

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021**



**JESUIT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY  
NEW DELHI**

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10 Institutional Area  
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## FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK



The Jesuit Research and Development Society was founded on 22 March 2006 to assist, promote, channelize, undertake charitable, social and humanitarian work, irrespective of caste, community, religion and economic status, solely for philanthropic purposes. Since its inception, the Society has been engaged in research and research related activities as well as supporting Government and Non-Governmental organisations in their efforts to promote the socio-economic development of marginalised communities, in particular, the Dalits, Tribals, Minorities and other weaker sections of society. JRDS has been responding to the challenges faced by marginalised sections of society in the country for the last 15 years by engaging in relevant training, publication and advocacy through collaboration and networking with a large number of social activists, people's movements, human rights groups, civil society organizations and ecological movements throughout India and the world.

This also involves conducting, organizing, supporting and participating in conferences, seminars, workshops, meetings, trainings etc. The Society supports and engages in charitable activities for educational purposes and socio-economic development of marginalised communities. This includes providing grants, scholarships, concessions, incentives, subsidies, etc. Finally, in order to fulfil the aims and objectives of the association, the Society networks and collaborates with like-minded academicians, professional groups, associations, non-governmental and governmental organizations and international organizations.

The academic year 2020-21 has been a difficult year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdowns imposed by the Central and State governments to contain the spread of corona virus. In spite of these challenges, the Society had some engagements for the empowerment of Dalits, Tribals, women, and other marginalised

sections of society. The strategy has been to engage in conducting quality training and seminars. In order to amplify the impact of our engagements, we have been networking and collaborating with a number of national and international agencies.

JRDS collaborates with nearly 100 organisations in the project “Lok Manch: Development and Access to Entitlements of the Marginalised “ to reach out to nearly 300,000 households in 13 States in India. This year, as many as 59,389 households were supported in getting their individual entitlements and 195,322 households benefitted from community entitlements. In order to train community leaders to assist communities assess their entitlements, 12 workshops were conducted during the year.

JRDS successfully completed the second phase of the project on providing consultancy support for NGOs in India titled “Animating NGOs through Capacity Building and Professional Support Programme” in order to supplement Government efforts at poverty alleviation.

The Society has been providing legal aid and assistance to the marginalised sections of society. It has been providing legal assistance and training to social and developmental organisations and legal practitioners in different parts of India.

JRDS remains a beacon of hope to marginalised communities suffering from socio-economic inequalities and growing religious fundamentalism by the services rendered in terms of training, legal services and programmes. It hopes to contribute positively to the national and global effort to build a world that is sustainable and equitable in collaboration with civil society, people’s movements worldwide.

**Paul D’Souza, S.J.**

Secretary

Jesuit Research and Development Society

## LEGAL AWARENESS AND TRAINING

### A. Legal Awareness Training



The Centre for Human Rights and Law (CHRL) continued to provide legal assistance and legal trainings to various social communities like the NGOs, social activists, legal practitioners, women, and children who are deprived of their basic rights and discriminated in multiple ways.

This year, despite of the Covid-19 pandemic, CHRL participated in various online webinars, seminars and workshops on various themes and issues. The CHRL also disseminated legal awareness and legal assistance through offline as well as online mode on the protection against sexual harassment at work place, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, family issues relating to return of Streedhan, counselling on Minority Rights, New Education Policy, Trust & Society, also gave legal assistance to the families and community representatives of a rape and murder case of minor girls from Northeast and Andhra Pradesh and assisted the Northeast youth, who were cheated by the investment company to seek justice. CHRL also imparted online legal counselling and legal advice in matters relating to matrimonial issues, sexual abuse, salary to be paid to the workers during lockdown and allegation of conversion against a minority institution and school fee issues. Senior Citizens and elderly were assisted and advised for legal action, in coordination with the police.

Absence of legal awareness is the root cause of deception, exploitation and deprivation of the rights and benefits of the poor people of our country. Awareness about ones rights and the means of securing them are the powerful instruments to bring social transformation and economic progress. Legal awareness programme is the empowerment of individuals regarding the various legal issues. It enables people to demand justice and to understand or anticipate legal troubles and take the required and necessary steps in order to prevent their occurrence. Our Constitution enshrines fundamental rights in Part III which becomes illusory rights for those who cannot understand and are not aware of these rights. Equality in law requires equal access to law for this noble principle to translate into reality. A person's ability to assert his political rights is not balanced by an ability to secure his legal rights; hence this makes it necessary to all of us to increase the legal literacy rate. The Indian Social Institute believes that democracy has no meaning for the citizen unless one is aware about his legal rights.

## B. LEGAL AID



*“The concept of seeking justice cannot be equated with the value of dollars. Money plays no role in seeking justice.”* Justice Blackmun. Until and unless the poor is not legally assisted, they are denied of their equality before law and opportunity to access justice. As a step towards making the legal service accessible to the poor, the Centre for Human Rights

and Law (CHRL) is mandated to give legal aid and support to the deprived who lack ways and means to seek justice. Providing legal aid basically strives to ensure the constitutional pledge to equal access justice made available to the poor, downtrodden and weaker sections of the society.

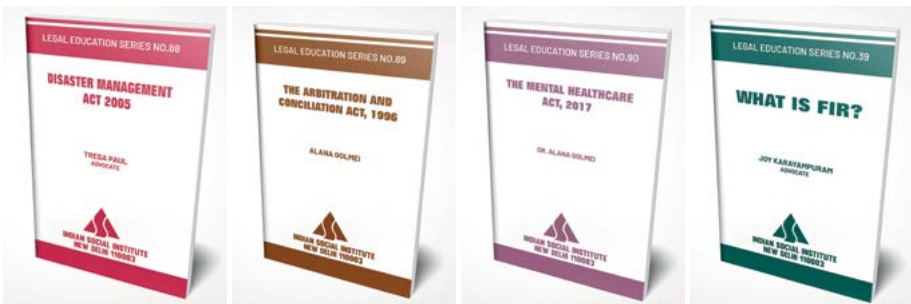
CHRL is actively engaged in giving legal aid and creating legal awareness, by spreading legal literacy through legal awareness seminars and webinars, trainings, publications, consultations and



legal assistance to the poor, weaker sections and minority groups in the society in matters relating to civil or criminal nature, marriage, family, property, Dalit, consumers, labours etc. Besides legal counselling and consultation to the individuals and organization, the legal assistance cell undertakes necessary steps by way of social action litigation with regards to any matter of special concern to the weaker sections of the society. As the operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity, we join hands to make sure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disability.

## C. LEGAL EDUCATION SERIES

### i. New Booklets



The Disaster  
Management Act 2005  
(LES - 88)

The Arbitration and  
Conciliation Act 1996  
(LES - 89)

The Mental Health  
Act 2017  
(LES - 90)

What is FIR?  
(LES - 39)

### ii. Revised Booklets

1. The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005 (LES: 24)
2. Criminal Procedure (LES-19)
3. The Right to Information Act (LES-74)
4. The Law Related to Human Trafficking (LES: 28)
5. Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2013 (LES-81)
6. Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972 and Rules (LLS-4)

7. Your Right to Compensation in Motor Vehicle Accidents (LES-7)
8. Rights of Wife, Children and Parents (LES-3)
9. Your Rights if Arrested (LES-2)
10. How Should Police Investigate Crimes (LES-68)
11. Educational Rights of Minorities (LES - 77)
12. The Employee's Compensation Act 1923 (LLS-14)
13. The Free Legal Aid to the Poor (LES-10)
14. The Specific Relief Act, 1963 (LES-91)
15. What Criminal Actions are Exempted from Punishment? (LES - 52)
16. The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act 2012 (LES - 86)
17. Family Courts (PLS-02)
18. Special Marriage Act (PLS-04)
19. The Law on Atrocities against Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes (LES-33)
20. Laws related to Land Acquisition (LES-61)
21. The Transfer of Property Act (LES-57)

### **iii. LES Booklets translated into Hindi**

1. The Bonus Act 1965 and Rules, (LLS No. 10)
2. Your Rights If Arrested (LES-02)
3. The Right to Information Act (LES-74)
4. Rights of Consumers (LES-29)
5. The Juvenile Justice Act (LES-64)
6. The National Food Security Act, 2013 (LES-84)
7. The Forest Rights Act, 2006 (LES-87)
8. Employees Provident Fund (LLS-13)

## D. LEGAL NEWS AND VIEWS



'Legal News & Views' (LNV) – monthly publication of legal news magazine – stepped into its 34th year of its publication. JRDS has been providing editorial assistance for Legal News and Views. Wide range of subscribers from universities, law colleges, advocates and also people from non-legal departments look forward for its publication. The minimum subscription rates – for a year is Rs.350/-, Rs.690/- for two years, Rs.8,000/- for a life membership and Rs.30/- for a single copy – enables to all affordable.

Despite of the Covid-19 pandemic, LNV was published not only in time during the year 2020-2021 but also focused on relevant themes. The change in the page lay-out and design gave an attractive look to the LNV. The 12 issues from April 2020 to March 2021 emphasized the misery of Covid-19 pandemic, affecting the world in general and the country in particular, closely highlighting the untold stories of the vulnerable, the underprivileged, the daily wage earners, the migrant workers and the students.

Interview section carried heartwarming conversations with prominent personalities like Justice (Rtd) Kurien Joseph, Mr. Robin Hibu – First Arunachal IPS Officer, Dr. Benny Prasad – a self-made musician & instrumental guitarist, Ms. Kamla Bhasin – a well known feminist activist, poet & author, Dr. Alana Golmei – a social activist & Lawyer and Ms. Kavita Kuruganti – a social activist. The column on "Making of the Constitution" by Dr. M. P. Raju, Advocate in Supreme Court continued to inspire many readers on the origin and spirit of the Constitution of India.

# PROJECTS

## A. LOK MANCH: Development and Access to Entitlements of the Marginalised in India - Phase II



The second phase of the project “Lok Manch: Development and Access to Entitlements of the Marginalised in India” began on 1st November, 2018. The details of the project are as follows:

### i. Goal

Marginalised groups receive the full state social benefits to which they are entitled and local, state and national level government institutions become more inclusive and democratic.

### ii. Objectives

The specific objectives of this project are:

#### Objective No.1:

The access to social security benefits has improved significantly for the marginalized groups in the targeted communities and

human rights, as they are enshrined as fundamental rights in the Constitution of India, are more respected.

### **Objective No.2:**

At least 90 local society organisations in 12 states, together with communities and community leaders, are successfully advocating on district and state level for better access to social security benefits and the protection and promotion of people’s rights over land and food.

### **Objective No.3:**

The Lok Manch network is strengthened and Lok Manch partner organisations have successfully promoted collaborating among civil society organisations at national level for policy dialogue and campaigning.

### **iii. Summary of Access to some Entitlement Cards**

<b>SN</b>	<b>Individual Entitlements</b>	<b>HHs benefitted (April 2020 - March 2021)</b>
1	Ayushman Bharat Yojana Golden Card (Health Insurance)	4243
2	Below Poverty Line (BPL) cards	90
3	Compensation for accident	1
4	Compensation for natural calamities	74
5	Construction Workers’ Cards	79
6	Cyclone Compensation	59
7	Disability Pension	113
8	Farmers’ Cards	310
9	Health Cards	503
10	Jai Johar Pension	652
11	Job Cards (MGNREGA Card)	6579

SN	Individual Entitlements	HHs benefitted (April 2020 - March 2021)
12	Job under MGNREGA Scheme (Employment days)	6117
13	Kabir Anteyeshti Anudan Yojana (funeral rituals)	15
14	Kanya Vivah Yojana (daughter marriage assistance scheme)	29
15	Labours' Cards	896
16	Land titles	564
17	Maternity Benefits (different schemes- Maa cards, Janani Suraksha Yojana, Matru Vandana Yojana)	736
18	Old Age Pension	2794
19	PAN Cards	967
20	Pradhan Mantri Awas yojana/ Indira Awas Yojana (Rural Housing scheme)	2789
21	Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana	5800
22	Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana	7214
23	Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana	7612
24	Ujjwala Gas Scheme	3688
25	Voter ID Cards (New)	4763
26	Widow Certificate	825
27	Widow Pension	1877
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>59,389</b>

#### iv. Summary of Community Entitlements Accessed:

S N	Community Entitlements	Households benefitted (April 2020 - March 2021)
1	Anganwadi (New) Centre	495
2	Bore well (New/Repair)	3626
3	Bridge	1793
4	Canal construction	1180
5	CCTV Cameras in urban slum	4000
6	Check dam	1117
7	Community bathing room	55
8	Community Forest Land Titles (Patta)	3510
9	Community grainery/ stack-yard	30
10	Community hall	1536
11	Community kitchen	100
12	Community stage (square)	730
13	Community toilet	3846
14	Cremation ground	60
15	Demand for the ration shop in urban slum (public distribution system)	3000
16	Demand for ASHA WORKER for the area	500
17	Drainage & Street cleaning	20140
18	Drainage Construction/repair (urban)	9800
19	Drainage Construction (rural area)	3655

S N	Community Entitlements	Households benefitted (April 2020 - March 2021)
20	Drinking water supply	11627
21	Electrification	1105
22	Farm bunding	60
23	Garbage collection vehicle (urban)	3000
24	Gothan (animal shed)	1625
25	Gutter line/cleaning	43
26	Hand Pump (New)	597
27	Hand Pump (Repaired)	1410
28	Land levelling	662
29	Loose boulder bund	7
30	Market complex	4600
31	Park cleaning	5000
32	Park construction	3000
33	Piggery/Dairy	12
34	Pitch/tar road	120
35	Play ground	570
36	Pond	4210
37	Pond (smaller in size - dobha)	213
38	Public distribution system (PDS Shop)	997
39	Road (Concrete road)	40900
40	Road (Mud)	3818
41	RTI on Forest land	1200
42	Sanitization of area to pre- vent Corona, mask distribu- tion (urban slum)	8650



S N	Community Entitlements	Households benefitted (April 2020 - March 2021)
43	School boundary	670
44	sewer line construction	6000
45	sewer line (cleaning)	2400
46	Soak pit	906
47	Solar plate for irrigation facility	210
48	Solar pump	200
49	Solar water pump	25
50	staggered trenches	1020
51	Storage of rain water	182
52	Street Road	300
53	Street solar light	2777
54	Street light (electricity)	5900
55	Swajal Yojana/Water pipe line	1464
56	Transformer repair	8
57	Tree plantation (horticulture) in the hamlets	3100
58	Trenches for water harvesting	448
59	Tube Well	2172
60	Waiting room	450
61	Water tank construction/connected with solar power	5185
62	Well for drinking water	1196
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>195,322</b>

## v. Workshops Conducted

SN	States	Dates for the workshop	Place of the state workshop
1	Delhi and Uttarakhand	11 - 13 Dec 2020	V-CARE
2	Jharkhand	13-16 Dec. 2020	Bagaicha, Ranchi
3	Odisha	14-15 Dec. 2020	Odisha Citizenship Initiative
4	Karnataka	15-19 Dec. 2020	Ashirvad
5	Kerala	18-20 Dec. 2020	TUDI, Wayanad, Kerala
6	Maharashtra	21-Dec-20	Asha Kiran, Goregaon
7	Gujarat	21 Dec. 2020	Pastoral Centre, Nadiad
8	Tamil Nadu	7-8 Jan. 2021	AHAL Centre
9	Chhattisgarh	19-20 Jan 2021	Jivan Vikas Maitri
10	Bihar	21-23 Jan.2021	BDVS
11	Darjeeling (West Bengal)	4-7 Feb.2021	Prabhu Jisu Residence
12	Uttar Pradesh	13-14 Feb.2021	Vidya Dham Samiti

## B. ANIMATING NGOs THROUGH CAPACITY BUILDING AND PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAMMES



The Project is concerned with complementing the efforts of the Government at poverty eradication in India by capacity building for grass root organizations engaged in development of marginalized communities through consultancy/professional support which enables them to independently make changes in their organization structure, in their policies, planning, implementation, monitoring of their many charitable works.

A number NGOs committed to social change are working among the most vulnerable communities like dalits, adivasis, women, children, unorganised labourers, minorities and other marginalised communities. They are mainly engaged in different types of capacity building programme, campaigns, community development activities, strengthening of panchayat and gram sabha, promoting accountability and demanding transparent governance. These organisations are in need of various trainings related to organisational development and management, finance management and policies, ToT training etc. This project is visualised to reach out to the key stakeholders of the organisations and envisions strengthening them by promoting organisational, managerial and institutional development. This would also include planning process, strategic intervention processes, monitoring and

evaluation techniques. The purpose is to set professional standards among selective small NGOs.

## Goal

The overall goal this project is Projects concerned with poverty eradication and social change in India have more impact through professionalization/capacity building of their project managers regarding planning, support and evaluation of projects as well as in the field of Organisation Development.

## The specific object is

1. NGOs and Church-based partner organisations in India receive capacity building which enables them to independently make such changes in their Organisational Structure (including in financial management) in the policies, planning, implementation, monitoring & local evaluation of their projects, as well result in the projects' increased effectiveness.

## Project objective(s) (Intended outcomes):

1. To organise various specialised capacity building programmes
2. To provide on-going consultancy services
3. To raise the standard of these organisation by promoting managerial, organisational, financial and project development support



## Activities

- Training
- Consultancy
- Material support

## Methods

- Participatory approach in developing key staff skills
- Consultancy services

During the funding period, at least 25 organisations have received capacity building) individually or during workshops for several organisations) and developed improvements to their organisational structures in cooperation with their resource persons and implemented them. The second phase of this project was extended till 31st March, 2021 and has been successfully completed.



## PUBLICATIONS



- Ravi Sagar (2020) Consumer: Know Your Rights, MAGNET, 4(3): 34-35.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2020) Consumer Protection, MAGNET, 4(4): 6-7.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2020) Consumer Commissions at Different Level, MAGNET, 4(5): 35-36.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2020) Consumer Law in a Nutshell, MAGNET, 4(7): 27-28.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2020) Law About Essential Commodities, MAGNET, 4(9): 5-6.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2020) Maintenance of Essential Services, MAGNET, 4(11): 34-35.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2020) Law Related to Disaster Management, MAGNET, 4(12): 26-27.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2020) Interview with Dr. Alana Golmei, Legal News & Views, 34(12): 42-46.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2021) Interview with Mr. Robin Hibu, Legal News & Views, 35(1): 38 - 46.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2021) Disaster Management: Agencies, MAGNET, 5(1): 34-35.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2021) Laws on Disaster Management: Offences, Complaints & Punishments, MAGNET, 5(2): 14-15.
- \_\_\_\_\_ (2021) Laws on Mental Health Care, MAGNET, 5(3): 34 & 35.

- ❑ Ravi Sagar delivered a talk at the District Level Training Programme on Bonded Labour, held on 31 October 2020 at the Bandhwa Mukti Morcha Office, Jantar Mantar Road, New Delhi in collaboration with the Human Rights Law Network along with Bandhwa Mukti Morcha, CCBI, Commission for Migrants, Naya Samaj, ISI, Working Peoples' Charter and C4 Juggi Kalyan Samiti.
- ❑ \_\_\_\_\_ moderated the meeting of the Delhi Lawyers Forum held on 12 December 2020.
- ❑ \_\_\_\_\_ delivered a talk on "Minority Status Certificate and the Way forward" in a webinar, organized by Christian Minority Education Institutions Association, Ranchi on 14 December 2020.
- ❑ Alana Golmei was one of the Panellists in a panel discussion on the topic "Access to Justice in the times of COVID-19 pandemic" organized by Manipur State Legal Services Authority in December 2020
- ❑ \_\_\_\_\_ was the Panellist in a panel discussion on the topic "Women's Leadership in the Northeast of India" organized by Impulse NGO Network and Women Power Connect in December 2020.



## GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS

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