

## **ILS Criminal Law Cell**

A. **Brief Introduction of the Cell:** The ILS Criminal Law Cell was set up in 2015 to provide for a dedicated unit to conduct research and activities in the field of criminal law. The cell's primary objective is to increase interest and awareness of the students in the area and encourage them to develop their knowledge and understanding of the law. The cell organizes educational and interactive sessions on all kinds of criminal law topics, both in the areas of the major legislations and special laws. It also conducts research projects on dedicated themes and areas from time to time.

B. **Faculty Co-ordinator:** Dr. Nitish Nawsagaray

C. **Student Members:** Adithi Rao, Debayan Gangopadhyay, Karishma Rajesh, Vedvati Thipse, Saahas Arora

D. **Details of the Activities:**

a) **Weekly sessions**

- **Title of Activity:** Introduction to the Cell and Criminal Law in India
- **Date:** 30.04.2021
- **Name of the Resource Person:** Mr. Debayan Gangopadhyay, Ms. Adithi Rao.
  
- **Title of Activity:** Critical Analysis of Maharashtra Shakti Bill, 2021
- **Date:** 19.03.2021
- **Name of the Resource Person:** Mr. Abhay Jaybhay, Ms. Isha Pandit
  
- **Title of Activity:** Admissibility of Electronic Evidence in Criminal Proceedings
- **Date:** 05.02.2021
- **Name of the Resource Person:** Ms. Karishma Rajesh, Mr. Saahas Arora

b) **Other Activities including Webinars/Guest Lectures conducted**

- **Title of the Webinar:** A Century Long Journey of Sedition in India - Commemorating the Death Centenary of Lokmanya Tilak
- **Date:** 12.09.2020
- **Name and Designation of Resource Person and their Topics:**
  - Ms. Nitya Ramakrishnan, Sr. Adv. – Tilak Trials
  - Mr. B.T. Venkatesh, (Adv.) Former Special Public Prosecutor (Karnataka) – Construct of Sedition as a Concept
  - Mr. Mihir Desai, (Sr. Adv.) – Kedarnath Judgment and Subsequent Fallout.

- Dr. Santosh Jaybhay, Assistant Professor (ILS Law College) – Other Sedition Judgments Delivered by the Supreme Court.
  - Dr. Nitish Nawsagaray, Assistant Professor (ILS Law College) - Moderator.
  - **Nos. of Participants:** 80-100
- **Title of the Webinar:** Revisiting Jurisprudence on Capital Punishment in India
  - **Date:** 11.07.2020
  - **Name and Designation of Resource Person and their Topics:**
    - Mr. Aniket Nikam (Adv.) – A Case Supporting the Death Penalty
    - Dr. Colin Gonsalves (Sr. Adv.) – A Case for Abolishing The Death Penalty.
    - Ms. Shreya Rastogi, Executive Steering Committee, Project 39A – Research reports of Project 39A and Ground Realities Pertaining to Death Penalty.
    - Mr. Amit Desai (Sr. Adv.) – Sentencing Policies in the Rarest of the Rare Cases and Special Category Cases.
    - Dr. Nitish Nawsagaray, Assistant Professor (ILS Law College) - Moderator.
    - **Nos. of Participants:** 200-250
- **Title of the Activity:** The Trajectory of Obscenity Law in India
  - **Date:** 04.12.2020
  - **Name and Designation of Resource Person:** Ms. Hamsini Marada, Lecturer at Jindal Global Law School, Haryana and ILS Alumni (Batch of 2017).
  - **Nos. of Participants:** 25-30
- **Title of the Activity:** Loopholes in the Narcotics and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985
  - **Date:** 17.10.2020
  - **Name and Designation of Resource Person:** Mr. Ayaz Khan, (Adv.)
  - **Nos. of Participants:** 25-30
- **Title of the Activity:** Intersection of Law and Journalism
  - **Date:** 18.08.2021
  - **Name and Designation of Resource Person:** Ms. Shibani Gokhale, Video Journalist, Yahoo! News Canada and ILS Alumni (Batch of 2016).
  - **Nos. of Participants:** 70-80
- **Title of the Activity:** Decriminalization of Dishonouring of Cheques

- **Date:** 25.07.2021
- **Name and Designation of Resource Person:** Mr. Satish Rai, Partner at Kapoor & Co., New Delhi and ILS Alumni (Batch of 2017).
- **Nos. of Participants:** 20-25
  
- **Title of the Activity:** Laws of Corruption and Forgery
- **Date:** 05.06.2021
- **Name and Designation of Resource Person:** Ms. Lavanyaa Chopra, Senior Associate at Law Offices of Panag and Babu and ILS Alumni (Batch of 2018).
- **Nos. of Participants:** 25-30
  
- **Title of the Activity:** Domestic Violence in light of COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Date:** 27.05.2021
- **Name and Designation of Resource Person and:** Ms. Chandni Chawla, (Adv.) Bombay High Court and ILS Alumni (Batch of 2017)
- **Nos. of Participants:** 40-50

#### c) **Criminal Law Reforms Project**

The Criminal Law Cell commenced a reforms project in the month of September, 2020. A total of 36 students divided into 8 teams started working towards the completion of project. The aim of the project is to conduct thorough research on all provisions of Indian Penal Code to find out and analyse scope of reforms in such provisions. The project is being conducted for the purposes of formulating recommendations in criminal laws and to forward the same to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India for their consideration on the same while issuing amendments in these laws.

Every team has been allotted two areas of research containing different range of the provisions in various chapters and sub-chapters. The students are firstly looking into existing recommendations through law commission reports, and other committee reports. Thereafter, judgements of various courts are analysed to recognise pragmatic issues under provisions of the Penal Code. Thereafter the teams are extending the scope with comparative research on similar provisions of other countries. In the process, the teams are preparing research drafts of the allotted areas and chapters. At present, research drafts on 50% of the Penal Code has been completed and duly submitted to the government, and the remaining 50% is in progress.