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From the Editor's Desk



Dear Colleagues and Students,

The season of spring might have passed on with the withering away of April, but we at DME are entering into our own spring season in August. The new session has started and brings with it a host of new possibilities and opportunities. We have new cheerful young faces amongst us, shining with anticipation of what a college life holds for them. We have the older recognizable faces, with a hint of gravity from the previous year's experience and knowledge gained here at DME. A warm welcome to all of us to the new spring at DME.

We have a multitude of activities lined up ahead of us. The Memorial lectures, Intra Moot Court competition, the Youth Parliament and not to forget the daunting internals that await us this coming month. The start of a new semester always seems to pass like a whirlwind with corridors abuzz with activities and everyone trying to come to terms with regular timetables post the laxity of the vacation. I hope all of us will shake our vacation lulls and jump into the fray. So buckle your seatbelts and snap your protective goggles on. Let's embrace our spring at DME with gusto and zeal.

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**Welcoming the New Students:
The Orientation Programmes of the Law Department**



Welcoming the New batch

On 9th and 10th of August, the freshly enrolled batch of B.A.LL.B. and B.B.A.LL.B. students were welcomed and initiated into our esteemed institution. The events were graced by Professor M.P. Singh and Mr. Salman Khursheed respectively. Both Professor M.P. Singh and Mr. Salman Khursheed are stalwarts in their own respective fields, where Professor Singh is a well known authority in the field of Constitutional Law on the other hand Mr. Khursheed is an advocate and a previous legislator whose long years of practice and law making is a source of inspiration to many. The students and the faculties alike were exposed to three distinct areas of law-the academics, the practice and the legislation.



Tilak Ceremony to Welcome Mr. Salman Khursheed



Lighting of lamp to dispel darkness of ignorance



Teacher of our teachers Prof. M.P.Singh

Professor M.P. Singh stressed on the importance of the date of 9th August, the date on which our forefathers had initiated the Quit India Movement. This day commemorated the removal of ignorance of law as our national leaders through these struggles gave us a wonderful Constitution. He pointed out that most of these leaders were well versed with law and drew an analogy as to how being a legal scholar helps to shape a nation. He shared his long experience at National Law Universities and asked the students to not limit their options to just one field. Law students have a vista of options from being litigators to becoming bureaucrats, judges, academicians and even heads of States. Citing Barack Obama, a Harvard Law graduate as an example, he asserted that law students can even dream to become the leaders of nation. Lawyers have been leaders of the society and the students of law bear the responsibility of heralding Rule of Law by tackling ignorance of law.

Mr. Salman Khursheed on the other hand gave a scintillating insight into the minds of the jurists and judges and how good sense of humour is directly proportional to the clarity of mind and how anecdotes help in countering the dry word of law. He gave example of V.R. Krishna Iyer J. who created a vocabulary of his own. He urged the students to have an analytical mind and to develop observational powers.

It was an extremely novel experience, not only for the students, but even for the faculties to understand the various perspectives of the discipline of Law. The Orientation Programmes underlined the diversity of ideas that exist in Law and, true to their meaning, were able to orient and guide the students who have chosen to indulge in this ever mutating, ever growing field of law.



Kerala Floods Donation Drive: A Success Story of Empathy

The month of August had something terrible stored for one of our southern states. Kerala witnessed unprecedented floods this monsoons. With the entire country fastening its belt to respond to the calls of help from Kerala, in our little corner of the world, DME also geared up to extend its helping hand. A donation drive was organized at DME from 27 August, 2018 to 1 September, 2018 in collaboration with the NGO Sarvahitey to contribute our share of help to the Kerala flood victims. The students as well as the faculty turned up magnificently to the call and donated in kind various articles of necessity ranging from food items, clothes, blankets and other such essentials. The collected material was then taken to the NGO Sarvahitey which is working for the Kerala flood relief and through them our help and well wishes would surely reach out to the people of Kerala.





Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer

Memorial Lecture series

What makes the Judges Punish: Prof. Mrinal Satish on the Sentencing Policy in India

The first in the of V.R. Krishna Memorial Lecture series this semester opened with a promise of a wonderful deliberative and contemplative process that this lecture series proudly claims to be. Indeed, students and teachers alike were enlightened with the wonderful critical analysis of the sentencing policy in India. Prof. Mrinal Satish, an eminent academician and scholar, who had also been a member of the Justice Verma Committee (2013) on amendments in rape laws, delivered a thought provoking lecture titled “Approaches to Sentencing”, an area of law which has been quite neglected by the law makers and judges alike.



Prof. Mrinal Satish delivering lecture

Prof. Satish covered almost every aspect of sentencing jurisprudence in India. He presented a beautiful critique of the sentencing policies of Indian Criminal Justice Administration System highlighting the fact that this area of criminal law remains to be the most neglected area in our legal system. He pointed out to the inadequate addressal to the sentencing techniques in our criminal law statutes. The most pressing issue with sentencing in Indian legal system as Prof. Satish aptly pointed out, was the subjective application of mind by judges while dishing out sentences. He asserted that due to the absence of specific guidelines, sentencing falls under the subjective discretion of the judges, which leads to inconsistencies in judgments as well. He quoted the case of Santosh Kumar Satibhusan Bariyar v. State of Maharashtra, (2009) where the Supreme Court expressed the views that sentencing is mostly judge centric and not based upon any defined principles. Ultimately it revolves around the believe system of the judge as some judges believe in reformatory theory, while some believe in deterrent theory. Prof. Satish quoted the case of Sanjay Dutt and the anomalous sentencing in similar cases where the accused was not a celebrity.

He quoted Justice Chinappa Reddy's observations on the issue that the courts have failed in their responsibility to shape the jurisprudence relating to sentencing. Justice Reddy, as mentioned by Prof. Satish, had remonstrated that the courts are mostly confined in discussing facts and interpretation of legal rules but seldom undertake discussions around the jurisprudence relating to sentencing.

Prof. Mrinal then went on to present a critical analysis on judicial discipline of sentencing in the offences punishable with death penalty. In series of judicial decisions, observed by Prof. Mrinal, the first was Moti Ram v. State of U.P, where the apex court observed that sentencing should not be too harsh and at the same time it should not be too lenient. He traced the judicial history of decisions of Supreme Court that led to the development of “rarest of the rare” doctrine. He drew inferences from various cases and the idea of “collective conscience of society”, an idea whose determination remains to be a subjective prerogative of the judge while dishing out death penalty or commuting it as the case may be.

He further presented a possible solution to this issue. He opined that by taking cues from the Sentencing Commission in United Kingdom, perhaps the time was ripe for a separate body to be created in India which would draft certain objective rules governing the passing of sentences in judgments.

The very slew of questions from the students was evidentiary in itself to their newly invoked interest in the subject. Prof. Satish gave enough food for thought to all the students and teachers. His wonderful take on the topic not only egged on the students to think about the silenced portions of law such as sentencing, quite overlooked in their treatment, but also to ponder over possible solutions. The stage set by this first lecture has piqued interest in the subsequent lectures in the series.



Visit to Supreme Court of India of BA LLB 2nd year students (Section B)

A group of 45 students along with two Asst. Professors Mr. Kush Karla and Mr. Padmesh Kataria of DME, Noida visited Supreme Court of India on 23rd August, 2018 as a part of DME Law School Education Visit programme. This visit was aimed at making the students aware of the functioning of the highest body of justice.

Students observed Chief Justice of India court proceedings wherein they observed the hearing of constitution bench case related to reservation in promotions. The students also visited other courts inside supreme court premises. After that some students was called by Secretary General Shri Ravindra Maithani in his chamber where he interacted with students and guided them regarding law as a career.

The students also interacted with registrar Shri Rajesh Kumar Goel. He cleared all the doubt and queries of students related to Legal profession and shared his life experience and journey and also motivated the students to become good lawyers and judges.

Students also visited Supreme Court Museum and observed the evolution of Legal System in India from ancient time to present days.

This visit will help students understand the role of Hon'ble Supreme court in dispensing justice and to ascertain whether the laws are executed and obeyed properly and to see to it that no person is deprived of justice in any court of law.



Future Workplace - The Supreme Court of India

DG SIR'S VISIT CAMPUS SNAPSHOTS

