

ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION BOARD, HILSR

MEDIATION CENTRE VISIT

Date: 25.09.2026

Venue: Saket District Courts, New Delhi

Event: ADR WEEK (22-28 September 2026)



As part of the activities organised during ADR Week, a visit to the Mediation Centre was conducted on 25 September 2026 to provide students with practical exposure to the functioning of mediation, legal aid services, and the judicial system. The visit offered an opportunity to understand the practical application of Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms beyond the theoretical concepts discussed in the classroom.

The visit commenced with an introduction to the mediation process, where the students interacted with an experienced mediator with approximately 40 years of practical experience. The mediator shared valuable insights drawn from his professional journey and explained various practical aspects of conducting mediation. He discussed the approach that a mediator should adopt while dealing with disputing parties, the importance of maintaining neutrality, effective communication, patience, and understanding the concerns of the parties. His practical experiences provided students with valuable guidance on how disputes can be handled in a structured and amicable manner.

The students subsequently visited the Legal Aid Office, where they interacted with an officer and learned about the functioning and significance of legal aid services. The interaction focused on the assistance provided to individuals who may not have the financial means to afford legal representation. The students also gained an understanding of how legal aid services operate within the court system and contribute towards facilitating access to justice.

Following this, the students visited the court lock-up, where undertrial prisoners brought from Tihar and other correctional facilities were kept for their scheduled judicial proceedings. The visit provided students with practical exposure to an important aspect of the criminal justice system and helped them understand the procedural arrangements associated with the production of undertrial prisoners before the court.

The students then attended court proceedings, where they observed several matters being heard before the court. This provided an opportunity to witness the practical functioning of judicial proceedings and understand how matters are presented, argued, and dealt with before the court. The observation further helped bridge the gap between theoretical legal knowledge and its practical application.

The visit concluded with an interaction in the conference room with a DLSA officer. The discussion focused on the objectives, functioning, and role of the Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DLSA) in facilitating access to justice and providing legal aid. The importance and functioning of mediation were also discussed in detail. The students were further acquainted with what takes place during mediation sessions and how a mediator facilitates communication between parties, assists them in identifying their concerns, and enables them to work towards a mutually acceptable resolution through a structured process.

Overall, the visit was an informative and enriching component of ADR Week, providing students with valuable practical exposure to mediation, legal aid, court proceedings, and the broader justice-delivery system. The interactions with experienced professionals and officials helped students develop a better understanding of the practical role of mediation and reinforced the importance of Alternative Dispute Resolution in facilitating accessible, efficient, and amicable resolution of disputes.

