

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Birth Centenary Celebration of Late Justice Y.V. Chandrachud

- A. **About the Webinar:** The webinar was organized on the occasion of birth centenary of Late Justice Y.V. Chandrachud, former Chief Justice of India.
- B. **Date:** 12.07.2020
- C. **Faculty Coordinators:** Dr. Sanjay Jain, Dr. Swatee Yogesh, Dr. Deepa Paturkar
- D. **Report of the Webinar:** The objective was to cherish fond memories of Late Justice Y.V. Chandrachud, longest-serving Chief Justice of India, former President of Indian Law Society, one of our beloved alumni, and an illustrious jurist of India.

The webinar was attended by the audience all around the world. Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman presided over the webinar. President of the Indian Law Society, Hon'ble Justice Mridula Bhatkar, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, Mr. Deepankar Datta, Mr. Arvind Datar (Sr. Adv.), and Mr. Riyaz Iqbal Chagla (Sr. Adv.), along with various judges of the Supreme Court and Bombay High Court also graced the occasion.

Justice Bhatkar opened the ceremony with fond remembrances of the Late Justice Chandrachud, and expressed her appreciation of his towering contribution to the legacy of the Indian Judiciary with judgments such *Olga Tellis*, *Minerva Mills*, and *Shah Bano*.

Ms. Vaijayanti Joshi illustrated the academic and legal career of the Late Justice Chandrachud, noting that he was the only student of his batch (1942) to pass with a first class, and was the recipient of many prizes such as the Judge Spencer Prize, G. Kanga Scholarship, and Mangaldas Nathubai Scholarship. While he went on to become the Chief Justice of India, he had a long association with the Indian Law Society and served as its Vice President, and then President for almost 40 years. She reminisced upon her personal experience with the Late Justice Chandrachud as a friend, philosopher, guide, and supporter, during her tenure as the Principal of the ILS Law College while he was the President, and also the support and warm hospitality of Mrs. Prabha Chandrachud.

Dr. Sanjay Jain conveyed his admiration of the Late Justice Chandrachud as a motivational force, and credited him for the transformation of the Supreme Court as a 'Court for the People'. He highlighted the nuanced position that the Late Justice Chandrachud was instrumental in creating for the Judiciary as a watchdog for prevention of abuse of Powers of the Executive, especially through the *Minerva Mills Case*.

His grandsons Dr. Abhinav Chandrachud and Mr. Chintan Chandrachud shared affectionate memories of their grandfather with the audience, regarding his love for music and talent for creating musical couplets, his love for Pune, his birthplace, and his love for travel, nature, literature, and cricket. Dr. Chandrachud remarked upon the philosophy of his grandfather - 'Moderation and Balance in all things' - which served him well in life. He observed that his grandfather had once told him that 'Silence, and a steady devotion to duty, are the best answers to irresponsible criticism', and that his entire career is characterized by these values.

Mr. Chintan Chandrachud observed that his grandfather knew the distinction between respect for the institution and reverence for the individual, and consequently never took himself too seriously or lost touch with his ground roots. He remarked upon his grandfather's love for humanity, and patience and interest in everyone he interacted with, and the condolences

received from people from all walks of life after he passed away. His love and dedication for his family, and his support to them is fondly remembered by all of the family.

His daughter Mrs. Nima Kulkarni sent a message expressing her admiration of her father's humble spirit, his dedication to his children, and his love for the law. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, in his address, observed that he learnt compassion, balance, and empathy for fellow citizens, from his father, who was a parent, a guide, and most of all, a friend. He reminisced upon the legacy of Late Justice Y.V. Chandrachud by delivering a public lecture on "A Changing Society and Constitutional Continuity – Experiences in the Pursuit of Justice". The function was concluded with the presidential remarks by Justice Rohinton Fali Nariman.

The event was attended by more than 5000 people on YouTube, and 250 participated via google meet.

It Can be Done!/: Three-Day International Summit on Legal Professionals with Disabilities

- A. About the Conference:** The Summit was organized by the Equal Opportunity cum Enabling Cell of ILS Law College, Pune, in collaboration with Oxford Human Rights Hub, Harvard Law School Project on Disability and the Centre for Disability Studies, University of Leeds.
- B. Date:** 1.12.2020 – 3.12.2020
- C. Faculty Coordinators:** Dr. Sanjay Jain, Mr. Dnyaneshwar Kendre, Dr. Swatee Yogesh, Ms. Varsha Khandagale
- D. Chief Guest:** The Summit was inaugurated by Ms. Maria Soledad Cisternas, UN Special Envoy of the Secretary General on Disability and Accessibility. Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Judge, Supreme Court of India, was the Chief Guest for the valedictory session of the Summit.
- E. Report of the Conference:** The main purpose was to celebrate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in a realistic way to give voice to the aspirations of the people with disabilities, and to encourage them to pursue career in law as lawyers, judges and disability academicians. In a way, the summit aimed to promote the ideal that is pursued by people with disabilities – nothing about us without us. Various persons with disabilities who have been successful in their chosen field of legal profession shared their experiences with the audience, highlighting the challenges they had faced because of systemic ablism prevalent in the society, particularly in our educational system.

Following are the details of the sessions:

Day 1, Session 1: Session dedicated to Academicians

Welcome Address and introduction to the summit was delivered by Dr. Sanjay Jain and Adv. Rahul Bajaj. The Keynote speaker was Ms. Maria Soledad Cisternas, who shared her pre-recorded message.

Following were the Panel speakers for this session:

- Professor Michael Ashley Stein, Harvard Law School;
- Professor Peter Blanck, University Professor, Chairman, Burton Blatt Institute, USA;
- Professor Anna Lawson, School of Law, University of Leeds; Joint Director, Centre for Disability Studies, University of Leeds;
- Dr. Paul Harpur, Associate Professor, University of Queensland Law School; Academic Fellow, Harvard Law School Project on Disability; Burton Blatt Institute, Syracuse University, USA;
- Prof. Shirish Deshpande, Professor, Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur, India;
- Dr. Sanjay Jain, Associate Professor; Additional Charge-Principal, ILS Law College, Pune, India

Moderator for the session was: Prof. Sandra Fredman, Professor of Law, Oxford University; Director, Oxford Human Rights Hub

Day 2 Session 1: Session dedicated to Lawyers

Welcome Address and introduction to the summit was delivered by Dr. Sanjay Jain and Adv. Rahul Bajaj

Following were the Panel speakers for this session:

- Prof. Zhang Wanhong, Professor, Wuhan University School of Law Executive Director, Wuhan University Institute for Human Rights Studies (National Human

Rights Education and Training Base); Director, Wuhan University Public Interest and Development Law Institute, Wuhan, China;

- Mr. S.K. Rungta, Designated Senior Advocate, Delhi High Court, practices in Supreme Court of India General Secretary; National Federation of the Blind of India;
- Ms. Laura Wolk, Advocate, Washington;
- Ms. Carol Taylor, Advocate, Principal Solicitor, Taylor Law & Conveyancing;
- Mr. David Lepofsky, Advocate, Toronto

Moderator for the session was Adv. Rahul Bajaj.

Day 3, Session 1: Session dedicated to Judges

Welcome Address and introduction to the summit was delivered by Dr. Sanjay Jain and Adv. Rahul Bajaj

Following were the Panel speakers for this session:

- Justice A.K. Sikri, former Judge, Supreme Court of India;
- Justice Richard H. Bernstein, American Lawyer and Michigan Supreme Court Justice;
- Judge Ronald Gould (U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit);
- Mr. H.S. Jaggi, Addl. District Judge, Southwest District Court, Delhi (TBC)

Moderator for the session was: Justice Madan Lokur, Judge, Supreme Court of Fiji; Former Judge, Supreme Court of India

Highlight of this day was a Fireside chat which was a Dialogue with Ms. Haben Girma, American Disability Rights Advocate, the first deaf blind graduate of Harvard Law School.

Day 3, Session 2: Keynote and Valedictory Session

Keynote speaker for the valedictory session was Mr. Danlami Umaru Basharu, Executive Director, ANWAB; Chair, UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

This session also witnessed the Book Release ceremony of a Book authored by Mr. Rahul Bajaj, Advocate. The Summit was concluded by a befitting Valedictory speech by Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Judge, Supreme Court of India

F. Nos. of Participants: 300 participants registered. 100 persons participated per session.

G. Outcome of the activity:

- a. The CLAT consortium of the national law universities decided to take cognizance of the discussions in this event, and made the CLAT examination accessible to visually challenged.
- b. Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud in his capacity as the Chairperson of the e-Committee (Supreme court of India's special initiative to make Indian Judicial System Accessible to the Disabled) exhorted all High Courts to make their digital infrastructure accessible to persons with disabilities in conformity with the constitutional and statutory entitlements of the disabled. The letter contained a series of structural interventions for all High Courts to undertake in this regard.

TEDxILSLaw

A. About the Conference:

TED stands for – Technology, Entertainment, and Design. It is a global non-profit organisation devoted to spreading ideas by hosting short and powerful talks

TEDx: x- stands for independently organised events. A TEDx event is a local gathering where live TED-like talks and performances are shared with the local community.

They are fully planned and coordinated independently, but have to follow the guidelines laid down by TED. The content and design of each TEDx event is unique and developed independently. The topics include a diverse range, from a new innovation or ideas, to talks on issues which nobody knew about.

B. **Dates of the Conference:** 03.04.2021 - 04.04.2021

C. **Faculty In-Charge:** Mr. Ashish Pawar, Ms. Ninawari Ware, and Ms. Madhura Sawant

D. **Student Coordinators:** Preksha Chand, Khyati Mehrotra (Organizers); Nichola Louis, Ashish Naik (Marketing Team); Amol Gupta, Ram Sharma (Technical Team); Tanvi Mate, Sanjana Kulkarni, Navya Maheshwari, Krishna Nair (Speaker Curation Team); Iha Krishna, Bhavi Shah (Design Team).

E. **National/International/State/Any other:** International

F. Report of the Conference:

- **Theme description:** The theme of the event was – ‘Is it time?’, to give a prima facie idea to the audience about what’s in the store for them, to compel people to ponder upon the changes taking place and adapt to the changing lifestyles. Speakers from different walks of life were invited to throw light upon the shift taking place in their respective fields.

Day 1

- **Session 1:**
 - **Title:** “Mental Wellbeing – My story”
 - **Idea:** Maintaining a balance between a successful Professional Life and Mental Health.
 - **Speaker:** Chris Parsons, Chairman, India Practice and Mental Wellbeing Champion at Herbert Smith Freehills
- **Session 2:**
 - **Title:** Nudging your way to a better future!
 - **Idea:** Understanding the concept of Nudge Theory in Behavioural Economics, its application in everyday life and policy making
 - **Speaker:** Ayushi Chand, Deputy Director at Indian Ministry of Finance, Government of India
- **Session 3:**
 - **Title:** Agree to Agri!
 - **Idea:** Agriculture as a lucrative career. Adopting Agriculture as a profession opens the door to financial progress and work life balance.

- **Speaker:** Yash Bhale, Student Speaker, Final year Law Student, ILS Law College.
- **Session 4:**
 - **Title:** How oppression is thriving globally?
 - **Idea:** Understanding Oppression as a Global concept, its forms, root causes and how it thrives and sustains in society.
 - **Speaker:** Dr. Suraj Yengde, Senior fellow at Harvard Kennedy School
- **Day 2**
- **Session 1:**
 - **Title:** Is it time to design your own unconventional lifestyle?
 - **Idea:** How to defy the pre-defined societal norms and live a nomadic lifestyle; fearlessly designing your own lifestyle and making a living out of it.
 - **Speaker:** Ruchika and Avinasha, Travel Vloggers, Youtubers
- **Session 2:**
 - **Title:** Want to be a better learner? Learn from a baby!
 - **Idea:** Getting to know the right way of better learning by observing a growing baby.
 - **Speaker:** Akshat Shrivastava, Founder, Ed-tech startup Cases Over Coffee
- **Session 3:**
 - **Title:** Is it time to reconsider the meaning of “housing for all”?
 - **Idea:** Understanding the loopholes in the prevalent housing policies and redesigning those for better development.
 - **Speaker:** Amita Bhide, Dean, School of Habitat Studies, Centre for Environmental Health, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

G. **Total No. of Participants:** 1000 registrations

Three Day Article Writing Workshop

- A. **About the Workshop:** The workshop dealt extensively with the methods of writing academic and scholarly legal articles and research papers.
- B. **Dates of the Workshop:** 27.01.2021 – 29.01.2021
- C. **Faculty In-Charge:** Mr. D.P. Kendre
- D. **Student Coordinators:** Nihar Chitre and Rashmi Raghavan
- E. **Report of the Conference:**
 - a. **Speakers:** Mr. Siddharth Chauhan, Prof. National Academy of Legal Studies and Research University of Law, Hyderabad (NALSAR)
 - b. **Outcome of the Workshop:** A detailed session of article writing which lead to the students understanding how to efficiently write a scholarly legal article and research papers. Students were interactive and cleared their queries at the end of the workshop
- F. **Total No. of Participants:** More than 100

Vigilance Awareness Week

A. About the Conference:

As a part of celebrating the Vigilance Awareness Week, (27.10.2021 – 02.11.2021) ILS Law College's Legal Aid Centre invited short videos of not more than one minute on "Satark Bharat, Samriddh Bharat". The videos could comprise of the following acts -

1. Poetry
2. Song
3. Story/narration through Posters
4. Speech
5. Monologue
6. Dance

B. Dates of the Conference: 27.10.2021 – 02.11.2021

C. Winners:

Tejas Meshram – Poetry

Shraddha Bhide - Song