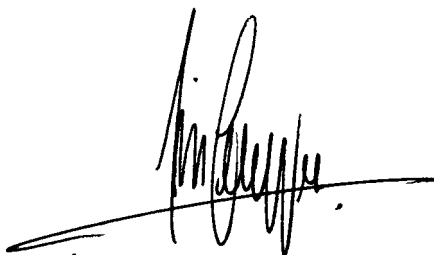


# KUALA LUMPUR BAR COMMITTEE

**13TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Kuala Lumpur Bar to be held on Thursday 3rd March 2005 at 4:00 p.m. in the Ballroom, Royal Selangor Club, Jalan Raja, Kuala Lumpur.**

## AGENDA

1. To confirm and adopt the minutes of the 12th Annual General Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2004.
2. Matters arising.
3. To consider, and if thought fit, to adopt the Annual Report 2004/05.
4. To consider, and if thought fit, to pass the Audited Accounts for the year ending 31st December 2004.
5. To fix subscription for the year 2005.
6. To elect the Chairman of the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee for 2005/06.
7. To elect six (6) members of the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee for 2005/06.
8. To elect one (1) member to represent the Kuala Lumpur Bar on the Bar Council for 2005/06.
9. General.
  - 9.1 To elect the Chairperson, Secretary and five (5) members to the Kuala Lumpur Bar Young Lawyers Committee for the year 2005/06. *[Note: Only lawyers with less than 7 years of practice at the Bar are eligible to stand for election to this Committee]*



Lim Chee Wee  
Hon Secretary

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2004/05 has been an extremely busy and productive year, as seen from the accompanying sub-committees' reports and the calendar of events carried out.

At the AGM on 11.03.2004, members were told that there were 5 focus areas I would target, if elected. Due to the untiring efforts and cooperation of the members of the KLBC and the sub-committees, attending to those areas was made much easier.

### A. 5 FOCUS AREAS

#### 1. To improve the relationship between the Bench and the Bar

- ◆ *Have dialogue sessions with the various heads of the respective divisions of the KL High Court and Lower court.*
- ◆ *Address the Judges on the complaints received from members of the KL Bar and vice-versa.*
- ◆ *Set up a complaints mechanism for members to relay their complaints and suggestions by email.*

##### **Dialogue Sessions & Informal meetings**

When this Committee took office the first thing we attended to was to strive for a good and cordial relationship between the Chief Justice and the KL Bar.

We are pleased to report that we managed to meet the Chief Justice. At our first meeting, we agreed to disagree on certain issues, however the channels for dialogue were opened and since then we have had other meetings with the Chief Justice and the various Judges at all levels and divisions. We believe that the relationship between the Bench and KL Bar improved significantly with the cooperation of the Chief Justice.

Our grievances were heard and many of them were addressed as you will note from our circulars.

We have had meetings with –

- ◆ The Chief Justice YAA Tan Sri Dato' Sri Ahmad Fairuz
- ◆ The [former] Chief Judge YAA Tan Sri Haidar Mohd Noor
- ◆ Y.A. Dato' Abdul Kadir Musa
- ◆ Y.A. Dato' Md Raus bin Sharif
- ◆ Y.A. Dato' Vincent Ng
- ◆ Y.A. Dato' James Foong
- ◆ The former and current Senior Sessions Court Judges,  
Y. Bhg Dato' Mohd Azman bin Husin, Puan Yamuna Menon
- ◆ Tuan Akhtar bin Tahir and 2 other Sessions Court Judges of the Criminal Division
- ◆ The Chief Registrar YM Puan Tengku Maimun

There were other meetings and discussions between the Bench and the KLBC and many matters and problems were resolved over the phone.

Many Judges have extended the invitation to approach them personally if our members have any problems or if they can help in any way to improve the administration of justice. I must add on a few occasions even at very short notice, the Chief Justice and other Judges have risen to the occasion and seen us without an official appointment.

## **KL Bar Annual Dinner & Dance and Bench & Bar Get-Together**

Attendance of members from the Bench at our KL Bar Annual Dinner & Dance on **11.12.2004** and the KL/Selangor Bench and Bar Get-together on **04.02.2005** improved. 11 Judges and their spouses attended our Annual Dinner & Dance and 40 members from the Bench including the President of the Court of Appeal attended the Bench and Bar Get-Together.

It was evident at the Bench and Bar Get-together at the RSC ballroom how much the relationship has improved - Judges apart from informally interacting with members, also participated wholeheartedly and enhanced the evening by rendering songs which was equally matched by members of the Bar.

### **Ad Hoc Committee of Bench & Bar members**

The Chief Justice has in February 2005, agreed in principle, to form an ad hoc committee comprising of a few members of the KL Bar and Judiciary to meet regularly to discuss problems faced by both sides and how to improve the administration of justice. We hope that this will become a reality and eventually, a permanent committee.

### **Complaints Mechanism**

Personal e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of each KLBC member has been made available to members. A complaints column has also been set up on our KL Bar website for members to relay their complaints/suggestions via our website.

## **2. To implement an advocacy programme for both Criminal Law and Civil Law including drafting skills, to be eventually formalised and run annually**

Firstly, the KLBC sub-committees were restructured and a new sub-committee, for Continuing Legal Education, headed by Steven Thiru, was formed.

A two-part **Criminal Advocacy Programme** was developed and one of our foremost advocates at the Criminal Bar, Mr Manjeet Singh Dhillon, was invited to conduct it. The sessions, held on 14.08.2004 and on 23.09.2004 received positive feedback.

A **Practical Civil Advocacy Course** was held over 5 days from 24 to 28.01.2005. A team of Barristers from Lamb Chambers, London were flown down to conduct this specialised course, which was a tremendous success. We received more applications than we could accommodate. The representatives of the State Bars of Selangor, Negeri Sembilan and Penang State also requested for allocation of places. We did what we could but ensured that priority was given to members of the KL Bar.

## **3. To organise talks/workshops to enhance our legal skills in various areas**

At the time of writing, besides the above courses and ad hoc meetings, a total of **12 lectures** have been held with 2 more in the pipeline.

The lectures were divided into 2 Streams/Series –

**“Essentials in Legal Practice”** for the younger lawyers and pupils and **“Specialist Seminars”** touching on specialised area such as Company Law, Insurance Law, Human Rights, Arbitration and Information Technology.

The “Essentials in Legal Practice” series included opinion writing, drafting of corporate and conveyancing agreements and drafting pleadings. The series was run over a whole year with sessions held almost every 2 weeks, with very good attendance and positive feedback.

This was only made possible through the able and tireless efforts of the Chair of the CLE Committee, Steven Thiru and his committee members.

#### 4. **To improve Relevan**

- ◆ *focusing more on legal issues, short summaries of relevant cases of interest to practitioners, interviews with Judges and Lawyers*
- ◆ *IT news and reports of the various committees.*

Relevan now carries more articles touching on legal issues, articles on human rights and information technology and is also a vehicle for keeping members informed of the activities of the various sub-committees.

Relevan has also focused on interviews with Judges and Lawyers and so far has published interviews with Dato' VC George, Mr Chooi Mun Sou and Mr Lim Kean Chye.

Special thanks must be recorded to the Relevan Committee who under the able leadership of Chee Wee has done a good job.

#### 5. **To make representations to the Government to reduce the quorum requirement of the KL Bar AGM**

The KLBC has made clear and precise representations to Y.B. Dato' Mohd Radzi, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department in charge of Legal Affairs, and has also raised the matter with YAA Tan Sri Dato' Sri Ahmad Fairuz, Chief Justice of Malaysia.

We also took the opportunity to express the view of the Malaysian Bar pursuant to the resolution and clearly stated that we are of the view that the whole of Section 46A is unconstitutional and should be repealed.

We also stressed that if lawyers below 7 years of experience are allowed to do death penalty cases, they should not be precluded from standing for elections. We also stated that the section does not encourage unity in the Bar and has the tendency of dividing the Bar.

The Minister discussed these issues and other matters at length and assured us that he would look into the unreasonable quorum requirement and the unconstitutionality of s46A.

### **B. SUB-COMMITTEES AND THE LEGAL AID CENTRE**

As mentioned, the sub-committees have been restructured. The Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Committee (new) was set up to put in place a proper year-long CLE programme. Another new sub-committee was set up at the request of members, that is, the Conveyancing Practice Committee. The Social Committee and Pupils Welfare Committee were combined to form the Social & Pupils Welfare Committee.

The 10 sub-committees and their heads are:

- |       |  |   |                      |
|-------|--|---|----------------------|
| i.    | Continuing Legal Education (CLE)             | : | Steven Thiru         |
| ii.   | Conveyancing Practice and Relevan newsletter | : | Lim Chee Wee         |
| iii.  | Environmental Law                            | : | SanjeevKumar Rasiah  |
| iv.   | Information Technology (IT)                  | : | Abdul Rashid Ismail  |
| v.    | KL Legal Aid Centre                          | : | Sa'adiah Bt Din      |
| vi.   | Public Relations & Court Liaison (PRCL)      | : | R Ravindra Kumar     |
| vii.  | Social & Pupils Welfare                      | : | Colin Andrew Pereira |
| viii. | Sports                                       | : | Anand Ponnudurai     |
| ix.   | Young Lawyers (YLC)                          | : | Dinesh Kanavaji      |

The report of their activities can be found as mentioned earlier in the accompanying sub-committees' reports.

## C. THE KL BAR COMMITTEE (KLBC)

The KLBC represents and caters to about 6000 members apart from chambering pupils.

This Committee met officially for 14 times. These meetings often went into late hours of the night due to the numerous matters on the agenda that had to be dealt with and resolved. Each Committee member also had sub-committee meetings, ad hoc committee meetings, seminars, lectures, pupils introduction sessions, socials, sports events, meetings with the members of the Judiciary, meetings with KL Bar members individually and in groups.

This year there were many members who wanted explanations in light of the enforcement of the 'No-discount and Waiver rule' by the Bar Council apart from the normal queries from the litigation lawyers. Committee members showed commitment, dedication and sacrifice without complaints to ensure that all went well, which made my task easy.

It must be noted that at all times and no matter what the issue was, the question we always asked ourselves is **'what would be in the bona fide interest of the members of the KL Bar as a whole' and not whether it is popular or would appease certain people or quarters.** Decisions were made only on that basis.

## D. SPECIAL PROJECTS

### 1. Sub-committee and special meeting for Criminal Law Practitioners

Recognising the many difficulties and problems faced by members with regard to the administration of justice in the Criminal Division of the KL Courts, we organised a special meeting of Criminal Law Practitioners of the KL Bar on 06.05.2004.

Sessions Court Judge Tuan Akhtar Tahir and Sivananthan from the Bar addressed the meeting with the problems faced by the Courts and lawyers respectively. Clearly there was a need for a Criminal Law sub-committee but we did not have enough KLBC members. Sivananthan graciously agreed to accept the appointment to head the Criminal Law sub-committee which was placed under the Public Relations & Court Liaison Committee.

That sub-committee organised a meeting with Dato' Musa, the current Deputy IGP. We had a very good meeting. We raised many of our concerns. One of the main proposals canvassed was the possibility of forming a committee comprising of top police personnel and representatives of the KL Bar who would meet on a monthly basis to address the problems faced by all those involved in the administration of criminal justice system as well as its victims. Dato' Musa was agreeable to such an idea in principle. He has agreed to meet us again.

### 2. Redang Trip – 10 to 12.09.2004

An important theme of the Committee was to have a more united KL Bar where there is a comradeship that is special and different from other professions. Apart from the lectures, workshops, social activities and sports where senior and junior lawyers attended, we decided to organise a trip to Redang.

An ad hoc committee organised the trip and though the group that went was small, all those who participated enjoyed the camaraderie and interaction. Some of the participants enjoyed themselves so much that they have agreed to organise a trip for a bigger group of members of the KL Bar to Lang Tengah/Pulau Perhentian this year.

### **3. Special meeting on the Enforcement of the No-Discount Rule and the Solicitors' Remuneration Order**

We organised a meeting on 05.11.2004 at our KL Bar auditorium for our members to raise with the office bearers of the Bar Council and the Chairman of the Enforcement Committee of the Bar Council any queries or uncertainties that they might have with regard to the enforcement of the No-Discount Rule. The attendance was overwhelming. We had to send away about 200 lawyers who could not get into the Auditorium with the promise that we will organise another meeting for them which we did on 25.11.2004.

### **4. The Proposed Bar Council Rulings**

We sought the views and comments of a number of senior members of the Bar on the proposed rulings. The views and comments were compiled and have been presented to the Bar Council.

### **5. Survey on Backlog of Cases**

We coordinated a nationwide survey on backlog of cases for the Bar Council. The Bar Council required the feedback to make effective representation on the problem to the Chief Justice, Chief Judge and the Minister of Law.

### **6. Actions of DBKL Officers**

The KLBC was asked by the Bar Council to prepare a report on the DBKL officers' authority on issues of morals with reference to a particular case and we have done so. The paper was published in our Relevant newsletter issue 3/04. Special thanks goes to Anand Ponnudurai who undertook this task despite the tight schedule of activities he and the Sports Committee had.

## **E. KL BAR AUDITORIUM**

The decision to have our own auditorium came about because of the many programmes we had planned for our members at the start of our term, from the newly implemented full year CLE programme to workshops/trainings for legal aid volunteers and pupils apart from the monthly meetings with pupils and ad hoc meetings. There was difficulty at times getting the Bar Council Auditorium. Having our own auditorium has made the organising of our CLE programme and other activities requiring such a facility easier.

We decided that revenue from the programmes organised by the newly set up CLE Committee and donations should cover the cost of KL Bar auditorium ensuring that this committee delivers to you an auditorium completely free of charge and which, in the coming years would generate income.

Excluding donations, it has cost RM32,042.00 to set up the auditorium. The CLE programme has generated RM31,905.00. The PA system which cost close to RM10,000.00 was sponsored by an IT vendor, thanks to the good efforts of Abdul Rashid Ismail and his committee. Other items like the chairs and board were donated by the Bar Council and others.

The KL Bar auditorium was officially opened on 26.11.2004 by all the previous Chairmen of the KL Bar. In conjunction with the opening, a talk on the different aspects of advocacy was delivered by Dato' VC George, YM Raja Aziz Addruse and Dato' Dr Cyrus Das.

## **F. FINANCE**

The financial position of the Committee remains stable with a sum of RM780,379.00 in Fixed Deposit. Details of the financial position are set out in the Audited Accounts ending 31 December 2004.

We had in January 2005 withdrawn a sum of RM250,000.00 from the Fixed Deposit and placed the money with Amanah Raya Berhad, a trust company wholly owned by the Minister of Finance (Incorporated) in view of the higher returns.

## **G. KL BAR MEMBERS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY**

We record with deep sorrow the passing away of the following members of the Kuala Lumpur Bar during this Committee's tenure, from March 2004:

Zainoon Zakariah on 12.05.2004

Divakaran M Nair on 16.05.2004

Loo Han Keang on 20.06.2004

T. Selvarasan on 09.07.2004

Datuk Sivalingam Munusamy on 26.07.2004

Pertaf Singh on 16.10.2004

Reference Proceedings in respect and in memory of Murugavell Arumugam who passed away on 30.01.2004 and the abovementioned members (other than Pertaf Singh) was held on 27.11.2004. The Proceeding was presided over by Y.A. Dato' Md Raus bin Sharif. It was special.

The KLBC was represented by its Chairman and the Bar Council by Tuan Haji Sulaiman. We plan to have a Reference Proceeding for Pertaf Singh this year.

## **H. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**


I wish to place on record our thanks and appreciation for the cooperation and assistance extended to us by the Chief Justice of Malaysia, the President of the Court of Appeal, the Chief Judge of Malaya, Judges of the KL High Court and Sessions Court, Magistrates, the Chief Registrar of the Federal Court, Registrars of the KL High Courts and Subordinate Courts and the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department in charge of Legal Affairs.

On behalf of the KL Bar and KLBC, I thank all members of the KL Bar who have assisted the KLBC in matters referred to them from time to time whether for opinions and advice or to represent us in legal proceedings or to give lectures or to organise something. We also thank all those who contributed to making the KL Bar Dinner and Dance a tremendous success. Special mention must be made of the various members of our sub-committees, Legal Aid Management Panel members, volunteer lawyers and all the members who have regularly appeared on behalf of the KLBC for Calls to the Bar.

This report would not be complete if the members of the KLBC were not specially recognised and appreciated. They are tremendous people, who worked tirelessly, sacrificed much and encouraged each other to do the best for the KL Bar even though they were well known practitioners in their respective fields with busy practices in addition to family commitments. On behalf of the KL Bar, I thank you.

Thanks also goes to all members of the KL Bar for their continuous support, cooperation, notes and phone calls of encouragement as well as honest feedback. It has made this term and year special.

It has been my honour and privilege to serve you as Chairman of the KL Bar for the year 2004/05. I hope that you will continue to extend the same support to the incoming Chairperson and Committee



Jerald Gomez  
Chairman KL Bar

# Calendar of Meetings and Events for the Year 2004/05

## MARCH 2004

- 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with the Executive Secretary and Executive Officer
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Dock Brief Training (Batch 35)
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Chairman had meeting with the whole Secretariat staff outlining the goals and expectations for the year ahead
- KLBC meeting
- 20<sup>th</sup> - KLBC members represented the KL Bar at the Malaysian Bar Annual Dinner & Dance.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - IT Seminar on "Using Technology to Support Case Preparation, Advocacy and Practice Management" [Part I]
- Meeting with Sessions Court Judge, Dato' Mohd Azman to address complaints raised by members
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Chairman and Selangor Bar Chairman had a meeting to discuss and explore the possibilities of working together in addressing mutual problems and furthering the interest of both Bars
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Legal AWAM Mid Term Review (Batch 35)
- 27<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
- 31<sup>st</sup> - Meeting with Selangor Land Office

## APRIL 2004

- 1<sup>st</sup> - IT Seminar "Using Technology to Support Case Preparation, Advocacy and Practice Management" [Part II]
- Pupils' Introduction Session
- Special Committee meeting to decide on members for the various sub-committees
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Chairman had a special meeting with the young lawyers
- YLC meeting
- Chairman and Hon. Secretary met up with Raja Aziz to explore possibility of conducting an interview with him for publication in Relevant
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Relevant Editorial Committee Meeting
- Chairman had a meeting with Sivananthan to discuss the problems pertaining to the condition of the administration of criminal justice in the KL Courts
- Legal Aid SB/KWPC Mid Term Review (Batch 35)
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Dock Brief Mid Term Review (Batch 35)
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Continuing Legal Education Committee Meeting
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Orientation Session (1) (Batch 36)
- Environmental Law Committee Meeting
- 14<sup>th</sup> - IT Committee Meeting
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Sports Committee Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Conveyancing Committee Meeting
- 17<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Social & Pupils' Welfare Committee Meeting
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Orientation Session (1) (Batch 36)
- Meeting with Tuan Akhtar, Puan Rosenani and Puan Nursinah (Session Court Judges, Criminal Division)
- Meeting Dato' Kadir Musa, Judge of the High Court Criminal Division
- PRCL Committee meeting
- Legal Aid Management Panel Meeting
- 21<sup>st</sup> - KLBC Meeting
- Legal Aid Clinic Mid Term Review
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Meeting with Gurdiyal Singh Nijar to discuss Advocacy Workshop
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Chairman met up with Ravi Nekoo on Shamala's case
- AWAM held a press conference and Sa'adiah represented the KLBC (Shamala's case)
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Relevant Editorial Committee Meeting

- 30<sup>th</sup> - Chairman, Hon. Secretary and KL Bar rep went to Police Station upon receipt of information that Uthayakumar, a members of the KL Bar, was arrested
- Legal Aid SIS Clinic Mid Term Review (Batch 3)

## MAY 2004

- 5<sup>th</sup> - CLE Committee Meeting
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Special Meeting of all Criminal Law Practitioners of the KL Bar
- 7<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with the Head Judge of Shah Alam High Court
- 8<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Environmental Law Committee Meeting
- Chairman met with Suren, Bar Council Chairman and Secretary at different times about assault on Uthayakumar
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid LAC/PTF meeting with JAIS
- YLC Meeting
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Chairman, Hon Secretary and Executive Secretary met up to see floor space for new auditorium and discuss budgets and plans for same
- Chairman had a meeting with the Executive Director and Vice Chairman of the Bar Council to discuss about funding the construction of the KL Bar auditorium and donation of chairs
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Management Panel/Liaison Committee Meeting
- 18<sup>th</sup> - PRCL Committee Meeting
- 19<sup>th</sup> - IT Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Juvenile Remand Home Briefing & Training (Batch 36)
- Legal Aid WAO Clinic Briefing (Batch 4)
- Legal Aid AWAM Training (Batch 36)
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Chairman attended sitting of the Royal Commission of the Police and addressed the Commission
- Legal Aid Dock Brief Briefing for Pupils (Batch 36)
- Legal Aid Criminal Law Procedures and file handling – Sungai Buloh Prison Committee
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Chairman met Puravalen and discussed the possibility of conducting a workshop on Police Powers, remand proceedings and Human Rights
- Legal Aid LAC Clinic Briefing for Pupils
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - CLE Lecture on "Essentials In Legal Practice: The Fundamentals of Legal Opinion Writing"
- Legal Aid extension of Migrant Workers Kajang Prison Clinic to Sungai Buloh Prison – Migrant Workers Prison Committee
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Conveyancing Practice Committee Meeting
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Social & Pupils' Welfare Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid LAC/PTF Training for Pupils
- Legal Aid Migrant Worker Prison Briefing \* Training (Batch 4)
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Pupils Introduction Session
- KLBC Meeting
- Legal Aid Syariah Clinic Training for Pupils (Batch 36)
- Legal Aid Tenaganita Briefing & Training (Batch 29)
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Environmental Training Workshop organised by Malaysian Nature Society attended by Environmental Law Committee member
- Meeting with Selangor Land Office
- Legal Aid SB/KWPC Briefing & Training for Pupils
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Juvenile/Kajang Prison Visit
- Legal Aid LAC Clinic Training for pupils (Batch 36)
- Legal Aid Dock Brief Training for Pupils (Batch 36)



## JUNE 2004

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Relevant Editorial Committee Meeting
- CLE Committee Meeting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - YLC Meeting
- 4<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Relevant Editorial Committee Meeting
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid LAC/PTF Meeting With JAIS
- Environmental Law Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Management Panel/Liaison Committee Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with Chief Justice of Malaysia, YAA Tan Sri Dato' Sri Ahmad Fairuz
- Meeting of Redang Trip Ad-Hoc Committee
- 15<sup>th</sup> - PRCL Committee Meeting
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid AWAM Mid Term Review (Batch 36)
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Training - "The Work of Defence Lawyers in a Criminal Trial"
- 21<sup>st</sup> - IT Committee Meeting
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Social & Pupils Welfare Committee Meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Pupils Introduction Session
- KLBC Meeting
- 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> - Visit of East Timor Bar Association to the LAC
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Training - "The Work of Defence Lawyers in a Criminal Trial"
- CLE Lecture on "S137 Companies act 1965 - Holes In The Golden Parachute"
- Friendly Volleyball Game

## JULY 2004

- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> - Inaugural Interstate Malaysian Bar Soccer Championship at Port Dickson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council meeting
- Inaugural Interstate Malaysian Bar Golf Tournament at Port Dickson
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Relevant Editorial Committee Meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid LAC Clinic Mid Term Review
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Dock Brief Program Mid Term Review (Batch 36)
- 9<sup>th</sup> - YLC's Friendly Bowling Game
- 10<sup>th</sup> - CLE Lecture on "Drafting Agreements: Principles, Techniques & Common Pitfalls"
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Environmental Law Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Management Panel/Liaison Committee Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid SIS Clinic Mid Term Review
- Legal Aid Migrant Workers Prison Mid Term Review (Batch 4)
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Friendly Netball Match with Kedah Bar at Alor Setar
- Visit to Firefly Park Resort, Kuala Selangor organised by the Environmental Law Committee
- 19<sup>th</sup> - IT Committee Meeting
- Meeting of Redang Trip Ad-Hoc Committee
- 21<sup>st</sup> - PRCL Committee Meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Pupils Introduction Session
- KLBC Meeting
- 24<sup>th</sup> - CLE Lecture On "Insurance Law : From Liverpool to Golok-Public Policy as a bar to Insurance Claim"
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Friendly Volleyball Game
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Social & Pupils' Welfare Committee Meeting
- Meeting with Selangor Land Registry
- Legal Aid SB/KWPC Mid Term Review (Batch 36)
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Informal Dialogue with officers of the Selangor Land Office and Housing Developers to resolve the issue of blanket consent for presentation of transfer in Selangor area
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with Mr Manjeet Singh Dhillon to discuss the Lecture on Criminal Advocacy.

## AUGUST 2004

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Legal Aid Admin Meeting
- CLE Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid LACC Committee Meeting

- 4<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Syariah Clinic Mid Term Review
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Relevant Editorial Committee Meeting
- Meeting with David of Ingenisys on the revamping of the KL Bar Website
- Legal Aid Dock Brief Program Briefing for New Pupils
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Meeting with Selangor & KL LAC
- Legal Aid Juvenile Remand Home Briefing & Training (Batch 37)
- 7<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
- KL Bar Badminton League started (ended on 18.09.2004)
- Legal Aid Syariah Committee Outreach Program to Pusat Kebahagian Wanita dan Remaja (KEWAJA)
- 9<sup>th</sup> - PRCL Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Migrant Workers Prison Briefing & Training (Batch 5)
- 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Tenaganita Briefing & Training (Batch 30)
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Environmental Law Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Management Panel/Liaison Committee Meeting
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with David of Ingenisys on the revamping of the KL Bar Website
- HELP Students Visit to Legal Aid Centre
- Legal Aid LACC Briefing for New Pupils
- Legal Aid SB/KWPC Briefing & Training for Pupils
- 14<sup>th</sup> - CLE Lecture on "The Fundamentals Of Criminal Advocacy"
- Participation of KL LAC at United Kingdom Malaysian Law Students Convention
- 17<sup>th</sup> - Meeting of Redang Trip Ad-Hoc Committee
- LAC meeting with Commission of Police on the Issue of Juveniles and the Police
- Legal Aid PTF Clinic Briefing & Training (Batch 7)
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid AWAM Training (Batch 37)
- IT Committee Meeting
- 19<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar Social Get-Together at Finnegans
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Relevant Editorial Committee Meeting
- Meeting with Klang Sessions Court
- Legal Aid Syariah Clinic Training
- Legal Aid LACC Legal Awareness Session at SMK Convent Bukit Nanas
- 21<sup>st</sup> - CLE Lecture on "The ICT Revolution : The Challenges And The Need To Regulate E-Commerce"
- Legal Aid LACC Training
- Legal Aid Dock Brief Program Training (Batch 37)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Social & Pupils' Welfare Committee Meeting
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Pupils Introduction Session
- KLBC Meeting
- Annual Hockey Match between KL Bar and Negeri Sembilan Bar
- 26<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar Annual Blood Donation Campaign
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with Appellate & Special Powers Division of the KL High Court

## SEPTEMBER 2004

- 4<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
- Friendly Volleyball Game
- 7<sup>th</sup> - CLE Committee Meeting
- Relevant Editorial Committee Meeting
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Environmental Law Committee Meeting
- 9<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with YB Dato' S Sothianathan, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Natural Resources & Environment
- 10<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Tea Reception
- Legal Aid AWAM Mid Term Review
- 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar Trip to Pulau Redang
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Social & Pupils' Welfare Committee Meeting
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Management Panel Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Tea Reception
- 17<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Tea Reception
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Lecture on "Sex-Crimes : Cross-Examination of Witnesses" jointly organised by KL Bar CLE Committee and Bar Council

- 19<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid LACC & CDC Joint Out-Reach Clinic at Bangi
- 21<sup>st</sup> - IT Committee Meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
  - CLE Lecture On "The Fundamentals of Criminal Advocacy: The Basics of Cross Examination"
- 24<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
  - RTM 6 – Tamil Station Interview on the Role of LAC
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Juvenile Remand Home Visit & Sungai Buloh Prison Visit
- 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar Children's Environmental Camp at FRIM
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Interview of LAC by 3R of TV3 and ASTRO Ria – Criminal Law
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Pupils Introduction Session
  - KLBC Meeting
- 29<sup>th</sup> - YLC Talk on "An Overview of Capital Markets"
  - Legal Aid Syariah Clinic Mid Term Review for Pupils (Batch 37)
  - Legal Aid LAC Clinic Mid Term Review for Pupils (Batch 37)
  - Interview by NST Reporter on Role of LAC/ Accessibility of Legal Aid
- 30<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
  - Conveyancing Practice Committee Meeting
  - Legal Aid LAC/SIS Clinic Mid Term Review for Pupils
  - Legal Aid Dock Brief Mid Term Review (Batch 37)

#### OCTOBER

- 1<sup>st</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
  - Legal Aid LAC/WAO Committee meeting
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
  - Malaysian Bar Inter-State Badminton Tournament hosted by KL Bar
  - Legal Aid Outreach Program – Legal Talk at Malaysian Association for the Blind
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - RTM 2 TV Interview "Infofokus" – Talk on Role of LAC
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid: National Legal Awareness Week : Radio Talk Show – ASTRO Light & Easy
  - Legal Aid: Radio Talk Show-RTM 5-Mandarin "Sexual Harassment"
  - LAC/SIS Clinic Mid Term Review (Batch 5)
- 7<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
  - Legal Aid: Legal Awareness Training for pupils (Batch 38)
- 8<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
  - Legal Aid Kajang Women Prison Visit
  - Legal Aid Migrant Workers Prison Clinic Mid Term Review for Pupils
- 9<sup>th</sup> - CLE Lecture on "Solicitors Accounts"
  - Legal Aid Skills Development Program – Family Law Training
  - Legal Aid Law Awareness Week – Outreach Session at Giant Batu Caves
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Skills Development Program – Family Law Training
- 11<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session
  - Legal SB/KWPC Mid Term Review (Batch 37)
- 12<sup>th</sup> - CLE Committee Meeting
  - Environmental Law Committee Meeting
  - Legal Aid Management Panel Meeting and LAC/SIS Clinic Mid Term Review for Pupils
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Discussion with Jabatan Alam Sekitar and NGOs on Environmental Quality Act 1974
  - Dean of Monash University's Visit to LAC
- 14<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
  - Legal Aid WAO Clinic - Outreach Program at Taylors' College
- 18<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session
  - Social & Pupils' Welfare Committee Meeting
  - Legal Aid Orientation (2)
- 19<sup>th</sup> - PRCL Committee Meeting
  - Legal Aid Meeting with Penyalia Pagi Sekolah

- 20<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Migrant Workers Prison Visit
- 21<sup>st</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - LAC/AWAM sub-committee meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - CLE Lecture on "Judicial Review In Employment Law"
- 25<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with YM Puan Tengku Maimun, Chief Registrar
  - Meeting with Chief Judge of Malaya, YAA Tan Sri Haidar
  - Pupils Introduction Session
  - KLBC Meeting
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with Datuk Musa, Pengarah Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah Bukit Aman. (now the Deputy IGP)
  - "Long Call" Reception
  - Legal Aid Dock Brief (Batch 38)
- 29<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
  - Meeting with Judiciary at the Commercial Division of the KL High Court
- 30<sup>th</sup> - Conveyancing Practice Committee Meeting

#### NOVEMBER

- 1<sup>st</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session
  - Legal Aid Session with students at SMK Batu 5 Jalan Ipoh
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Legal Aid AWAM/WAO/SIS Briefing & Training (Batch 38)
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Presentation of Memorandum on Local Authority Councillors to the Deputy Minister of Housing and Local Government
  - "Long Call" Reception
  - Badminton Friendly Match – KL Bar vs Kelab Century Paradise
  - Legal Aid Syariah Law Training for Pupils (Batch 38)
  - Legal Aid SBPC/KWPC/Migrant Workers Clinic pupils-Briefing & Training (Batch 38)
  - Legal Aid Juvenile Remand Home Briefing & Training (Batch 38)
- 5<sup>th</sup> - LAC/TENAGANITA MW Clinic Training for Pupils
  - "Long Call" Reception
  - Special Meeting of KL Bar members on the Enforcement of the Solicitors Remuneration Order
  - LAC/TENAGANITA MW Clinic- Training for Pupils
  - LAC/PTF Clinic Briefing And Training For Pupils (Batch 38)
- 6<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
  - LAC Clinic Training for Pupils and Dock Brief Program Training for Pupils (Batch 38)
- 8<sup>th</sup> - IT Committee Meeting
  - Legal Aid SB/KWPC Briefing & Training (Batch 38)
- 9<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Fund-Raising Committee Meeting
  - Legal Aid Management Panel Meeting
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Conveyancing Practice Committee Meeting
  - "Long Call" Briefing Session
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - PRCL Committee Meeting
  - LAC Deepa Raya Party
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Pupils Introduction Session
  - KLBC Meeting
- 25<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Special Meeting of KL Bar members on the Enforcement of the Solicitors Remuneration Order
  - Social and Pupils' Welfare Committee Meeting
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Official Opening of the KL Bar Auditorium and Advocacy Talk
- 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Para Legal Training for Drug Users Program
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Reference Proceedings organised by KLBC
  - CLE Lecture on "Recent Development in Medical Negligence"
- 29<sup>th</sup> - Malaysian-Danish Water Days 2004 attended by members of the Environmental Law Committee
  - "Long Call" Briefing Session

## DECEMBER 2004

- 2<sup>nd</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Legal Aid Meeting to discuss LAC's engagement with Law Students
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Legal Aid Skills Development Committee Meeting
- 4<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Relevan Editorial Committee Meeting
- "Long Call" Briefing Session
- Legal Aid Selangor LAC Staff Training
- 7<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Selangor LAC Staff Training
- 9<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- KLBC Special Meeting
- Legal Aid Fund Raising Committee Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar Annual Dinner & Dance
- Legal Aid Seminar: Hak Mak Nyah & Pekerja Seks
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Management Panel Meeting
- Legal Aid Taylor's College Students Visit
- 15<sup>th</sup> - CLE Committee Meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid AWAM Clinic Mid Term Review
- Legal Aid Dock Brief Mid Term Review (Batch 38)
- 18<sup>th</sup> - KLBC Meeting
- 20<sup>th</sup> - CLE Lecture on "The ICC Dispute Board Rules for the Prevention and Resolution Of Disputes"
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Meeting with the Chief Justice of Malaysia, YAA Tan Sri Dato' Sri Ahmad Fairuz
- Legal Aid LAC Clinic/Syariah Clinic Mid -Term Review (Batch 38)

## JANUARY 2005

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session
- 5<sup>th</sup> - CLE Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Migrant Workers Prison Clinic Prison Visit
- 6<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- PRCL Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Management Panel/Liaison Committee Meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Meeting with YA Dato' Md Raus Sharif
- Legal Aid Kajang Women Prison Clinic Prison Visit
- 8<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
- Friendly Volleyball Game
- 10<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session
- 13<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Relevan Editorial Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Fundraising Movie Premiere "National Treasure" at TGV, KLCC
- 14<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- CLE Lecture on "ICC Arbitration: the Procedure and Function of the ICC International Court of Arbitration & Drafting Dispute Resolution Clause"
- 17<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Sports Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid SB/KW/MWPC Briefing and Training (Batch 38)
- 19<sup>th</sup> - CLE Committee Meeting
- Pupils Introduction Session
- KLBC Meeting
- Meeting with Legal Aid Panel Members
- Legal Aid Migrant Workers Prison Clinic Visit to Kajang Prison
- 20<sup>th</sup> - IT Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Orientation Session (1) (Batch 39)
- 24<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Orientation Session (1) (Batchh 39)
- 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> - Practical Civil Advocacy Course
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Meeting with the Civil Division of the KL High Court
- 26<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid AWAM Training
- 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Tenaganita Migrant Workers Clinic Training

- 27<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Legal Aid Staff Evaluation
- Juvenile Program Briefing and Training
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Legal Aid Kajang Women Prison Visit
- LAC/PTF Clinic Briefing- PTF Centre
- LAC/PTF Clinic Briefing- Legal Aid Centre
- LAC Clinic/Syariah Briefing (Batch 39)
- Dock Brief (Batch 39)
- 29<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Legal Aid Sg. Buloh Prison Clinic & Migrant Workers Prison Clinic
- Legal Aid Juvenile Program Remand Home Visit
- 31<sup>st</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session

## FEBRUARY 2005

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Legal Aid Meeting for formation of Urgent Arrest Task Force
- Legal Aid Management Panel/Liaison Committee Meeting
- 4<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Legal Aid Syariah Training
- Visit of HELP Students to KL LAC
- RTM 6 Tamil Station - Interview on Role of LAC
- KL/Selangor Bench & Bar Get-Together
- 5<sup>th</sup> - KL Bar represented at Bar Council Meeting
- CLE Lecture on "Drafting Pleadings, Affidavits and other Cause Papers"
- LAC Clinic Training (Batch 39)
- Legal Aid Dock Brief Program Training (Batch 39)
- 7<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Relevan Editorial Committee meeting
- 16<sup>th</sup> - PRCL Committee Meeting
- Legal Aid Migrant Workers Clinic – Visit to Kajang Women Prison
- 17<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- 18<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Legal Aid KWPC Visit to Kajang Prison
- Legal Aid Urgent Arrest Task Force Meeting
- 21<sup>st</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Pupils Introduction Session
- KLBC Meeting
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - Legal Aid Migrant Workers Clinic – Visit To Kajang Women Prison
- 24<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- 25<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Reception
- Legal Aid KWPC Visit to Kajang Prison
- 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> - Human Rights Training Workshop
- 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> - KL/Selangor Bar Games
- Legal Aid SBPC Visit to Kajang Prison
- 28<sup>th</sup> - "Long Call" Briefing Session

## MARCH 2005

- 1<sup>st</sup> - CLE Lecture on "Fundamental Principles of Property Valuation and Business (Partnership) Valuation"
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - KL Bar AGM
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Oratory Contest
- 7<sup>th</sup> - IT Seminar on "Turning Costs into Profits because it is a Business"
- 10<sup>th</sup> - Adjourned KL Bar AGM (if a quorum is not achieved at the AGM on the 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- IT Fair
- 12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> Thayalan Memorial Cup 7-A-Side Football Tournament (to be carried out)

# Events of The Year



Annual Dinner & Dance 2004 – “The Masquerade Party”  
11.12.2004



IT Seminar  
23.03.2004



Meeting with YB Dato' Mohd Radzi  
03.12.2004



Meeting with CJM  
27.10.2004



KL Bar Social Get-Together  
19.08.2004



Long Call Receptions



YLC Bowling Game  
09.07.2004



Young Lawyers Meeting  
02.04.2004



Visit to Firefly Park  
17.07.2004



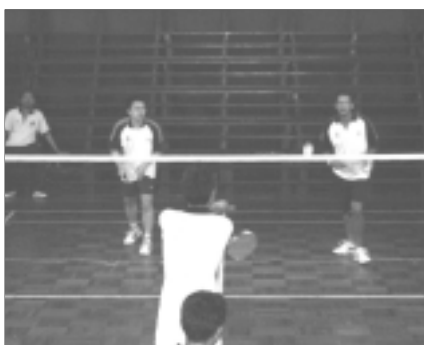
Meeting with Commercial Division  
KL High Court 29.10.2004



Lecture on "The ICC Dispute Board Rules"  
20.12.2004



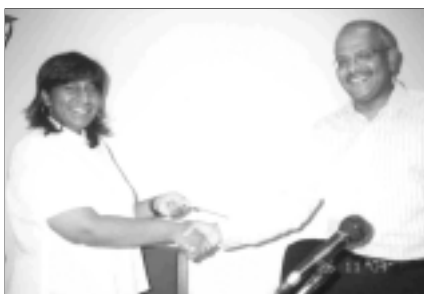
Children's Environmental Camp at FRIM  
24-26.09.2004



Malaysian Bar Interstate Badminton Tournament Hosted by KL Bar  
02.10.2004



Trip to Pulau Redang  
10-12.09.2004



Lecture on "Medical Negligence"  
27.11.2004



Lecture on "ICC Arbitration"  
14.12.2004



Lecture on "Judicial Review in  
Employment Law" 23.10.2004



Blood Donation Campaign  
26.08.2004



Meeting with Dato' Musa  
28.10.2004



Lecture on "Sex Crimes"  
18.09.2004



Lecture on "Insurance Law"  
24.07.2004



Lecture On "The Fundamentals Of Legal Opinion Writing"  
22.05.2004



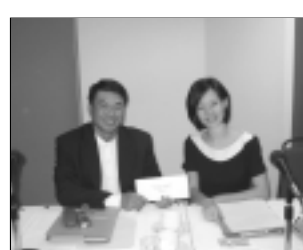
Lecture on "ICT Revolution"  
21.08.2004



Lecture on "Solicitors Account"  
09.10.2004



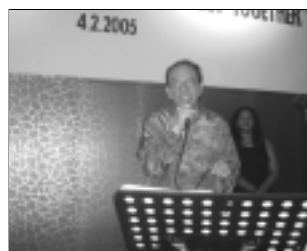
Lecture on "S137 Companies Act"  
26.06.2004



Lecture on "Drafting Agreements"  
10.07.2004



Lecture on "Drafting Pleadings"  
05.02.2005

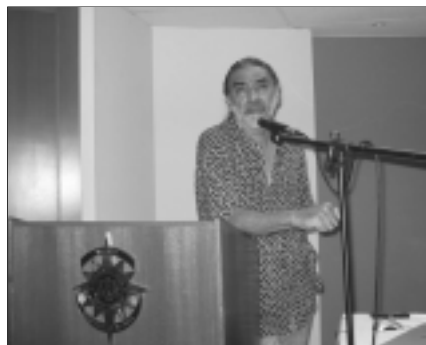


KL/Selangor Bench & Bar Get-together  
04.02.2005





Meeting with Chief Justice  
11.06.2004



Lecture On "The Fundamentals Of Criminal Advocacy"  
14.08.2004 & 23.09.2004



Official Opening of KL Bar Auditorium and Advocacy Talk  
26.11.2004



YLC Talk on "An Overview of Capital Markets"  
29.09.2004



Special Meeting of KL Criminal Law Practitioners  
06.05.2004



Meeting with Deputy Minister of Natural Resources & Environment 09.09.2004



Practical Civil Advocacy Course  
24-28.01.2005



Dialogue on the Enforcement of the No-discount Rule 05.11.2004 & 25.11.2004



Presentation of Memorandum on Local Authority Councillors 04.11.2004



Reference Proceedings  
27.11.2004



## CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chairman : Steven Thiru

Members :	E. Sreesanthan	Ooi Huey Ling
	Teh Yoke Hooi	Balbir Singh
	B. Balakumar	Sharmila Sekaran
	Ken St. James	Nor Suhaila Abdul Latif
	Balvinder Singh	Anita Stephen
	Gan Khong Aik	Sunita Sankey
	Mariette Peters	Serena Peters
	S. Ramesh	Leonard Yeoh

The committee was set up to establish a dedicated continuing legal education programme for the Kuala Lumpur Bar. The objective of the programme was to offer members and pupils the opportunity to fortify their basic legal skills and to keep themselves abreast of developments in their area of expertise. The avowed purposes of the programme was also to inculcate and imbue the importance of professional development.

The programme was divided into four categories :-

1. Under the “Essentials in Legal Practice” series, lectures were organised on the first Saturday of the month for young lawyers and pupils in areas such as legal opinion writing (Mr. Steven Thiru), drafting of corporate and conveyancing documents (Mr. William Leong), drafting of pleadings (Mr. Michael Chow), fundamentals of criminal advocacy (Mr. Manjeet Singh Dhillion/ Mr. Sivananthan) and solicitor accounts (Mr. Wang Kuo Shing).
2. The “Specialist Seminar Series” for the mid to senior practitioners included lectures in company law (Mr. Wong Tuck Sun), insurance law (En. Razlan Hadri), information technology law (Ms. Wong Shou Sien/Ms. Laura Ho), criminal law (En. Hanif Khatiri Abdulla/En. Kamarul Hisham), medical negligence (Mr. Robert Lazar) and administrative law (Mr. Lim Heng Seng). These were held on the third Saturday of the month.
3. There were also ad hoc mid-week lectures on the ICC International Court of Arbitration (Ms. Joanne Long), the new ICC Dispute Board Rules (Mr. Pierre Genton/Mr. Vinayak Pradhan) and on the principles of valuation of a partnership (Mr. Ernest Cheong).
4. Finally, the committee organised a practical civil advocacy workshop, which was conducted by six barristers from Lamb Chambers, London (24-28, January 2005) and a human rights workshop (26-27 February 2005).

The Continuing Legal Education Committee wishes to thank all the speakers for their contributions to the programme.

Steven Thiru  
Chairman  
Continuing Legal Education Committee



## CONVEYANCING PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Chairman	:	Lim Chee Wee
Members	:	Yeap Siew Teng Wong Lu Peen Woon Lee Been Michael Chai Woon Chew Ivan Wong Ee-Vern Doris Liew Lee Mei Chiam Tow Loon Angelyn Lee Wei Ching Karin Lim Gan Ping Nan Elizabeth Lee Nuraznira Nazreen Mohd Azmi

This sub-committee was formed to cater to the needs and demands of KL Bar members who practise conveyancing. It certainly has been an eventful term for the new sub-committee. Its activities are as follows:

1. The sub-committee members met representatives of the Selangor Land Office on 31.03.2004, 27.05.2004 and 27.07.2004 to discuss effective measures to clear the backlog of titles in the Land Office. Arising from these meetings, the KL Bar Secretariat sent many letters of reminders to law firms to collect the titles and these notices were also posted on the KL Bar website. On a number of occasions, the Secretariat staff had to make phone calls to remind members to collect the titles. This exercise has been successful. Apart from this exercise, a few other problems experienced by members were brought to the attention of the Land Office.
2. A member of the sub-committee attended the Informal Dialogue between Officers of the Selangor Land Office and Housing Developers to resolve the issue of blanket consent for presentation of transfer in Selangor.
3. The sub-committee will be conducting a survey among KL Bar members regarding the enforcement of the SRO and the Waiver Rules and the results will be forwarded to the Bar Council.
4. On a final note, I wish to thank the sub-committee members whose contributions are valuable and special thanks must go to Wong Lu Peen whose tireless commitment kept us going.

Lim Chee Wee  
Chairman  
Conveyancing Practice Committee

# ENVIRONMENTAL LAW COMMITTEE

Chairman : Sanjeev Kumar Rasiah

Members :	Asmet Nasruddin	Goh Hoon Huar
	Nurliza Ramli	Shishila Surya Kasim
	Karen Kimkana	Steven Cheok Hou Cher
	Sharon Tan	Kumar Thuraisingam
	Rajasundram	Anne Wong Wai Yee
	Balbir Singh	Elizabeth Lee Pei Shen

The Environmental Law Sub-Committee (ELC) 2004/2005 took over office on 13-4-2004 when the sub-committee under review held its first meeting. There was good response from the members of the KL Bar when we had 12 members who joined this sub-committee after invitations were sent out to the KL Bar members to join the various sub-committees of the KL Bar. Some of the sub-committee members who volunteered their time and effort the year under review were also part of the ELC for 2003/2004.

During the first meeting, the ELC members decided that they will continue to finalise some of the projects that were still pending from the ELC 2003/2004 as some of the pending projects were only at the implementation stage.

The following were the projects undertaken by the sub-committee under review :

## MEMORANDUM ON LOCAL AUTHORITY COUNCILLORS

This Memorandum was prepared by Puan Animah Kosai the previous Chairperson of the ELC 2002/2003. The Memorandum was prepared due to the unsatisfactory role played by the Local Authority Councillors in undertaking environmental concerns at the local authority level such as recycling, rubbish collection, water supply, environmental pollution, congestion, entertainment and recreational activities and various other areas, which are under the direct purview of the Local Councillors. The Memorandum looked at the appointment of Local Councillors and the shortcomings in the criteria for such appointments.

The Memorandum was presented to the Deputy Minister of Housing and Local Government, Yang Berbahagia Dato' Hj Azidah binti Datuk S.P. Hj. Mohd. Dun on the 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 at the Ministry of Housing and Local Government by the Chair of the ELC accompanied by several sub-committee members. The Ministry had also invited the press to cover the presentation of the Memorandum and the event was thereafter reported in several local newspapers, highlighting the several important issues contained in the Memorandum. The Deputy Minister had given her assurance that the Ministry would look into the suggestions contained in the Memorandum and the ELC hopes that there will be some feedback from the Ministry in the near future.

## KL BAR ELC-MNS CHILDREN'S CAMP AT FRIM

The ELC together with the Malaysian Nature Society organised a 3-day children's camp from 24<sup>th</sup> September 2004 to 26<sup>th</sup> September 2004 at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) in Kepong. The participants for the children's camp were school children from throughout West Malaysia who were members of their respective school's "Kelab Pencinta Alam". The event was a huge success as 26 school children from all over West Malaysia traveled to Kepong to attend the camp accompanied, by their school teachers. Children of members of the KL Bar also attended the camp. The camp was aimed to educate young children on the importance of the environment and the need to safeguard and preserve the environment.

The children's camp was fully funded by the ELC from the funds collected from the "Sharkie" project of the ELC 2001/2002 and from surplus monies collected from other ELC projects over the years. It is hoped that the ELC with the support of the KL Bar will continue to have such camps for children in the near future as the response from this year's camp was very good and it clearly displayed the interest of the children on environmental issues.

## VISIT TO FIREFLY PARK RESORT, KUALA SELANGOR

On 17-7-2004 the ELC organised a trip to the Firefly Park Resort located at Kuala Selangor, which has been in the limelight recently due to the reduced population of fireflies at the park, due to pollution and development. 17 members of the KL Bar together with their families joined in this trip. The trip included an 8 course dinner at the Firefly Park Resort before the participants enjoyed the boat ride to observe the fireflies under the dark skies.

Apart from achieving the intention of getting members of the KL Bar to get together, the trip was also to create awareness amongst members of the KL Bar as to the current state of the population of the fireflies at the park. The resort is reputed to have the largest firefly population in the world, before the acute reduction in its population over the years due to the emergence of factories and dumping activities along the Kuala Selangor coastline.

## **MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT**

Under the leadership of Yang Berhormat Datuk Seri Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi as the 5<sup>th</sup> Malaysian Prime Minister, saw the establishment of a separate Ministry for Environment, which is most welcomed by environmentalist in this country including the ELC. The ELC the year under review decided that the sub-committee ought to also play some role in the policy developments of the environmental laws in this country and thus decided that the ELC should establish a working relationship with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, in particular with the Department of Environment. The ELC was also responding to the call by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment who invited any interested parties to be involved in the amendments of the environmental laws in Malaysia. The ELC decided to respond to the call by the Minister as the ELC would be in a good position to comment on such laws being a body that represents lawyers in Kuala Lumpur.

On 9.09.2004, at the request of the ELC and the invitation of the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, the Chair of the ELC and a few members of the ELC met with the Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment Dato' Sothinthan, the Director General of the Department of Environment, together with various senior staff of the Ministry, to discuss various manner by which the ELC would be able to render assistance in the Ministry's efforts in amending the various Environmental Laws in Malaysia. The meeting was very encouraging and productive and the Ministry has agreed to establish a working relationship with the ELC and also to have dialogue sessions with the Ministry.

Subsequent to the meeting with the Deputy Minister, on 13.10.2004 the ELC was invited to join in the dialogue session with various NGO's and the senior officers of the Department of Environment on the shortcoming of the various environmental legislation. The Chairman of the ELC and a sub-committee member represented the ELC at the said meeting. The ELC was welcomed by the officials of the Department of Environment and the NGO's to play a role in giving comments on the shortcomings of the environmental legislations and the recommendations that have already been put forward by the various NGO's who had previously met with the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment at a separate dialogue session.

The ELC hopes that by creating an access to the Ministry and the Department of Environment, the KL Bar through its ELC will continue to forge ahead with its aim to seek amendments to the various environmental legislations and to have continuous dialogue session with the relevant authorities with the aim of better enhancement of the environmental legislations in this country.

## **CARBON CREDITS**

In continuing with the ELC's interest in the Kyoto Protocol and Carbon Credits that was established by the ELC of 2003/2004, an article on Carbon Credits was published in the Infoline of July/August/September 2004 Issue. The ELC hopes that articles on environmental issues will become a feature in the publications of the KL Bar, "Relevan" as well as the Bar Council, "Infoline".

## **CONCLUSION**

The ELC had undertaken several major projects the year under review. The ELC had also drawn up various other projects with the aim of making issues of environment a forefront of the ELC. These projects include reviving the 3R and Recycling Campaign among legal firms in KL, papers on the Environmental Impact Assessment reports and its effectiveness and spearheading a campaign on preserving natural habitats. Following the tragedy of tsunami, the ELC believes that issues of environment will from henceforth be forefront on the minds of all communities.

Finally the Chair of the ELC expresses his gratitude to all the ELC members for volunteering their time and efforts in serving the ELC for 2004/2005 and to the members of the KL Bar who have supported the activities of the ELC.

Sanjeev Kumar Rasiah  
Chairman  
Environmental Law Committee

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Chairman : Abdul Rashid Ismail

Members :	Hasnal Bin Hashim	Haslyna Hashim
	Samuel Hong	Samirah Muzaffar
	Wong Shou Sien	Syed Naqiz Shahabuddin ah
	Fahri Azzat	Ding Jo-Ann
	Teo Chiang Chye	Lee Sung Wah
	Sonya Liew Yee Aun	Michael Chai Woon Chew
	Johanna Ibrahim	

1. It was an exciting year for the KL Bar IT Committee as we undertook and completed the tasks that we had set out to do for the year.
2. In essence, this year the Committee was involved in:
  - Revamping the KL Bar Website
  - Producing an IT Guide for members
  - Organising IT related seminars
  - Organising IT Fair

### The KL Bar Website

3. If you have not had the opportunity to surf the revamped website, we would cordially invite you to do so. We are pleased with the new site – which carries a refreshed and more modernised look. The website was designed to be user friendly and to enable members to have quick access to practical information. We have provided lots of advertising space so that the website can be a source of income for the KL Bar and members can have access to information about products and services that may prove useful in practice at a touch of a button.
4. Several new pages have been inserted including:
  - Court Listings
  - Classifieds
  - Directories containing various useful contacts
  - Legal Practice
  - Links – provides links to other related and relevant legal websites
  - Membership Services
  - Membership Statistics
  - Public Awareness
  - Pupillage Vacancies
5. Members will be receiving a complimentary bookmark from the Committee which summarises the facilities available on the website.
6. The Committee has also initiated an E-Newsletter which will be circulated to members on a weekly basis to update members on what is available on the website and to encourage usage.

## **The KL Bar IT Guide**

7. The purchase of an IT system for the office is generally one of the highest expenses a legal firm will have to incur. Mistakes can be costly. This year's Committee decided that members may find an IT guide useful. This guide will be distributed free to assist members who intend to set up an IT system in their office. We anticipate that the guide will be ready for distribution by the end of March 2005.

## **The KL Bar IT Seminars**

8. Three seminars were organised this year. The Committee organised a Seminar on "*Using Technology to Support Case Preparation, Advocacy & Practice Management*" which was divided into two parts. The first part of the Seminar was held on 23.3.2004 and the second part was held on 1.4.2004.
9. On 21.8.2004 in a seminar organised jointly with the KL Bar CLE Committee a member of our committee, Ms Wong Shou Sien gave a talk on "*The ICT Revolution: the Challenges And The Need To Regulate E-Commerce*". Approximately 39 members attended this talk and we were most encouraged by the participation and interest shown by the members.
10. The Committee will be organising a seminar jointly with Business Network Solutions entitled "*Turning Costs into Profits because it is a Business*" on 7.3.2005.

## **The KL Bar IT Fair**

11. An IT Fair will be held on 10.3.2005 to enable the members to view the latest Legal IT products available in the market.

## **A Note of Appreciation**

12. I must make mention of the various committee members who had spared many billable hours to participate and make the various activities of the Committee a success.
13. In particular I would like to extend my gratitude and make special mention of:
  - Samuel Hong of Messrs. Zain & Co for his various significant contribution
  - Fahri Azzat of Messrs. Azzat & Izzat for preparing the write up for the Legal Practice section on the website
  - Hasnal Hashim of Messrs. Chung Hasnal & Partners for securing information and consent from various government agencies
  - Wong Shou Sien of Messrs. Raja, Darryl & Loh for her assistance in drafting various agreements
  - Kavitha Thilagar from the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee Secretariat for her valuable contribution in all the activities of this Committee
14. I sincerely hope that we have managed to serve the members well and help provide practical information and innovative solutions for their practice.

Abdul Rashid Ismail  
Chairman  
Information Technology Committee

## PUBLIC RELATIONS & COURT LIAISON COMMITTEE

Chairman : R. Ravindra Kumar

Members :	Teh Yoke Hooi	Sivanesan Nadarajah
	Dahlia Lee Wooi Mien	Sivakumar Kanagasabai
	Lee Chin Peow	N.Sivananthan
	Mathew Thomas Philip	Francis Soh
	Rohini Alagendra	Elaine Law Soh Ying
	Rajesh Kumar	Justin Voon Tiam Yu
		Ragunath Kesavan

I had once again the pleasure of being the Chairman for this sub-committee. As a starting point we sent out a circular inviting members of the KL Bar to address any grievance or concerns they had with regards to the administration of justice in the Kuala Lumpur courts and/or Government agencies.

Based on the feedback received from members we embarked on our plan for the year and attempted to address these concerns at the various forums held in the course of the year.

### **Meeting with the Head Judge of Shah Alam on 7.5.2004**

The meeting was initiated by the Selangor Bar Committee who extended an invitation to us. Ms. Teh Yoke Hooi represented the committee at this meeting. A copy of the minutes of the meeting was posted to members on 17.5.2004 via circular. The meeting was cordial and I wish to thank Ms. Teh who put forward various issues raised by our members at the said meeting.

### **Meeting with the Klang Sessions court judiciary on 20.8.2004**

This meeting was initiated once again by the Selangor Bar Committee and Ms. Elaine Law represented the committee at the meeting. A copy of the minutes of the meeting was posted to members via e-mail. Many issues were canvassed and taken up and some concerns were expressed by the court and prosecution officers. I wish to thank Ms. Law for her assistance in this matter.

### **Meeting with the Judges of the Appellate & Special Powers Division on 28.8.2004**

We had a good meeting with the Judges, Timbalan Pendaftars, and Registrars of the Appellate & Special Powers Division. The meeting was very positive and much of our suggestions and concerns raised were duly addressed. A copy of the minutes of this meeting was posted to members via e-mail on 14.10.2004. Our request for the cause list for the Registrars was well received. Members can now access the entire cause list for this Division at the KL Bar website. I would also like to express my thanks to Mr. Mathew Thomas for preparing the minutes for this meeting.

### **Meeting with Dato' Musa, Director of Criminal Investigation Division on 28.10.2004**

The KLBC Chairman and members of this committee met with Dato' Musa. The purpose of the meeting was to establish an avenue for future discussion with regards to problems faced by our criminal law practitioners. This meeting was cordial and Dato' Musa was open to the idea of maintaining a 2-way channel. As members know Dato' Musa is now the Deputy IGP. The incoming committee will naturally have to follow through with further discussions and it is hoped that much will be gained in the future. Many thanks to Mr Sivanesan Nadarajah who helped to coordinate this meeting.

## **Meeting with the Judge and Registrars in the Commercial Division of the High Court on 29.10.2004**

We had a good meeting with the Commercial Division, which was attended by Y.A. Dato' Vincent Ng and the registrars from the various courts. In particular the committee highlighted the concerns faced by members in the Bankruptcy courts. A copy of the minutes of the meeting was circulated to all members on 4.11.2004. I would like to thank Mr. Rajesh Kumar for preparing the minutes for this meeting.

## **Meeting with Y.A. Dato' James Foong and his registrars in the Civil Division on 25.1.2005**

This meeting was presided by Y.A. Dato' James Foong in the presence of Y.A. Dato' Azmel. The various Registrars and Deputy Registrars were also in attendance. Many issues were raised and addressed at the said meeting. I am pleased to report that we have managed to get the entire cause list for this Division and the same will be posted on the KL Bar website. A copy of the minutes of the meeting will be circulated to members. I wish to express my appreciation to Ms. Dahlia Lee for having liaised with this division and for preparing the minutes.

## **Proposed Meeting with the KL Sessions Court Judges, Magistrates**

I had on several occasions personally met Dato' Azman, the previous Hakim Kanan in the sessions court with a view to arrange for a meeting. In fact a meeting was scheduled in September 2004 with him and the rest of the judges but had to be deferred in view of his transfer in October 2004. I have since met with the new Hakim Kanan, Puan Yamuna Menon and have requested for a date for a meeting. Various issues raised by our members have been brought to her attention and she has agreed to look into them and is in the process of making some changes. Members can be rest assured that all issues of concerns are being addressed on an ad hoc basis pending a formal meeting.

## **Law Textbooks for the Subordinate Courts**

For the benefit of members, the law reports and textbooks were moved from the KL Bar Secretariat to the Bar Room at Jalan Raja Magistrate's court. Members were duly notified of this move via an e-mail on 15.10.2004. It is hoped that members will fully use the resource materials.

I am pleased to report that this committee was able to achieve almost all of our plans that were set out for this year. In addition there were several Ad Hoc meetings that were attended to at various levels on a case to case basis in order of importance.

I would like to express my appreciation to every member of this committee who worked beyond the call of duty to attend, identify and address issues at various levels to help improve the system of legal practice in Kuala Lumpur. This would not have been possible if not for their dedication and commitment.

My sincere thanks also go to Mary, Kavitha and the staff at the Secretariat for their invaluable assistance rendered during my term.

Lastly, I wish to express my appreciation to the Chairman of the KL Bar, Mr. Jerald Gomez and to my colleagues at the KL Bar Committee for their support and involvement in our meetings with the Judiciary.

It is heartening to note that the Judiciary is open to receiving ideas from the KLBC. The committee hopes to build on this relationship and will continue to strive and address issues of concern that affect the administration of justice.

R.Ravindra Kumar  
Chairman  
Public Relations and Court Liaison Committee

## RELEVAN NEWSLETTER

### Members of the Editorial Board

Lim Chee Wee (Editor)

Gopal Sreenevasen

Ravindran Nekoo

Nicole Fiona Wee Sue-Ren

Brendan Navin Siva

K Shanmuga

Rishwant Singh

Cheng Poh Heng

Francis Soh

Bernard Francis

Jeswynn Yogaratnam (Invitee)

1. The Editorial Board decided on the following objectives for its term:
  - (i) to continue with the good work of the previous Editorial Board in producing 4 quarterly issues;
  - (ii) to have interviews with senior lawyers and judges (retired or serving) as a regular feature;
  - (iii) to raise sufficient revenue from advertisements to cover at least 50% of the costs of print and distribution of Relevant; and
  - (iv) to improve the quantity and quality of writing, articles published and the layout.
2. Our actual performance measured against our objectives is as follows:
  - (i) as at the date of print of this report, we have successfully produced 3 issues albeit with slight delay due to additional time required to finalise the transcripts of the interviews and confirmations of advertisements. We are working on the final issue which we target to go to print around the time of the Annual General Meeting of the KL Bar.
  - (ii) the interviews were a hit and we received positive feedback from our readers. The interview with Dato' V C George was reproduced in another State Bar newsletter.
  - (iii) we raised a total of RM 11,306.91 for the 3 issues which were sufficient to defray 44% of the costs of print and distribution. The increasing number of KL members meant that these costs would also increase.
  - (iv) in respect of articles, we had mixed success as there were a couple of complaints regarding the lack of "punch" in the articles published compared to the previous issues. We have sought to address this and our readers will be the judge of this effort. We were successful in attracting a greater number of contributors. The layout has improved with a new designer.
3. On a final note, I wish to thank each and every one of the Editorial Team for their commitment, effort and time. The publication would not have been possible without their contribution and of course our KL Bar members who contributed their writings to us. Apart from the members, I wish to thank Ms Robyn Choi for her assistance in the interview with Mr. Lim Kean Chye and Ms Kavitha, our Executive Officer, whose tireless energy brought in the necessary income for Relevant.

Lim Chee Wee  
Chairman  
Relevant Editorial Board



## SOCIAL AND PUPILS' WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman : Colin Andrew Pereira

Members :	Ivan Wong Ee-Vern	Jill Yow Pit Kin
	Reggie Wong Mew Sum	Sharon Tan
	Kalathevy Sivagnanam	Elaine Ho
	Natalie Peh Suan Wan	Philip Huang
	Sakthi Perumal	Fiona Lee
	Andrew Shee Hoon Joo	Streisand Beh
	Nik Azfa Mohd Noor	Natasha Agil
	Ruby Rabi Mat Rabi	Chua Sook Mun

This year, the Social and Welfare Committee was merged with the Pupils' Welfare Committee.

### Annual Dinner & Dance

The Annual Dinner and Dance was held on 11 October 2004 at the Sheraton Imperial, Kuala Lumpur with the theme "The Masquerade Party". Approximately 480 guests including Judges attended the function. In conjunction with the event, a souvenir programme that encapsulated the activities of the Kuala Lumpur Bar during the last one year was produced. The committee would like to put on record its thanks for the support received from the many firms and individual members.

### Social Get-Together

The Social Get-Together at Finnegan's Hartamas was jointly organised with the Young Lawyers Committee on 19 August, 2004. This was extremely well attended by lawyers.

### The Dato' Dr Peter Mooney Oratory Contest

The second Oratory Contest is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> March 2005. It is envisaged that there will be two categories, for pupils in chambers and for lawyers of up to 3 years post qualifying experience.

### Blood Donation

A blood donation drive was held at the Bar Room at the Lower Courts in Jalan Raja jointly with Pusat Darah Negara on 26 August 2004.

### Reference Proceedings

Reference proceedings were held on 27 November 2004 for the following members who departed during the year:

1. Murugavell Arumugam
2. Zainoon Binti Zakariah
3. Divakaran Mathavan Nair
4. Loo Han Keang
5. T.Selvarasan
6. Datuk Sivalingam Munusamy

The Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee was represented by Mr Jerald Gomez, the Bar Council by Tuan Haji Sulaiman and the Attorney General's Chambers by Dato' Abd Rahim Bin Uda. The committee wishes to place on record its appreciation to the these lawyer and to Justice Dato' Md. Raus Bin Sharif for agreeing to preside over the proceedings.

### **Objection to Pupil's Petition**

During the year, there were objections raised in respect of one pupil's admission as an Advocate and Solicitor. After studying the facts, the committee was satisfied that there were no basis for the objections and supported the pupil in her petition. The Judge, after hearing submissions, proceeded to dismiss the objections and admitted the pupil concerned.

The committee would like to place on record, its appreciation to Cik Sa'adiah Bt. Din for representing the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee during the proceedings.

### **Pupils' Briefing**

To ensure that long calls proceeded smoothly, briefing sessions were held for all pupils prior to their respective calls. The committee also assisted pupils to find movers for their calls.

### **Tea Party After Long Calls**

It was a tradition of the Bar previously (a practice which remains in other States) that pupils getting admitted would host a reception. The Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee, recognising that it is not possible for the many pupils getting called to host a joint reception, but at the same time hoping to keep alive this tradition, took the initiative in organising such receptions after each call, except during the Puasa month.

### **Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Bench and Bar Get Together**

A gathering between members of the Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Bars as well as members of the Judiciary was held on 4 February 2004 at the Royal Selangor Club.

### **Admissions**

In 2004, there were 727 new admissions in Kuala Lumpur. The committee would like to place on record, its thanks to the following lawyers who have represented the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee during the long calls:

1. Cik Mazlinda Makhzan
2. Mr Kitson Foong
3. Mr Loh Chien Hsiung
4. Ms Selvi Kanagasabai
5. Encik Mohamad Isherafar Bin Ali Mohamad
6. Mr R Rajes
7. Mr G K Ganesan
8. Mr Ganesa K Sinnadurai
9. Mr Alex Chang Huey Wah
10. Mr Loo Wi-Chung
11. Cik Yasmeen Bt Hj Muhamad Shariff
12. Mr Joy Appukuttan
13. Mr Francis Innasi Brigged
14. Ms Deepinder Kaur a/p Tara Singh
15. Ms Viola Lettice De Cruz
16. Ms Aimee Liew Sau Harn
17. Mr Chuah Haw Ping
18. Ms Yong Lai Ling
19. Ms J Rajaretnam
20. Ms Lee Poh Kwee
21. Ms Low Chooi Ping
22. Mr P Jayasingam
23. Datin Isharidah Ishak
24. Mr Ravi Nekoo
25. Ms Cheryl Ann Marie Nicholson
26. Ms Mallika Lee
27. Mr Indran Jeganathan

Colin Andrew Pereira  
Chairman  
Social & Pupils' Welfare Committee

# SPORTS

## 1. Committee Members

Chairman : Anand Ponnudurai

The following convenors were appointed to assist in the organising of the following games:-

- |       |            |   |                 |
|-------|------------|---|-----------------|
| i.    | Badminton  | : | A.I. Nathan     |
| ii.   | Cricket    | : | Alex De Silva   |
| iii.  | Golf       | : | Koh Yew Chong   |
| iv.   | Hockey     | : | Satvinder Singh |
| v.    | Netball    | : | Wong Keat Ching |
| vi.   | Soccer     | : | Peter Ling      |
| vii.  | Squash     | : | Jayne Koe       |
| viii. | Tennis     | : | Robin Lim       |
| ix.   | Volleyball | : | Cheow Wee       |

## 2. Annual Series

### 2.1 16<sup>th</sup> Sports Carnival – KL Bar vs. Royal Selangor Club Games (*Tan Sri Dato' Harun Hashim Challenge Trophy*)

The 16<sup>th</sup> Sports Carnival was scheduled to be held at the Royal Selangor Club on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2005 but was postponed by RSC due to unavoidable circumstances and is now scheduled for March, 2005. Preparations are already underway by the respective KL Bar teams with the hope of recapturing the Trophy which we lost to RSC last year.

### 2.2 5<sup>th</sup> KL Bar/Selangor Bar Games (*Lall Singh Muker Challenge Trophy*)

The Series will be hosted by KL Bar on the 26<sup>th</sup> of February, 2005 at various venues. Pursuant to Selangor Bar's requests, there will be additional games played this year. The games that will be played are badminton, soccer, netball, darts, snooker, volleyball and hockey.

In addition, the Annual Golf Tournament between the KL Bar and Selangor Bar for the Kandiah Chelliah Trophy would be played on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February, 2005.

Again, preparations by the respective KL Bar teams have already commenced and the KL Bar hopes to recapture the Trophy which we lost to Selangor Bar last year.

## 3. Inter-State Bar Tournaments

3.1 An Inter-State Bar Soccer Tournament was organised by the Bar Council and hosted by the Negeri Sembilan Bar in Port Dickson on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2004. The KL Bar sent its Soccer Team and after a two-day gruelling competition, the KL Bar emerged as champions.

3.2 Simultaneous with the above Soccer Tournament, the Negeri Sembilan Bar also hosted the Inter-State Golf Tournament in Port Dickson on 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2004. The KL Bar sent a big contingent of its best golfers but unlike the Soccer Team, emerged runners up to the Selangor Bar.

3.3 The Bar Council had also requested the KL Bar to organise and host an Inter-State Bar Badminton Tournament. We had agreed to the same and the tournament was hosted by the KL Bar at the Selangor Badminton Hall in Jalan Kampung Attap on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2004. The KL Bar Badminton Team emerged as champions.

#### 4. **General**

##### 4.1 **Badminton**

- a. Under the able convening of A.I. Nathan who is also the Vice President of the KL Badminton Association, badminton has been very active this year. The KL Bar badminton team consists of some very good players and they regularly have friendly matches with Badminton teams of other clubs and organisations.
- b. For the first time also this year, a badminton tournament was organised on a league format at the SBA Hall every Saturday morning over the period of three (3) months from August to October, 2004. To make it interesting, interested players who wanted to participate were requested to submit their names and thereafter a random draw was done by the Committee to decide the partnership as the league was conducted only for doubles. Response was good and there were a total of thirty two (32) pairs who were divided into two (2) groups.

##### 4.2 **Soccer**

The 17<sup>th</sup> Thayalan Memorial Cup Seven aside Football tournament for the Challenge Trophy donated by Messrs. Skrine & Co. is normally held in the month of December every year. Due to difficulty in obtaining two (2) pitches of relative good condition for the tournament in December, the same will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, 2005 at UNITEN in Bangi. This tournament is always keenly contested and participation is from lawyers from all over the country.

##### 4.3 **Netball**

The lady lawyers meet regularly to play netball at various venues and had been quite active as they have played netball teams from other organisations and played other State Bars netball teams on friendly basis.

##### 4.4 **Volleyball**

The volleyball section has also been quite active over the past year and regular games amongst members are organised at the YMCA in Brickfields.

##### 4.5 **Hockey**

The KL Bar hosted the Negeri Sembilan Bar at the Tun Razak Stadium in the annual series on the 27<sup>th</sup> of August, 2004. As expected, the KL Bar again won this match.

#### 5. **Note of Thanks**

The committee wishes to place on records its thanks to all convenors for sacrificing their time and effort in organising their respective games. The committee also wishes thank all donors for the trophies and sponsorship in various forms in the past years which greatly contributed towards the success of the various sports activities. Last but not least, the committee thanks all “sporting members” who have participated and supported the various activities of the Sports Committee over the past year. Whilst participation has increased and is encouraging in general, it is hoped that more members in particular the younger lawyers, will participate in the coming years’ activities.

Anand Ponnudurai  
Chairman  
Sports Committee

## YOUNG LAWYERS COMMITTEE

The Young Lawyers Committee (or YLC) was initialised specifically for the young, new, dynamic and up coming legal practitioners of the country. The term 'young' does not necessarily connote age, as members of the YLC comprises those who have been in the legal profession for 7 years and under. The Committee was set up in 1998, with its primary objective being to improve the quality of the workings of the legal system, integrate the working relationship between young lawyers, and to tackle the draconian law that prohibits young lawyers from holding office in any Bar Council and State Bar Committees. The YLC further endeavours to assist 'young' legal practitioners in any matters or challenges that arises.

With regard to the YLC of KL Bar, comprising 25 committee members, it has proven itself to provide for the needs of its peers during the 2004/05 period in every way possible.

The YLC of KL Bar initially formed a few sub-committees within the YLC with specific portfolio. However these sub-committees were fused to form a single faction to organise its schedule for the period of 2004/05.

Below is a report of the list of programmes and events undertaken by the YLC of KL Bar.

### **A. Legal Bowlers**

The first event undertaken by the YLC was a bowling get-together that was held at the Cosmic Bowl, Midvalley on 09.07.2004. With its distinctive funky-underground like feel, i.e. darkened play area, neon lights, glowing bowling balls and equally glow in the dark bowling pins, the event was a strike, as far as leisure and fun was concerned, for it did not matter if you were a kingpin or a classic 'drain cleaner'. The motto at the end of the day was to have as much fun as possible, a criterion that can certainly be attested to by the attendees of this leisure event.

Plans are underway to organise this game on a regular basis. One of the plans under discussion is to hold a friendly bowling game with the Lower Courts' Magistrates and Judges in the near future.

### **B. Legal Socialists**

A social get-together was held jointly by the Social and Pupils Welfare Committee and YLC of KL Bar at Finnegan's pub, Hartamas on 19.08.2004. This social get-together was attended by around 130 people, and what better way to finish up the day than to share your day's adventures with a fellow legalite. Here, everybody got to mingle with each other, and socialise about all kinds of matters, be it legal or otherwise. It gave everybody a chance to expose their non-legal side, a rarity when 2 or more lawyers get together on an average day.

### **C. Legal Talk**

On 29.09.2004, the YLC of the KL Bar organised a talk on "An Overview of Capital Markets", an event which was attended by 120 people. The talk, which was presented by Dato' Zuraidah Atan, touched on issues involving the financial markets in Malaysia. Here, Dato' Zuraidah enlightened everyone on the workings of the way the financial market worked; the direction in which the financial sector and capital market development was headed and should be headed; guidelines on the Securities Act 1993, Malaysian Code on Corporate Governance as well as take-overs and mergers; the functions of the debt and derivative markets and its relationship with the equity market; and other related issues.

Interestingly, this talk allowed the YLC of KL Bar to earn RM1,600.00 in collection benefits, which was then channeled towards improving the facilities of the committee as well as for its members.

#### **D. Section 46A of the Legal Profession Act 1976**

An issue that has been a constant cause for action for the YLC has been to campaign for the repeal of Section 46A of the Legal Profession Act 1976. The said Act prohibits young legal practitioners (who have been in the legal profession for under 7 years) from being elected into the Bar Council or State Bar Committees. There have been many previous campaigns set out by the YLC to create awareness on the effect of Section 46A and to work towards causing the repeal of the said provision.

Initially proposed by the KL Bar, the issue was further campaigned by the Malaysian Bar's National Young Lawyers Committee, which received great support. In September 2003, the YLC successfully launched the KL Bar's campaign to repeal S46A of the Legal Profession Act 1976 in the form of a road show.

Throughout the period of 2004/05, the YLC of the KL Bar organised specific events (as mentioned above), and it was through these events that we instilled awareness the importance of repealing S46A of the Legal Profession Act 1976. The persons who attended the abovementioned events were updated and thoroughly informed on the role the YLC played where this issue was concerned.

#### **E. Pangkor Convention**

On 28 to 30.01.2005, the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Young Lawyers Convention was held over a weekend in the beautiful island of Pangkor. Among the topics covered at this convention included legal activism, exploring disenfranchisement and the future of the young lawyers, as well as an overview and review of present and past conventions. A workshop was also organised to allow the young lawyers to work in groups and concentrate on debating the specific issues that was raised. The result of the workshop was the issuance of the statement of the convention containing the various resolutions that were passed by the young lawyers who attended the convention.

The YLC of the KL Bar had an active part in organising this convention especially, in that they organised and fully funded KL Bar's members' transportation to attend the convention.

#### **Foresight (Future Events)**

In the upcoming months, the YLC of the KL Bar plans to organise a league based futsal tournament between legal firms in Kuala Lumpur. The proposed idea is to have unisex teams made up of a coalition of firms as one team (if necessary) or firms on their own. Larger firms are also encouraged to produce as many teams as they wish.

Details will be confirmed in the upcoming months.

#### **Conclusion**

The YLC will continue in its effort to highlight the needs of our junior bar and promote active participation of the junior bar in all Bar Council and the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee events. We hope that the activities that we have organised will encourage active participation in our future events and we look forward to a greater 2005/2006.

Finally, I wish to thank the members of the YLC for their effort, time and energy.

Dinesh Kanavaji  
Chairman  
Young Lawyers Committee

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

We had a lot of activities which we had done that can be seen in the calendar of events.

I have ensured that all the activities went on smoothly with the cooperation of the various Project Heads.

I thank all the volunteers on behalf of the Bar Council Legal Aid Centre Kuala Lumpur [BCLAC(KL)], National Legal Aid Committee (NLAC) and the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee (KLBC) for assisting us in doing our bit for the needy in the society through Legal Aid's various programmes.

There have been some allegations against the staff of the BCLAC(KL) and a Management Panel member which I have brought to the attention of the KLBC (both issues) and NLAC (on the latter).

I am sad to inform that at the Management Panel meeting on the 3.2.2005 (less than a month before the end of my tenure) and also two meetings before that I have been accused of a lot of things by certain members of the Management Panel which made it unbearable for me to continue as a Legal Aid Chairperson and I have tendered my resignation on the 14.2.2005.

I hereby state that I took my duty as the Chairperson of BCLAC(KL) very seriously and did what I thought was right. Reporting any allegations made against the Centre to elected members of the KL Bar cannot be a fault.

At the KLBC meeting on 22.2.2005, I addressed the KLBC members and reconsidered my decision to resign and withdrew my resignation until the AGM.

The Hon. Secretary of the BCLAC(KL) has prepared a further report independently.

Sa'adiah Bt Din

## THE PANEL

Sa'adiah Din (Chairperson)  
Fahri Azzat (Honorary Secretary)  
Sri Murugan  
Baljit Singh Sidhu  
M. Kamalam  
Yasmeen Hj Mohd Shariff  
Ramlah Begum Mohamed Ibrahim  
Preetam Kaur  
K. Parameswary  
Faizati Mohd Ali  
Charles Hector

Ravi Nekoo  
So Chien Hao  
N. Surendran  
Sivarasa Rasiah  
R. Kesavan  
Jayaletchumi Rajaretnam  
Stanley Sinnappen  
Amer Hamzah Arshad  
Fashilah Ahamat @ Mohd  
Ros 'Aini Idris  
Ramesh K. Kumaraguru  
M. Murugan

## INTRODUCTION

For the term of 2004/2005, the Legal Aid Centre ('LAC') has unfortunately had a tumultuous year in respect of its administration. After carrying out an investigation, it was discovered that a volunteer lawyer was abusing the administration of the LAC by using it as a source to obtain work personally, and contrary to LAC policy, charging LAC clients to handle their matters. Having known of the impending investigation and complaints, the volunteer lawyer went on the offensive and made allegations of financial and managerial improprieties as well as staff issues to the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee Chairman, Bar Council and even the National Legal Aid Committee. Regretfully, much time has been spent not only by the administration with having to investigate this volunteer lawyer, and the allegations that made against the LAC, but also by the Management Panel in having to deliberate and deal with these matters with its limited resources. Having conducted an investigation into the volunteer lawyer's allegations, the LAC is happy to report that the allegations of financial and management improprieties are completely without basis.

The LAC is cognisant that like any organisation there will always be staffing issues that need to be addressed and dealt with. Having completed an investigation into the staffing issues raised by the volunteer lawyer, it has been found that whilst there are certain issues that are true (lack of punctuality); these issues have been deliberately raised without placing them in its proper context and unduly exaggerated in a seeming attempt to draw attention away from the allegations of impropriety against the volunteer lawyer. For example, issues such as the lack of medical certification for sick leave by staff members and members of LAC staff not being present in the office during office hours without good reason are without basis.

Despite this setback, LAC projects and clinics have managed to continue unhindered; and has even increased its interactions with tertiary education institutions such as HELP, Taylor's College and University of Malaya, with the aim of setting up clinics, talks and projects with them on a more structured and consistent basis.

At 31 December 2004, the LAC has assisted a total of 11,290 people which is an increase of 1,098 (10.78%) from last year's total. The marked increase in people assisted was due mainly to the increased activity in the new LAC Migrant Workers Clinic which appears to have quickly established itself as an important and necessary clinic. This clinic assisted a total of 1,121 people this year as compared to a mere 70 people last year.

This increase in LAC applicants was predicted by the outgoing committee last year, and from the trend of this term, it would appear that the prediction of increased applicants to the LAC would be similarly applicable for the term of 2005/2006.



As mentioned earlier, local tertiary education institutions have shown an interest in sensitising its students to the actual practice of law, especially from the legal aid perspective, and there appears to be a strong demand from law undergraduates to do an attachment with the LAC. These institutions are also keen to have volunteer lawyers hold talks about the role of the LAC and the volunteer lawyer in society, the clinics and projects conducted by the LAC and certain specific topics as well such as contract law, company law and criminal law. In view of this, the LAC is currently contemplating the manner in which interaction with these institutions and students can be conducted on a more structured and consistent basis.

The LAC has also managed to achieve greater publicity with respect to legal awareness and awareness about the LAC itself with invitations by local radio stations to talk about the LAC, its role in society and certain legal topics. The invitations were made from not only English channels but Tamil, Malay and Chinese ones as well. Whilst this development is laudable, more thought must be given as to whether the LAC should pursue this development in view of its increased workload, clinics and projects and its limited resources, in relation to the audience they are addressing over the radio.

Unfortunately, the LAC also faces the perennial problem of not having enough volunteer lawyers to take up its cases on a pro-bono basis and to participate in its projects and clinics, despite the increased workload that the LAC has had to contend with. The LAC is not hopeful of bridging the gap between supply and demand any time soon. However, it does not mean that the LAC is merely ignoring the issue. Aside from the usual factors that hinder lawyers from participating (lack of cooperation from employers, lack of financial incentives to take up cases, too much firm work to contend with), a contributing factor identified is that lawyers are not certain of the manner in which they can volunteer with the LAC and are afraid that they may commit themselves to something more than they expected. To counter that, the LAC has drawn up a list categorising the different ways in which a volunteer lawyer can participate and listing the requirements a lawyer would need to participate as well as the expectations for a particular task. This list has since been circulated to members of the Kuala Lumpur Bar.

Another perennial problem faced by the LAC is the inadequate funding. With the increase in workload, applicants, projects and clinics, naturally, the funding required to support these matters increases as well. However, as the LAC does not engage in any regular income generating activity, it has to rely solely on funds from the Bar Council and the goodwill of its volunteer lawyers to support its projects, clinics and workload. The LAC is always looking for new ways to raise funds for its activities and to that end the successful fund raising exercise organised by Mr. So and Mr. Ngooi in January 2005 is appreciated and necessary.

The LAC continues to maintain its close working relationships with our NGO partners such as All Women's Action Society (AWAM), Tenaganita, Sisters in Islam (SIS), Women's Aid Organisation (WAO), Pink Triangle Foundation (PTF) and their input is helpful to giving the Management Panel a different perspective on certain issues.

The LAC is mindful that it would not be able to function without the generosity of its volunteer lawyers, the diligence and efficiency of its staff, the dedication of its project heads and committee members and the support of the pupils; and to that end the LAC wishes to give its warmest thanks to all those who have assisted, supported and helped it to achieve its goals. A report regarding the improprieties of the volunteer lawyer has been drawn up and submitted to the NLAC for further action and decision. It is hoped that decisive action will be taken against the volunteer lawyer and that it would serve as a lesson to all those who seek to abuse the LAC for their own nefarious purposes, and serve as a stern reminder that one comes to the LAC not to serve oneself but to serve others.

Fahri Azzat  
Hon. Secretary

**STATISTICS FOR THE PERSONS ASSISTED AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2004**

<i>Persons Assisted 2003</i>	<i>YEAR 2003</i>	<i>YEAR 2004</i>	<i>% INCREASE</i>
<i>LAC Clinic</i>	1292	1571	21.6%
<i>Dock Brief Program</i>	6503	5100	(21.6%)
<i>Syariah Clinic</i>	98	120	22.4%
<i>Sungai Buloh Prison Clinic</i>	1050	860	18.10%
<i>Kajang Women Prison Clinic</i>	216	236	9.2%
<i>Juvenile Remand Home Program</i>	108	107	0.9%
<i>LAC's Migrant Workers Prison Clinic</i>	199	473	137.7%
<i>Sungai Buloh Migrant Workers Clinic</i>	-	438	100%
<i>Outreach Clinics</i>			
<i>LAC/AWAM Legal Information Service</i>	546	542	(0.7%)
<i>LAC's Migrant Workers Clinic</i>	70	1121	1501%
<i>LAC/PTF Clinic</i>	58 **(During workshop cum clinic)	10 **(After pupils program)	(82.7%)
<i>LAC/SIS CLINIC</i>	51	707	1286%
<i>LAC/WAO Legal Information of Advocacy</i>	1	5	400%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10192</b>	<b>11290</b>	<b>10.78%</b>

<i>LEGAL REPRESENTATION (OPENED FILES AND MITIGATION/BAIL APPLICATION) 2004</i>	<i>YEAR 2004</i>
<i>LAC Clinic</i>	233
<i>Dock Brief Program</i>	3391
<i>Syariah Clinic</i>	41
<i>Sungai Buloh Prison Clinic</i>	128
<i>Kajang Women Prison Clinic</i>	13
<i>Juvenile Remand Home Program</i>	61
<i>LAC's Migrant Workers Prison Clinic</i>	71
<i>Sungai Buloh Migrant Workers Clinic</i>	11
<i>Outreach Clinics</i>	
<i>LAC/AWAM Legal Information Service</i>	5
<i>LAC's Migrant Workers Clinic</i>	2
<i>LAC/PTF Clinic</i>	-
<i>LAC/SIS CLINIC</i>	-
<i>LAC/WAO Legal Information of Advocacy</i>	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3958</b>

## 1. **LEGAL AID CENTRE CLINIC**

*Prepared by The Committee*

### **Committee Members**

*Ramesh K Kumaraguru (Project Head)*

*Fahri Azzat*

*Jayaletchumi Rajaretnam*

*Andrew Teh*

*Ong Chin Siong*

*Ramesh Lachmanan*

*Molly M Gomez – Kerisnan*

*Alexis Diana*

### **Introduction**

The Legal Aid Centre Clinic (“LACC”) runs from the Secretariat of the Bar Council Legal Aid Centre (KL) at Wisma Kraftangan and it is one of the main programs of the Centre.

LACC maintains the practice of having pupils interview the applicants. A total of 10 pupils are involved who are at the Centre from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. from Mondays to Fridays for a period of 3 months as part of their compulsory legal aid duty.

### **Pupil's Duty**

The pupils are given a one-day training before they commence duty at the Centre. They are instructed on conducting the means test, briefed on how to interview applicants and on specific areas of law, which attract the most queries. These areas of law are family, employment and criminal law.

A pupil's duty includes interviewing walk-in clients, conducting the means test as well as giving advice where required (this is done after consultation with lawyers on duty or by calling volunteer lawyers on the phone). Their duty would also include opening files when legal representation is required.

### **Objectives of the LACC**

- To stimulate pupils/lawyers to discover their role and responsibility as holistic lawyers in our society.
- To develop a sense of social obligation and a concern for human rights, justice and the rule of law.
- To generate a critical awareness and understanding of society in general, to understand the interplay of forces and the root causes for the problems and inadequacies in Malaysia.
- To attempt to instill and develop a long-term commitment towards legal aid and human rights, which will go beyond the compulsory 14 days of legal aid during pupilage.

### **Statistics**

As at 31 December 2004, a total of 1571 persons were interviewed. There was an increase of 21.6% compared to last year where the persons interviewed were 1292 only.

Out of 1571 persons interviewed, 233 persons were given legal representation, and 691 persons were given advice only. A total of 128 applicants were referred to other clinics, Government departments and other State LACs.

In respect of the remaining 519 applicants who were unsuccessful in obtaining legal aid, 70 persons failed the means test under the assets limb, 124 persons failed the means test under the income limb, 295 persons were disqualified due to jurisdictional grounds and 30 persons were disqualified because of the (lack of) merits of the case.

Out of 233 files, which were opened, criminal cases formed the majority, accounting for 144 files. This was followed by 55 family cases, 22 employment, with 2 housing tenancy cases and 6 miscellaneous cases. During the year we have also given legal representation for 4 public interest litigation cases.

### **Activities**

Following are the activities conducted by the committee:

1. On 20 August 2004, the LACC had a law awareness session with SMK Convent Bucket Nanas students. This was a follow-up from last year's successful session. LACC strongly feels that more attempts to hold legal awareness sessions in secondary schools should be made in future to complement the “Outreach sessions”. Ms Jayaletchumi Rajaretnam, Ms Alexis Diana and Ms Molly M Gomez – Kerisnan coordinated the session.
2. On 19 September 2004, the LACC together with Community Development Centre (CDC) organized an outreach clinic at Bangi. Encik Fahri Azzat coordinated the session together with volunteer lawyers and pupils in chambers.

3. On 2 October 2004, the LACC together with Malaysian Association for the Blind Persons (MABP) organized a talk session. This is the LACC's first attempt to reach out to the physically disabled section of society. The main purpose of this session was to improve legal awareness among the sight impaired and physically disabled in respect of their legal rights and liberties. The ancillary purpose is also to equip them with options and avenues in seeking redress. It is also the clinic's fervent hope that those involved in the clinic obtain a better understanding of the needs of the various communities and their legal problems. The session was successful and MABP has suggested that LACC conduct such sessions on a regular basis and in other languages as well. Mr Andrew Teh and Encik Fahri Azzat coordinated the session together with Mr Sunil Vijayan.
4. On 1 November 2004, another law awareness session was held with SMK Batu 5, Jalan Ipoh students. This session was also a successful session. Mr Ramesh Kumar Kumaraguru coordinates the session with few other volunteer lawyers.

### **Weaknesses**

The LACC regrets to report that a fair share of the pupils possess an apathetic attitude towards their duties. This is evident from the numerous improperly prepared interview sheets that leave out crucial information necessary for rendering advice. Such interview sheets are hindrance to the LACC and its volunteer lawyers because the task of interviewing has to be repeated.

Occasionally, there are pupils that also render advice without first consulting a supervising lawyer that is physically present at the LACC or by telephone. This is reckless and may bring the LACC into disrepute if the advice rendered is incorrect.

The LACC is saddened to note that these pupils do this despite the training session, mid term review and guidance available to the pupils at the premises. This problem is exacerbated by the fact that there are no effective disciplinary procedures available to the LACC to ensure the pupils carry out their duty diligently, effectively and prudently.

Another perennial problem that the LACC faces is the lack of volunteer lawyers interested in carrying out training sessions as well as being physically present at the LACC premises to supervise the pupils. The turn out of volunteer lawyers for the outreach sessions barely reaches the minimum required. There is ample room for improvement in this area.

## **2. SYARIAH CLINIC**

### ***Committee Members:-***

*Cik Ros 'Aini Idris (Project Head from March to June 2004)*

*Cik Rozita Shaik Salleh*

*Cik Noor Suhaida Kasri*

Syariah Clinic is opened daily from Monday to Friday at 10.00 am to 4.30 pm. The Clinic is conducted by pupils who are given specific training by experience syariah lawyers before they start their duties on the Secretariat.

The schedule below provides the number of cases which were conducted in the year 2004:

Type of case	Total
Claims after divorce	40
Fasakh	28
Confirmation of Pronunciation of divorce	9
Khalwat	2
Ta'liq	11
Division of property (Faraid)	4
Dissolution of marriage	4
Divorce Procedure	14
Registration of marriage	4
Alteration of maintenance order	2
Breach of promise to marry	2
Total client for this year	120

The Clinic is receiving good response from the public and the number of clients is increasing every year. The schedule below shows the number of clients between the year 2003 and 2004 who came to obtain legal aid service and volunteer lawyers to act on their behalf in the syariah court: -

Status of cases	Year 2003	Year 2004
Files opened	34	41
Sought advice only	51	38
Advice – Referred to Biro Bantuan Guaman	3	10
Advice – Referred to Jabatan Agama Islam	1	-
Disqualified (Income & Assets)	7	16
No Jurisdiction	2	4
Advice – Referred to other states of Legal Aid Centres:		
Selangor		4
Perlis		1
Melaka		1
Kelantan		1
Perak		1
Kedah		2
Johor		1
Total of clients for Syariah Clinic	98	120

### Activities

This year, the Syariah Clinic organized a Syariah Law Awareness at ‘Pusat Kebahagiaan Wanita Dan Remaja (KEWAJA)’ on 7 August 2004 which was participated by single mothers and teenagers. The speaker was Cik Ros’Aini Idris and she was assisted by Cik Noor Suhaida Kasri for question and answer session. The session was conducted privately in rooms as most of them were uncomfortable to discuss openly.

Syariah Clinic also has successfully prepared a Syariah Law Manual for the reference of pupils used when meeting with clients. This manual was prepared by Cik Ros’Aini Idris.

### Weaknesses

The main weaknesses of the Syariah Clinic is the lack of qualified lawyers who have a license to practice syariah Law. A lack of lawyers who offer their service either as the members of committees or as speakers for the training sessions given to pupils. The Committee also desperately needs more syariah lawyers to provide representation for syariah clients.

### Conclusion

We would like to take this opportunity to thanks the Management Panel, Staff of Legal Aid Centre, Syariah Committee members, the participating pupils and also volunteers participating pupil for their interest and commitment in making the Syariah Clinic run smoothly.

### 3. DOCK BRIEF PROGRAM

*Committee Members:*

*Srimurugan – Project Head*

*Baljit Singh Sidhu*

*Suresh Thanabala Singam*

*Mary Song*

*Amer Hamzah Arshad*

The Dock Brief committee has taken special care in implementing the dock brief program, which involves the training of pupil in the area of criminal representation in Court. In the first quarter of 2004 applications to join the dock brief programme were very encouraging.

Table below shows the cases handled by the pupils participating in the dock brief program for the year 2004.

	2002	2003	2004
Advice given	1916	2287	1709
Bail application / 117 application	14	32	21
Advice Representations & Mitigation	4344	4181	3369
Files Opened	3	3	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6277</b>	<b>6503</b>	<b>5100</b>

This year the figures show a decrease in the number of cases handled by the pupils. This could be attributed to the following factors: -

- (i) Most accused had engaged their own counsel
- (ii) Some turned away our offer to represent as they conducted their own mitigation;
- (iii) Decline in the crime rate, particularly in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the year.
- (iv) Decline in the number of pupils in the Dock Brief Program. In 2003, there were 60 pupils whereas in 2004, we only had 50 pupils per intake.

The areas of bail applications however still remains low. Pupils are encouraged as far as possible to give additional attention to bail application and to inform the person charged and the family members as to the importance of bail. The Committee hopes that by next year, more pupils will have the chance to participate in bail applications.

The Committee has had various impromptu meetings with the Magistrate's, the prosecuting officers and the police officers in charge of the lock ups and Court with view to smoothen the process of representation. The Committee wishes to thank all the officers concerned for their cooperation.

Despite a high number of pupils signing up for the programme, many have yet to obtain locus to appear before the Magistrate's Courts, as a result, many cannot participate directly in the programme for representation.

The Committee has viewed seriously on behaviour and discipline amongst the pupils especially Court decorum. In general, the attendance has improved and the Committee has received very few complaints this year. Various meetings were held with a view to improve the programmes as well as pupils' performance, discipline, attendance and to address all complaints and shortcomings. Efforts are continuously being made to improve the dock brief programme.

Dock Brief pupils batch 35 also had a get together session with Sessions Court Judge Y.Bhg. Hakim Dato' Mohd Azman Bin Husin and other Sessions Court Judges and Magistrates the Dock Brief Committee members. Members also presented a short talk/get together session for chambering students on the Court procedures and ethics at the court premises on the 4<sup>th</sup> March 2004. Tuan Hakim Akhtar bin Tahir gave a short talk to all chambering students on the Practical Decorum in Magistrate Court and Court ethics, at the Session Court 2 (Criminal), on 8 March 2004, 11 March 2004 and 19 March 2004 for Pupils of Batch 35.

Mr Manjeet Singh Dhillon had kindly conducted trainings on Pleas in Mitigation for the Dock Brief Pupils Batch 35 on 13 March 2004.

Dock Brief Training to Selangor Legal Aid Centre Staff was given by Dock Brief Committee on 1 July till 30 July 2004 (1<sup>st</sup> Training) and on 6 & 7 December 2004 (2<sup>nd</sup> Training).

We have also updated our training manual to incorporate pupils duty in remand proceedings.

Components of Training:-

- a) Introduction to Dock Brief
- b) Role of Chambering Pupils
- c) Court and Court Procedure
- d) Dealing with Clients
- e) Office Documentation
- f) Materials and Training
- g) Problem Areas

Asociasaun Advogados Timor Lorosa'E (East Timur Bar Association) Hosted by the Malaysian Bar Council visited the conduct of our Dock Brief Programme at Magistrate Court on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2004. The members of East Timur Bar had sought our views and advise on the conduct of Legal Aid. We are pleased to inform that it was our pleasure to share our views and experiences with them.

Dock Brief Committee has also decided to increase the period for observation from one week to two weeks and extend duty from 8.30 am – 1.00 pm to 8.30 am – 4.00 pm so that pupils will be prepared for the cases they will be handling the following weeks. Student who finish their dock brief duties are encourage to come back to the Legal Aid Centre to prepare for cases that has been adjourned to the following weeks.

Dock Brief Committee committed to give quality seminar.

#### 4. SUNGAI BULOH PRISON CLINIC

**Committee members: -**

*Baljit Singh Sidhu (Project Head)*

*Ramesh Lachmanan*

*A. Balakisanan*

*Mary Song*

*M. Kamalam*

*Lallitha Nagamuthu*

*S. Muhendaran*

#### Introduction

The Sungai Buloh Prison Clinic started its operation since December 1997. The objectives of this clinic are:

- (i) to provide legal services to remand prisoners at the Sungai Buloh Prison
- (ii) to improve the level of competency of lawyers (chambering students)
- (iii) to look into ways and means of reducing the number of remand prisoners at Sungai Buloh Prison;
- (iv) to ensure that there are sufficient pool of volunteer lawyers to provide legal advise and representation in courts
- (v) to ensure that an effective follow up mechanism is in place at Sungai Buloh Prison to monitor the progress of matters handled by this clinic

#### Implementation

To achieve the above objectives, pupils are rostered for duties every alternate Saturday for a period of three months to visit the Sungai Buloh Prison to interview the remand prisoners. During each term, the pupils are trained and provided with training manuals, which contains information on the courts, guideline on common offences and sentences and other relevant information. A team of 20 pupils and 2 volunteer supervisors interviews an average of 60 detainees each session. These pupils also does follow up action at the Centre based on the interviews conducted. The follow up actions are as follows:

- contacting family members on matters relating to bail applications and legal representation
- referring relevant cases to the Dock Brief Programme Pupils
- referring cases to other states – respective State Legal Aid Centre
- referring capital offences cases to the Court Assigned Counsel Scheme
- liaising with volunteer lawyers on the status of files

#### Strength & Weakness

From 1 January 2004 – 31 December 2004, the clinic has reached out to 860 remand prisoners. Out of 860 persons interviewed only 128 files were assigned to volunteer lawyers to represent the accused in court. 172 cases were referred to the Dock Brief Programme for mitigation and bail application. 474 cases were referred to the other state Legal Aid Centres and only advice was given to the remaining .

Advice given	86
Open File	128
Refer to other State	474
Dock Brief Mitigation	172
Total Person Assisted	860

This clinic is also facing some shortcomings in the sense of quality of services provided to the remand prisoners in the following scope:

1. Pupils' inability to extract proper and more facts from the detainees, facts which are not in order and clear and the Interview Sheets are not completed
2. Pupils' inability to give adequate advice to the detainees
3. The inability of Centre to cope with the number of cases to be assigned to volunteer lawyers for court representation due to the shortage of volunteer lawyers
4. The Centre seldom gets feedback on the cases referred to the other State Legal Aid Centre

### Recommendation

This clinic should look into the long-term objectives of the programme such as: -

- to have proper place for interview session in Prison
- to reduce the number of remand prisoners among the lower income segment of society;
- to ensure that remand prisoners do not remain in Sungai Buloh for more than three months
- to ensure that remand prisoners obtain proper advice to enable them to make an informed decision
- to increase the cooperation and liaison between the authorities and the Legal Aid Centre

## 5) KAJANG WOMEN PRISON CLINIC

### Committee members: -

*M.Kamalam (Project Head)*

*Mabel Yong*

### Introduction

The clinic was launched three and a half years ago. The objectives of the clinic is to provide the inmates of the Kajang Women Prison from the northern and southern region with the following:

- (a) providing legal advice on each individual cases;
- (b) providing information to the inmates;
- (c) providing legal representation on the options available to them as these detainees are normally those whom are in remand and
- (d) providing moral support and encouragement as these detainees would not have seen anyone apart from the Prison officials and the other inmates at the Prison and they would have been lost as to what will transpire.

### Others

The Centre also contacts the respective Embassies to inform them of the presence of the foreign remand prisoners of their respective countries at the prison for their necessary action and also the Centre refer cases involving inmates from other states to the respective Bar Council Legal Aid Centre to enable them to do the relevant follow up.

Number of cases attended from 1 January – 31 December 2004

Persons Approached	236
Referred to Dock Brief (Mitigation & Bail Application)	65
Cases Assigned to Counsel	13
Referred to other State Legal Aid Centres	
- Melaka	5
- Johor Bahru	44
- Kuantan	5
- Selangor	55
- Negeri Sembilan	9
- Temerloh	7
Advice only	33

### Advantages

The main strength of the clinic is in the working together of the parties involved namely the Legal Aid Centre in running the clinic especially the supervisors, the pupils and the Kajang Women Prison Authorities. Both the parties have worked together for nearly two and half years to provide legal assistance to the inmates of the prison whom otherwise would be unrepresented and are not given an opportunity to see that justice is being done.



### Shortcomings

As in all other clinics, this clinic does have its own weaknesses namely:

- (a) inability of the pupils to extract proper facts from the inmates and taking down too much inaccurate information;
- (b) lack of training and exposure;
- (c) lack of follow-up on the interviews due to:
  - (i) insufficient feedback from the respective State Legal aid Centre on the cases passed to them (this issue was addressed by the National Legal Aid Committee with the other State Legal Aid Centre and a guideline structured in the form of a letter to be passed by the Chairperson has been prepared for all the Centre's to adopt
  - (ii) insufficient number of lawyers willing to handle remand cases

### Recommendations

- 1. More exposure and training to be given to the pupils
- 2. To have frequent meetings with other State Legal aid Centre to improve the clinic so as to enable it to assist the general public
- 3. To recruit more volunteer lawyers to assist in handling of the cases
- 4. To make recommendation and reform law, relating to the conditions of the remand inmates.

## 6) JUVENILE REMAND HOME PROGRAM

### Committee members: -

*Yasmeen Shariff (Project Head)*

*K. Parameswary (Alternate Head)*

Year 2004 has been a quiet year for the Juvenile Task Force Committee (JTFC). This was due to the fact that there have not been many juveniles remanded in the Remand Homes this year.

As a result of the 18 interviews, a total number of 107 juveniles were interviewed from the above 3 homes (Sek. Tunas Bakti, Asrama Sentosa & Asrama Bahagia) and 61 files opened by the Centre.

The interviews are conducted on working Saturdays and are also subject to permission being obtained on a weekly basis and the availability of juveniles to be interviewed.

Below is the table providing a breakdown of the offences committed:-

Types of offences.

Charged Under Sec.	No. Juveniles	Charged Under Sec.	No. Juveniles
Sec 6 / 7 Immigration Act	7	Sec.379A pc	10
Sec. 18 (6) APF	3	Sec.392 pc	1
Sec. 6 DDA	3	Sec. 395	2
Sec.12 (2) DDA	3	Sec.397	2
Sec.39A DDA	1	Sec.411 pc	16
Sec. 25 (1) (PPN)	7	Sec.393 pc	1
Sec. 42 (1) APJ	3	Sec.18 (3) APF	3
Sec. 324 pc	2	Sec.148 pc	1
Sec.354 pc	3	Sec. 326 pc	2
Sec. 506 pc	2	Sec. 302 pc	1
Sec. 426 pc	2	Sec. 39 B DDA	1
Sec. 376 / 511 pc	4	Sec. 147 Pc	1
Sec.380 pc	3	Sec. 457 pc	7
Sec.379 pc	16		
	59		48

TOTAL: 107

JTFC is planning to meet with and interview Juveniles in Kajang & Sg. Buloh Prison (subject to obtaining the necessary permission).

JTFC has request the KL Bar Committee thru with Sports Committee to assist in organizing a Football Match with the Juveniles and young lawyers sometimes in February 2005.

JTFC welcomes to Volunteer Lawyers to join this committee.

## **7) SUNGAI BULOH MIGRANT PRISON CLINIC**

### ***Committee members: -***

*M. Murugan (Project Head)*

*Lalitha Nagamuthu*

*Yeow Chia Hui*

*Samrith Kaur*

### **Introduction**

The Sungai Buloh Migrant Prison Clinic has just started its operation since May 2004. The main objective of this clinic is:

- i) providing legal services to immigrant remand prisoners in the Sungai Buloh Prison
- ii) improving the level of competency of lawyers (chambering students)
- iii) looking into ways and means of reducing the number of immigrant remand prisoners in Sungai Buloh Prison;
- iv) ensuring that there are sufficient pool of volunteer lawyers to provide legal advise and representation
- v) ensuring that an effective follow up mechanism is in place in Sungai Buloh Prison to monitor the progress of matters handled by this clinic

### **Implementation**

In order to achieve the above objectives, pupils are rostered for duties every alternate Saturdays for a period of three months to visit the Sungai Buloh Prison to interview the immigrant remand prisoners. During each term, the pupils are trained and provided with training manuals, which contains information about the courts, guidelines on common offences and sentences and other relevant information. A team of 5 pupils and 1 volunteer supervisor interviews an average of 40 detainees each session. These pupils do also follow up action at the Centre based on the interviews conducted. The follow up actions are as follows:

- contacting family members or friends on matters related to bail, legal representation and ticket home
- contacting the relevant Embasies in assisting them on their matter
- referring relevant cases to the Dock Brief Programme Pupils
- referring cases to the respective State Legal Aid Centre
- referring capital offences cases to the Court Assigned Counsel Scheme
- liaising with volunteer lawyers on the status of the files

### **Strength & Weakness**

From 22 May 2004 - 31 December 2004, the clinic has reached out to 438 immigrant remand prisoners. Out of 438 persons interviewed only 11 files were assigned to volunteer lawyers to represent the accused in the court. 69 cases were referred to the Dock Brief Programme for mitigation and bail application. 326 cases were referred to the other state Legal Aid Centres and only advice was given to the remaining 32.

Advice given	32
Open File	11
Refer to Other State	326
Dock Brief Mitigation	69
<b>Total Person Assisted</b>	<b>438</b>

The statistics informing the immigrant remand prisoners according to their country. They are mostly from Indonesia followed by India, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Pakistan and others such as Iran, Cambodia, Namibia, South Africa, Burma, China, Singapore, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand, Nigeria, Peru and France

Country	Numbers
Indonesia	174
India	75
Myanmar	67
Bangladesh	47
Pakistan	24
Others	41

This clinic is also facing some shortcomings in the quality of services provided to the immigrant remand prisoners in the following scope:

1. Pupils' inability to extract proper and more facts from the detainees, facts not in order and Interview Sheets are not complete
2. Pupils' inability to give adequate advice to the detainees
3. Pupils inability to communicate in foreign language
4. The Centre inability to cope with the number of cases which are to be assigned to volunteer lawyers for court representation due to the shortage of volunteer lawyers
5. The Centre seldom gets feedback on the cases referred to the other state Legal Aid Centre

#### **Recommendation**

This clinic should also look into the long-term objectives of the programme: -

- to have proper place for interview in Prison
- to reduce the number of immigrant remand prisoners among the lower income segment of society;
- to ensure that immigrant remand prisoners do not remain in Sungai Buloh for more that three months
- to have translator or interpreter for foreign language
- to ensure that immigrant remand prisoners obtain proper advise to enable them to make an informed decision
- increase cooperation and liaison with the authorities

#### **8) KAJANG WOMEN MIGRANT PRISON CLINIC**

##### ***Committee members: -***

*M. Murugan (Project Head)*

*Lalitha Nagamuthu*

*Yeow Chia Hui*

*Samrith Kaur*

##### **Introduction**

This clinic was launched in September 2003. The objectives of this clinic is to provide the immigrant inmates of the Kajang Women Prison with the following:

- (a) giving legal advice on individual cases;
- (b) giving information to the immigrant inmates on immigration law particularly ;
- (c) providing legal representation on the options available to them as these immigrant detainees are normally those whom are in remand and;
- (d) giving moral support and encouragement as these immigrant detainees would be missing their loved ones back in their country who would have been lost as to what has transpired.

### Others

The Centre also contacts the respective Embassies informing them about the presence of the foreign remand prisoners from their respective countries at the prison for their necessary action and the Centre too refer cases to the respective Bar Council Legal Aid Centre enabling them to do the relevant follow up.

Number of cases attended from 1 January – 31 December 2004

Persons Approached	473
Referred to Dock Brief (Mitigation & Bail Application)	39
Cases Assigned to Counsel	71
Referred to other State Legal Aid Centres	
- Melaka	5
- Johor Bahru	29
- Kuantan	3
- Selangor	299
- Negeri Sembilan	11
- Temerloh	2
- Perak	3
Advice only	11

The statistics showing the immigrant remand prisoners according to their country. They are mostly from Indonesia followed by China, Philippine, Thailand, Vietnam and others such as Taiwan, Myanmar, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Columbia, Congo, Argentina, Uzbekistan and Sri Lanka.

Country	Numbers
Indonesia	167
China	70
Philippine	57
Thailand	45
Vietnam	27
Taiwan	18
Myanmar	17
Cambodia	17
Others	50

### Advantages

The main strength is in working together with the Prison authorities and the supervisors and the pupils. We have worked together for nearly a year in order to provide legal assistance to the immigrant inmates in prison whom otherwise would be unrepresented and unfairly.

### Shortcomings

As in all other clinics, this clinic does also have its own weaknesses namely:

- inability of the pupils to extract proper and more facts from the inmates and taking down too much of inaccurate information;
- inability of the pupils in communicating with the immigrant inmates as they don't know much of Malay or English;
- in need of translator or interpreter of foreign language;
- lack of training and exposure;
- lack of follow-up on the interviews due to:

- (i) insufficient feedback from the respective State Legal aid Centre on the cases passed to them (this issue was addressed by the National Legal Aid Committee with the other State Legal Aid Centre and a guideline structured in the form of a letter to be passed by the Chairperson has been prepared for all the Centre's to adopt
- (ii) insufficient number of lawyers willing to handle migrant cases

### Recommendations

1. More exposure and training to be given to the pupils
2. To have frequent meetings with other State Legal aid Centres to improve the clinic so as to enable it to assist the general public
3. To recruit more volunteer lawyers to assist in handling of migrant cases
4. To make recommendation and reform law, relating to the conditions of the remand inmates
5. To invite Interpreter from relevant Embassies.

### 9) LAC/AWAM LEGAL INFORMATION SERVICE CLINIC 2004

*Report submitted by: Ms Ramlah Begum (Project Head)*

#### Committee Members BCLACKL:

*Ms Ramlah Begum (Project Head)*

*Loh Mei Fun (Alternate Head)*

*Vasandi Kandasamy*

*R Shanmugam*

*Sharmini Thiruchelvam*

*Jayaletchumi Rajaretnam*

*Chamundeeswari Jaganathan*

*Marlene Blanche Culas*

*Kasthury Sellappan*

*Pushpa Ratnam*

#### AWAM Representatives:

*Azila Bakri*

*Ruzana Udin*

#### a) Follow Up Actions for the Section 51 Law Reform (Marriage & Divorce Act) 1976

This sub committee held a round table discussion jointly with the Ministry of Women and Family Development, All Women's Action Society (AWAM) and the Bar Council Legal Aid Centre (Kuala Lumpur) on the 8 April 2003. ERA Consumer had joined the Sec 51 core group by invitation. The committee held 2 sub committee meetings on 20 July 2004 and 22 September 2004. Despite being late in handing over the proposed law reform, the committee finally sent the proposed law reform to the Women Ministry on the 30 November 2004.

#### b) Outreach Clinic

The proposed outreach clinic at the Pekeliling Flat has been postponed due to the inavailability of the local leader for the year. However she has proposed to hold an outreach in 2005.

Ramlah and Vasandi were interviewed on RTM radio 6 (tamil station) on the 23 September 2004 at 5.30 pm. They spoke about the program and service of LAC. Weeks following the interviews the Centre was visited by more tamil speaking clients.

#### c) Statistics

The number of cases managed and overseen by the LAC/AWAM Clinic from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2004 till 13 December 2004 is about 511 clients for legal advice and 5 files were opened for legal representation. In comparison to year 2003 there were 17 files opened for year 2004.

NO	CATEGORY	TOTAL
1	ADVICE ONLY	506
2	OPEN FILES	5
	<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	<b>511</b>

## 10) BCLACKL/PTF LEGAL INFORMATION SERVICE CLINIC 2004

Report submitted by: Preetam Kaur (Project Head)

### Committee Members:

#### **BCLACKL representatives:**

So Chien Hao  
Loh Wei Leong  
Irene Yong  
Meera Viswanathan  
Lim Ka- Tsung  
Lee Choo Suat, Tevina

#### **Pink Triangle Foundations representatives:**

Hisham Hussein (PTF Chair)  
Khartini Slamah  
Shakila

### Introduction

The Bar Council Legal Aid Centre Kuala Lumpur (BCLACKL) jointly with Pink Triangle Foundation (PTF) has been conducting the legal clinic for the most marginalized communities such as drug users, sex workers, people living with HIV/AIDS, transsexuals and homosexual men and women. The main objective of the clinic is to expose fundamental rights to the six communities and try and network with government agencies/departments.

We are pleased to announce that in 2004 with major assistance from Pink Triangle Chair, Hisham Hussein, Khartini and Shakila and others at PTF managed to network with Jabatan Agama Islam Wilayah Persekutuan (JAWI) and Jabatan Pendaftaran Negara (JPN). The Attorney General Chambers and SUHAKAM have also shown interest in assisting us in the near future. We shall hear in after invite them to attend one of the dialogue which is being planned. Ideally, we may possibly achieve our target to assist all the six communities if we are able to obtain more volunteer lawyers who are sensitized and syariah practitioners who are willing to assist these communities who do not hold any prejudices.

Below are the main activities which the LAC/PTF Clinic conducts/on going projects for the year 2004:-

#### **A) Legal Information Clinic at PTF**

The Legal Clinic based in PTF which started originally as Workshop Cum Clinic where lawyers held their legal talk for different communities since 2003 has now been converted into a legal clinic at PTF for half a day sessions every Fridays from 2.00 pm till 4.30 pm.

The pupils in chambers man the legal clinic with the assistance from PTF officers and supervised by LAC/PTF committee members. Initially, when the committee started the legal clinic pupils were not allowed to be based at PTF Centre instead they were placed at BCLACKL awaiting clients from PTF to walk in. We managed to obtain few clients walking into the Legal Aid Centre Clinic. However, the resources of our pupils assigned to this clinic were not fully utilized. After 1 year plus the pupils were evaluated verbally by our committee members hence the pupils were anxious to conduct their legal aid duty at PTF Centre.

Therefore we at the committee level had our pilot session on the 4 June 2004 (Friday) where two pupils joined together to attend the clinic at PTF for a day at every Fridays from 2.00 pm till 4.30 pm. Since then, we managed to man the legal clinic at PTF for 3 batches without any incidents. The pupils clinic at PTF have been approached by 10 clients. The pupils had been assigned the following tasks:-

- i) The pupils started to write reports on what they had encountered during their visits. A total of 10 reports have been written
- ii) The pupils had prepared glossary (terms the marginalized community) use in the streets for usage of new lawyers/pupils/staff facing difficulty in understanding their language items ("buka api", "cenduk" etc)
- iii) The committee with the assistance from pupils and PTF officers are in the process of drafting a simplified version of the BCLACKL's current Arrest & Bail pamphlets into the communities language using the glossary prepared
- iv) The pupils and the committees are also in the process of drafting a simplified version of interview sheets in Malay language for both pupil and PTF officers' usage to record client's information and facts of case

#### **B) LAC/PTF Network with Government Agencies**

##### **i) Network session mooted by JAWI with LAC/PTF representatives on 1<sup>st</sup> session on issues relating to Transsexual and People Living HIV/AIDS**

The committees' breakthrough and inaugural session which was arranged and sponsored by Jabatan Agama Islam Wilayah Persekutuan (JAWI) was held at PTF Centre. This session was held on 12 May 2004

(Wednesday) at 2.30 pm at PTF office.

This meeting was personally chaired by Yang Berbahagia Ustaz A Jalil Dg Perangreng and he brought a delegation of 12 JAWI officers which include 5 male ustaz, an enforcement officer and 6 ustazah. They are specialised in their own field of work. There were 11 PTF representatives and 3 representatives from BCLACKL.

Despite the initial uneasiness from both parties the discussion were kicked off by YB Ustaz A Jalil Dg Perangreng and after detailed discussions, this basic notation was adopted by parties to benefit all parties involved:-

The discussion session outlined basic key issues were identified by the Ts/SW/PL communities as follows:-

- Understanding and Accepting the Ts and Positive Living (PL) people as they are
- “Kelas Bimbingan Fardhu Ain” will be held for the Ts, SW and PL
- Financial assistance under “Baitulmal” will be considered for the Ts and PL
- Drop In Centre for Ts and PL to be sponsored by JAWI
- JAWI gave assurance to allow the Show Girls to perform without the threat of arrest
- To allow cross dressing without prosecution under Sec 28 (Syariah Criminal Offences KL) so long they are not soliciting
- JAWI to teach Ts and PL on “Kursus Urus Jenayah” for their own communities as respective family members have disowned the Ts and PL
- To attend to any form of complaints on discrimination against Ts by JAWI personnel

The basic common understanding adopted by parties is to hold a follow up session with enforcement department since the Ts faced major problems with them.

ii) **Dialogue between JAWI and LAC/PTF representatives on Sec 28 of Criminal Syariah Offences Act (Cross Dressing) with JAWI's enforcement unit**

The committees' second access into the Ts's issue was when PTF managed to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> follow up with JAWI's enforcement unit headed by Ustaz Shamsudin. He was assisted by 3 enforcement unit officers and a legal officer. Ustaz Abd Malik bin Ghazali (Legal Officer) chaired the discussion to iron out the problems which Ts faced when dealing with JAWI officers. The PTF representatives sent 9 representatives and BCLACKL was attended by 5 representatives.

Ustaz Malik chaired the panel discussions with focus on Section 28 Syariah Criminal Offences) Federal Territories) Act 1997. After constructive discussion by all members present, both parties agreed/made known the below procedures clearly:-

- a) Rights of the detainees under Section 28 Syariah of Criminal Offences (Federal Territories) Act 1997 who will be detained and placed at the JAWI's temporary detention room where the accused will be provided with food and drinking water
- b) Thereafter the accused will be escorted to syariah court for remand extension
- c) Ustaz Malik promised that any harassment and discrimination by JAWI persons to be directed to Ketua Pendakwa Syarie so that necessary action to be taken on any errant officers
- d) The relevant statute which embodied the procedures for syariah criminal offences is the Criminal Procedure Act Syariah similar to Criminal Procedure Code however there is no Lock Up Rules for syariah offences
- e) Ustaz Shamsudin agreed if LAC or PTF requesting to hold talks to the Ts or any other community for the betterment of the Muslim society. He also said that JAWI will provide counseling session for Ts and to network with other organization such as LAC and PT and to liase with Ustazah Zaharah for potential discussions

With heartfelt thanks by both parties, the dialogue ended with great appreciation to JAWI and Ts for their openness and better working relationship in future.

iii) **Seminar on the Rights of Transsexuals and Sex Worker**

The seminar which the committee organized was held on the 11 December 2004 (Saturday) at the Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee from 9.00 am till 2.30 pm. The main objective of the seminar is to understand and

raise the various problems which the Ts and Sex Worker faced pertaining to Mykad (new identity card) issues and their rights. The committee decided to invite the Jabatan Pendaftaran Negara, SUHAKAM and the Attorney General Chambers. However due to last minute arrangements SUHAKAM and Attorney General Chambers could not commit their attendance to us.

There were 20 Ts and SW attended the session and we had representatives from Jabatan Pendaftaran Negara (JPN) who attended the talk and briefed the committees on the issues of Mykad, Identity Card problems, Adopting of Children and both Registration of Birth/Illegitimate Children which the community faced.

The main issue identified from the seminar is as follows:-

- Understanding and accepting the Ts and SW as what they are
- To raise the Ts and SW concern of the inclusion of change of gender in Mykad
- The problems of Ts with government agencies on their change of gender situation
- The issue of sex change and the law pertaining to Ts and SW
- Adopting/looking into issues of Mykad, Identity Card problems, Adopting of Children and both Registration of Birth/Illegitimate Children

The JPN officers were sensitive on the issues which the Ts faced and promised to look into the current issue which was raised by community and they spent about 2 hours explaining the questions posed by the community. The officers also pledge to assist our community if they are approached with relevant documents.

The seminar was a start for better relationship among community and government agencies. Lastly, the committee now plans to hold another seminar with SUHAKAM, JPN and Attorney General Chambers who will be invited to concentrate on issues of law reform and ways to assist the community and find solutions to their problems.

On a final note, the committees' biggest hassle is to get volunteer lawyers for syariah cases and syarie practitioners to sit in the LAC/PTF committee and to represent them. We at the LAC/PTF Clinic are astounded as to date we are unable to get syariah volunteer lawyers despite our numerous appeals.

We ponder this mystery and hope 2005 will bring some changes if syariah lawyers start to assist this clinic when we already have obtained huge assistance and cooperation from JAWI.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to JAWI, JPN, pupils and staff of PTF.

#### **11) LAC/WAO LEGAL INFORMATION OF ADVOCACY 2004**

Report submitted by: Ms K Parameswary (Project Head)

##### ***Committee Members BCLACKL:***

*Latheefa Koya  
Moganambal  
Gowri Govinda Raju  
Shaila Nair  
Christopher Francis*

##### ***Women's Aid Organisation Representatives:***

*Ivy Josiah  
Shoba Aiyar Shankar*

The LAC/WAO Clinic was a pilot project between the Bar Council Legal Aid Centre (Kuala Lumpur) and Women's Aid Organisation since 2003. The committee was delighted when we conducted our inaugural session with the Taylor's College. The committee also managed to recruit 5 new members of the Bar to the Clinic.

##### **Taylor's College Project**

This program in conjunction with Taylor's College Law Week themed "Violence Against Women" which was mooted by Taylor's College for their students. The Bar Council Legal Aid Centre (Kuala Lumpur) conducted two day sessions on the 13 October 2004 and 14 October 2004 at the college. Volunteer lawyers discussed basic fundamental rights of an individual, family law, syariah law and laws affecting women. They also discussed the role of LAC and its programs.



The committee likes to extend its appreciation to Ms Lakshmi Ganesh, Ms Rozita Salleh, Ms Tasha Peterson of WAO and Ms Moganambal for their time and effort in making the Taylor's College Program a success.

### **Pupils Program**

This Clinic is held at WAO refuge Centre where the pupils in chambers assigned to conduct research. This research helps WAO to conduct their law reform. Two pupils are assigned to this Clinic for Mondays and Fridays.

We are also planning to get more male lawyers involved in the LAC/WAO project. We need to work hand in hand to make society more just and gender sensitive. We look forward to the year 2005, and more activities and projects for the Clinic.

### **12) LAC/SIS CLINIC**

Report submitted by Esteena Zais

#### **Committee Members**

*Faizati Binti Mohd Ali*

*Esteena Zais*

SIS Clinic started operating on 26 September 2003. It first opened twice a week, Monday and Friday, 10.00 am – 5.00 pm. The Clinic received tremendous response from the public. In 2003 the clinic handled 55 cases (26 September to 29 December 2003). There was a lot of demand for assistance by the public that after a request from SIS, KL LAC had graciously added one more student to the Clinic. The Clinic will now run on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In 2004 (up to 13th December 2004) the clinic had handled 707 cases.

#### **List Of Cases for Year 2004**

No	Type Of Case	Total
1	Domestic Violence	18
2	Alimony, Compensation & Matrimonial Assets	28
3	Wife Maintenance	64
4	Children's Maintenance	44
5	Registration Of Marriage/Marriage Procedure	65
6	Polygamy	32
7	Divorce Procedure	159
8	Marriage Conditions/Additional marriage Condition	38
9	Wali/Wali Hakim	4
10	Conversion Procedure	14
11	Custody	47
12	Will	10
13	Division Of Property (Faraid)	29
14	Reconciliation (Rujuk)	4
15	Illegitimate Children	20
16	Appeal Procedure	2
17	Gifts (Hibah)	3
18	Criminal Syariah Offences	3
19	Complaint To Prosecution Dept	1
20	Referred to Counselling	20
21	Sexual Assault	1
22	Apostacy	3
23	Procedure To Change Lawyer	1
24	Adoption Of Children	3
25	Wife Nusyuz	1
26	Caveat	1
27	Court Order/Enforcement Of Order	3
28	Miscellaneous	89
	<b>Total</b>	<b>707</b>

Majority of the cases are of women who needed to be empowered on their rights. They require assistance as to whether or not they have a right to divorce, spousal abuse, custody issues or rights to add terms to their takliq (nuptial agreement). They seek clarifications on rights of divorced women and enforcement of orders.

The training of the students are now being conducted by LAC on Syariah Laws and a joint training with other women organisations on women rights issues. Students are then further briefed on Syariah Laws and supervised by SIS on training. They would also be exposed to various issues including civil, land and banking laws. They would also learn on techniques of counselling and hopefully this will enable them to empathise with their clients. SIS has now been able to keep in contact with some of the students who are now volunteers to the clinic. One of them is our current Project Head, Ms Faizati Bte Mohd Ali.

SIS would like to thank Management Panel, staff of LAC especially Siti and participating pupils for their commitment and assistance in the running of the SIS Clinic.

### 13) TENAGANITA - MIGRANT WORKERS PROGRAM

#### *Committee Members:*

*N. Laliitha*

*Samrith Kaur*

Tenaganita received 190 complaints consisting of 594 complainants on various issues.

#### STATISTICS OF COMPLAINTS FILED (JANUARY – JUNE 2004)

<i>Nature of Complaints</i>	<i>No. of Complaints</i>	<i>No. of Complainants</i>
Trafficked into Malaysia	5	10
Employment		
Unpaid wages	27	321
Wrongful / Constructive Dismissal	7	47
Wrongful Deduction of wages	3	74
Industrial Accidents	8	8
Violation of Contract		
No – contract	2	24
Low wages	1	13
Sub contracting	3	29
Long hours of work	3	90
Breach of contract	4	120
No work at workplace	3	18
Legal Status		
No documents	211	2
Withholding of passports	11	32
Non renewal of work permit	12	109
Overstayed	30	36
Repatriation	35	47
Violence & Abuse	9	9
Recruitment (Cheated by Agent)	37	42
Arrest, Detention & Deportation	24	52
Wrongful Arrest	3	5
Employee's Provident Fund (EPF)	2	2
Family & Marriage		
Spouse Visa	7	7
Divorce	9	9
Mental Illness	7	7
Death / Suicide	2	2
Permanent Residence	4	4
Other Family Matters	2	2

There were altogether 262 complaints consisting of 1121 complainants

## STATISTIC OF ACTIVE FILES IN VARIOUS COURTS AS AT DEC 2004

<i>COURTS / DEPARTMENTS</i>	<i>NO. OF CASES FILED</i>
INDUSTRIAL RELATION DEPARTMENT	4
INDUSTRIAL COURT	5
SESSIONS COURT (ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGEMENT)	9
HIGH COURT	3
COURT OF APPEAL	1
LABOUR COURT	17
SMALL CLAIMS COURT – MAGISTRATE COURT	3
TOTAL :	42

Since January 2004 till December 2004, 4 groups of lawyers totaling up to 47 young lawyers went through training in Migrant Rights and Health Program. Through the training, Tenaganita raised the lawyers awareness on the issues faced by migrant workers in Malaysia. The second part of the training focused on enhancing their skills particularly in communication, documentation, negotiations with employers and government authorities, drafting of letters and police report and liaison with various government authorities. An overview of the various UN Declarations and Instruments pertaining to migrant workers was done in order to define the universal rights of migrants as recognized by international agencies and institutions.

The feedback obtained from the young lawyers, revealed that at the end of the 14 week program, the lawyers were better able to understand the issues of migrant workers and have a basic knowledge of the relevant areas of law, the procedures required especially at the Immigration Department, Police Department and Labour Department. They found that some aspects of skills development did happen. In particular, the experience enhanced their skills in interviewing, negotiating and developing 'people relationship'.

The young lawyers also feel that the program is an Eye-opener to realities.

Following are the support given by the Legal Aid Pupils:

### Case Management – stage I (new cases)

- ◇ Interview with Migrant Worker
- ◇ Interview with Employer / Recruitment Agent / Others
- ◇ Evaluation of Case & Documentation
- ◇ Negotiations with employers – amicable settlement
- ◇ Interview with detainees at Detention Camps
- ◇ Filing of case with relevant agency
- ◇ Legalizing of stay of MW for repatriation / pursue legal redress
- ◇ Counseling and Shelter
- ◇ Assisting migrants to Hospitals, Clinics for medical treatments

### Case Management – Stage II

- ◇ Follow up and representation with specific agency or court (e.g. Police Dept Immigration Dept / Labour Dept)
- ◇ Representation and follow up with relevant Diplomatic Mission
- ◇ Court Attendance with Legal Support
- ◇ Continue Counseling
- ◇ Education Programs
- ◇ Health Sessions

### Case Management – Stage III

- ◇ Repatriation Process
- ◇ Link with Partner organizing of Receiving Country
- ◇ Reintegration follow up

#### 14) **LEGAL AWARENESS PROGRAM (ORIENTATION)**

Prepared by Project Head, Charles Hector

##### *Committee Members*

*Charles Hector (Project Head)*

*N Surendran (Alternate Project Head)*

*Salbiah Ahmad*

*Sharmini Thiruchelvam*

*Stanley Sinnappen*

With a realization that many a student of law today is a product of a non-critical dis-empowering education system, a product of an environment that lacks freedoms of expression, a subject of a information/views dissipated by a controlled media, a product of prejudices and bias, and a product of a society that dissuades critical thinking, dissent and self - expression, amongst others, the Legal Aid Centre felt that there is a need to respond and hence the Legal Awareness Orientation program was initiated in the year 2001 and has continued to struggle to at least make a little contribution in the great quest for more and more holistic lawyers with a strong sense of social responsibility.

##### **Objectives**

- To stimulate pupils/lawyers to discover their role and responsibility as holistic lawyers in our society.
- To develop a sense of social obligation and a concern for human rights, justice and the rule of law.
- To generate a critical awareness and understanding of society in general, to understand the interplay of forces and the root causes for the problems and inadequacies in Malaysia.
- To understand and evaluate the different kind/levels of responses/approaches in overcoming the problems and inadequacies in Malaysia.
- To recall and analyze the different kinds of responses of lawyers in the past, individually and through the Malaysian Bar, the Bar Council, and the Bar Council Legal Aid Centres. In particular, the focus of this analysis and understanding is the different programs and activities of the Legal Aid Centre.
- To attempt to instill and develop a long-term commitment towards legal aid and human rights, which will go beyond the compulsory 14 days of legal aid during pupilage.

**Orientation Session for Pupils** uses a participative methodology, with a lot of group dynamics, general discussions and brief inputs.

##### **Strengths of the Program**

##### **Successful Sessions**

As at 31 December 2004, **8 successful sessions** were held for the chambering pupils. A total of **535 pupils** attended these sessions and participation of the pupils was good. The sessions are between 5 to 5½ hours long on a working day, commencing at 1.30pm and ending at about 6.30pm with a short 10 to 15 minute break. The success of each session also depends on the participants, and some have been more successful than others.

Based on the evaluations, pupils attending the orientation session have generally become more expressive and more aware about various matters including values, principles, constructive criticism and aspects of our Malaysian reality – especially about the oppressed, the disadvantaged and the marginalized persons. This deepening has helped them approach legal aid with their heart and with greater sincerity rather than it merely being something “compulsory” they must do before being called to the Bar, or merely something to get experience and knowledge for self rather than for others. But then, for those who have closed their minds and hearts it will be akin to pouring water on a duck’s back – but thankfully pupils with this attitude are very few.

##### **The Aim of the Sessions**

Pupils are made aware of the need to understand the context and the root causes of the legal problems encountered by individuals, and how sometimes it is necessary to not just provide advice and representation to victims, but also to create awareness to prevent people becoming future victims.

Pupils are also made aware of the work that is presently being carried out by the Legal Aid/Human Rights Centres of the Bar Council and the Bar Council which addresses the situation in 3 ways:-

- a. **Welfare Approach**: - providing the necessary legal advice and representation to the victims - whereby some of these programs would be like the work being done through the Dock Brief Program, the Sungai Buluh/Kajang Prison program, etc.

- b. Development Approach – which seeks to provide advice and legal awareness: this would include some of the work done by the LAC Clinic program, the AWAM program and even the Tenaganita program, amongst others. This approach helps to provide the individual clients with the knowledge and awareness to help prevent them from becoming victims of injustice.
- c. Justice Approach – involves analysis with a desire to discover root causes and address the problem at that level. This would necessarily involve the struggle to promote rights and freedoms that should exist but currently does not or which are presently being denied and/or suppressed – and this would include the Actions taken to stop police brutality, death in custody, police ‘shoot to kill’ incidences, the taking up of matters/cases that involve fundamental freedoms like the freedom of expression and assembly, the campaign for right to One Phone Call after being arrested, the call for the separation of the Judicial and Legal Services Commission, the repeal of all Detention Without Trial laws, etc.

It is also impressed upon the pupils that there is a need for more and more others-centered lawyers to come forward to offer their time and services voluntarily for legal aid and the promotion of the cause of justice. The Bar Council Resolutions requiring each and every lawyer to take up at least one legal aid file each year is far from being realized.

After the program, pupils are hopefully more aware of their “duties and responsibilities to society” and of their calling as advocates to “uphold the cause of justice without fear or favour”. The program, at the end of the day, seeks to instill values and principles that hopefully would translate in more lawyers coming forward voluntarily to provide legal aid services.

### **Further Activities**

Other plans for the remainder of the year include the following:

- To organize Training/Formation Program for Lawyers – this program was planned but could not go on despite advance planning and preparation because there was no budget allocation for this program (despite inclusion of this item in the budget proposal for 2004). It is felt that there is also a serious need for the organizing of programs for Lawyers, and more so lawyers who have shown some interest in legal aid and human rights.
- Talks and discussion sessions for lawyers/public on human rights and legal awareness issues. Here again the problem has been resources and funds.

### **Shortcomings of the Program**

- Time
- Human Resources / Volunteers (here, it not just the question of getting volunteers, but the getting of volunteers who are holistic with the requisite skills, and/or getting of volunteers ready and open to undergoing training themselves)
- Red Tape, Slow Approval Mechanisms
- Budget constraints
- Follow-Up Actions and/or Opportunities for Responding in the Malaysian Bar

### **Recommendations for development of this program**

- To be able to organize more awareness and human rights sessions for lawyers and/or even the public at large, hopefully on a regular basis.
- To organize training and formation sessions for lawyers involved in Legal Aid/Human Rights work at the Legal Aid & Human Rights Centers of the Malaysian Bar
  - with special emphasis on contextual analysis, alternate & effective responses, and/also on motivation to sustain commitments. Developing a common vision and plans of action will also be included in these sessions
  - To develop immersion programs – to enable volunteers to better understand the problems of society and for the creation of a greater awareness of rights among the people.
  - To develop an on-going Human Rights and Legal Aid Course.

## 15) SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Report submitted by Project Head, Ravi Nekoo

### *Committee Members*

*Ravi Nekoo (Project Head)*

*Ngooi Chiu-Ing*

*Doreen Wan*

*Elaine Law*

*Puspa Ratnam*

*M Rajkumar*

*Sreekant Pillai*

### **Introduction**

The Training/Skills Development Committee aims to develop/enhance skills of trainers and pupils to ensure the quality of service delivered to the clients. The Committee continuously identifies areas of weakness and offer suggestions for improvement.

This year the committee emphasized more on training for the lawyers. The reason for this is twofold, firstly to create a pool of lawyers who are well trained especially on criminal law and family law. Secondly to get these lawyers to take up cases to reduce the burden of the Legal Aid Centre. The third objective evolved ie since some of the participants have a good understanding of family or criminal law, we decided that we should create a pool of trainers from the persons who attended these trainings. The committee hopes that this will help ease the burden of senior practitioners who have thus far volunteered their services tirelessly to the Centre.

### **Activities**

The Committee thus far has organised following programmes:

- Criminal Law Training on Cross-examination Techniques and Moot Trial – a two-day training session held on 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June 2004 for lawyers.
  - Overwhelming response of 80 lawyers attended the training programme.
  - All participants gave an undertaking to take a file and work on it to ensure direct application of knowledge received from the training. This also creates a readily available pool of lawyers who can volunteer their services or the Legal Aid Centre.
  - It would be ideal to break the participants into smaller groups but budget constraints are preventing us from doing so.
- Family Law Training - held on 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> October 2004.
  - 40 participants attended the programme although the maximum intake was initially set at maximum 30 participants only.
  - All participants gave an undertaking to take a file and work on it to ensure direct application of knowledge received from the training. This also creates a readily available pool of lawyers who can volunteer their services or the Legal Aid Centre.
  - A pool of lawyers have agreed to conduct future training lessons

### **Strengths**

The participants all agreed that the training programme enhances their legal skills and they are more confident in conducting cases. The trainers themselves were experienced. For the criminal law training, we had Mr Jagjit Singh and Mr Manjeet Singh explaining about cross-examination. The participants learned from the shared experiences of these two experienced criminal defence practitioners.

The family law training programme was also a success as the participants learned “hands-on” drafting divorce petitions as well as contempt papers. They found it useful.

The Committee firmly believes that the Skills Training Programme can and should be used as a catalyst to rope in more lawyers. Many lawyers come to learn the skills and then use these skills by taking a file for the centre. The lawyers learn and the Centre also benefits.

### **Weaknesses**

- Budget constraint has been identified the major factor that has to be dealt with to enhance success and to meet the challenges in the future training programmes
- Shortage of volunteers to sit in as committee members for the smooth running of the program

### Suggestions for improvement

The Committee had identified suggestions to improve in the current training programmes such as:-

- Duration - Most participants prefer the programmes to be conducted in shorter hours and over more days.
- Crowd - Sessions should be conducted in smaller groups to be more effective.
- Concise - Topics held should be more focussed. The handout should be more compact and organised.
- More experienced lawyers - inviting more senior lawyers to impart their knowledge would be beneficial and gauge the participants' response to attend the sessions for their invaluable experience.

### Future Plans

The committee is currently planning to conduct the following:

- Staff training
- Training of trainers
- Training on Employment law

The Committee also hopes to document these training programmes into training manuals for future use in the Centre. The Committee also hopes to have video recordings of some of the training programmes which can be used for future trainings.

The Committee feels that there is a lot more of work to be done and much to be achieved in the near future.

### 16) FUND-RAISING PROGRAM

*Report prepared by Project Head, Mr So Chien Hao*

#### **Committee members:**

*Mr So Chien Hao (Project Head)*

*Mr Ngooi Chiu-Ing*

*Ms Lee Shet Mei*

*Ms Ramanaambigai Marimuthu*

*Ms N Vijaya*

*Ms Vivien Lim*

*Ms Junny Erfisyahry Khairul Anwar*

With growth in terms of work done by the Centre but without corresponding increase in financial resources to the Centre, this committee was formed on 22 April 2000 to assist in sourcing and obtaining funds needed for the running of current projects and for future plans of the Centre.

The Committee organized its second fund-raising event a movie premiere of "National Treasure" on 13 January 2004 at TGV Suria KLCC. Initially the response from members of the Kuala Lumpur Bar was quite disappointing which resulted in the cancellation of one hall from the two halls booked for the premiere. Surprisingly the response became overwhelming but unfortunately we could not get back the cancelled hall and we have to turn a way few generous individuals. We have sold 313 tickets and raised the sum of RM 20,000.00.

The funds raised will be utilized to cover the expenses of the said premiere for booking of the hall, printing of invitation cards, transportation claims and other expenses. The committee however has not decided on how to utilize the profit of the fund. It will be tabled to the Management Panel for decision.

The committee takes this opportunity to thank all members of the KL Bar, Selangor Bar and other generous individuals who have been kind enough to support and contribute towards the success of the fund-raising movie premiere.

To date the Committee is in the process of drawing up a profile of the Centre for the purpose of promoting the Centre and its activities as well as to raise funds. The initial draft has been completed. Upon completion of the profile the committee shall write to individual's corporations and funding agencies for financial support either for the day-to-day operations of the Centre or for programs conducted by the Centre.