Law students

pool in to bail out woman

Rita walking out of jail with law student Tina

BY K.A.DODHIYA

MUMBAI

July 15: A routine visit to
Byculla jail for some stu-
dents of Gopaldas Advani
Law College, Bandra could
well become the beginning
of a new trend in which stu-
dents will not only play an
important role in giving
concrete solutions but also
provide legal aid to jail
inmates.
During their visit to the
Byculla jail last week, the
students of Advani Law
College were confronted by
a person who said that his
sister was languishing in jail
as he could not arrange for
her bail. "Initially this per-
son was incoherent but we
felt sorry at his plight and
hence asked him to visit our
college," said Mr Mahesh
Vaswani, chairman, Legal
Aid Committee of Advani
Law College. The account
given by Mr Deepak
Kemse, brother of the
accused ita (name changed
on request) shocked the stu-
dents.
"We realised that rather
than providing justice to
Rita, who was a victim of a
fraud, the police had framed
her in another case and put
her behind bars. Vijay
Dalai, a central railway

employee, had married her
despite having a wife and
children," said Ms Tina
Lewis, one of the students.
The students immediately
decided to help Ms Rita by
putting together Rs 3,000 —
the bail amount that her
brother could not arrange
for. On Tuesday evening, a
beaming Rita walked out of
Byculla jail.
"There has been gross
injustice meted out to this
hapless woman and we, as
students, have only gone a
step beyond symbolic repre-
sentation of a case on paper
by providing concrete solu-
tions too," said Mr Kamlesli
Badgujar, another student.
College principals of other
law colleges in the city
lauded the act of the Advani
Law College students and
said that it was the first time
that something of this sort
was heard.

"After the high court
passed an order, legal-aid
cells have been set up in all
courts and law colleges.
However, beyond giving
legal solutions none of the
cells have given any aid to
the poor on humanitarian
grounds. This is indeed a
novel initiative by the stu-
dents which should be fol-
lowed by others too," said a
senior high court judge.

<title>Law students pool in to bail out woman</title>
<author>K A. Dodhiya</author>
<keywords>LR1</keywords>
<publication>The Asian Age</publication>
<pubDate>16/07/2008</pubDate>
<description>A routine visit to
Byculla jail for some stu-
dents of Gopaldas Advani
Law College, Bandra could
well become the beginning
of a new trend in which stu-
dents will not only play an
important role in giving
concrete solutions but also

provide legal aid to jail
inmates.</description>
<classif>B40b</classif>
<entrydt>21/07/2008</entrydt>
<sd>RP</sd>