sathe, this year's Remembering S. P. Sathe event is centered on the theme of "Clinical Legal Education and Access to Justice in India".

As a part of this event, we are holding a National Consultation "Clinical Legal Education and Access to Justice in India: Strengthening Legal Aid Centres Through Community Engagement and Legal Reform" on 10-11 January 2026. Through this Consultation we intend to provide a platform facilitating dialogue among academia, legal professionals, legal aid authorities, community representatives, and other key stakeholders to collaboratively strengthen legal aid services. The discussions and deliberations during this Consultation will assist in developing innovative community engagement strategies.

Through this Consultation we wish to present to the participants successful strategies and innovative approaches adopted by legal aid centres across India. Presentations by law colleges implementing the mandate of running legal aid centres with full zeal and commitment will provide an opportunity to the participants to learn and integrate such successful strategies within their institutions.

Invitation for Proposals

We, therefore, invite your institution to submit a detailed proposal mentioning the activities carried on by the legal aid centre of your institution.

The assessment of the proposals will be carried out on the basis of following assessment criteria:

Sr. No.	Particulars	Weightage in Percentage (out of 100)
1	Number of Activities conducted	10
2	Continuity in the conduct of the	10
3	Nature of involvement of	20
4	Collaborations	10
5	Innovation and Creativity	10
6	Overall impact towards enhancing access to justice	20
7	Overall outcome on student sensitisation and development	20

Continued.....



Your proposals will be evaluated by a panel of experts. Based on the outcome of this evaluation, selected institutions will be invited to present the activities of their Legal Aid Centres at the Consultation. The presentations are scheduled to be held on 10-11 January 2026. A detailed schedule will be communicated to you upon selection. The proposal shall contain the detailed report of the Activities carried out by the Centre/Clinic in the last three academic years i.e. 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25.

You can also mention extraordinary achievements of your centre in the past 10 years in a separate one page document.

Proposal shall be submitted via google form available at

<https://forms.gle/3T7jfzJmAo8Qe4TP6>

Please Note

- There is no registration fee for sending the proposal.
- Additionally, the travel and accommodation of two persons (one faculty and one student) from selected proposals shall be covered by the organisers.
- We request you to participate in this initiative by submitting your proposal by 5th December 2025.

In case on any queries, feel free to contact:

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(spsatheconference@ilslaw.in)

FACULTY COORDINATORS

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