## **ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24**

# THE COMMITTEE TO ORGANIZE SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, EXTRA-MURALS, AND SPECIAL LECTURES





#### **TENURE 2023-24**

CHAIRPERSON	Dr. Prem Kumar Gautam
FACULTY ADVISORS	Dr. Mitali Tiwari
	Dr. Ankita Yadav
STUDENT OFFICE BEARERS	
Convenor	Mr. Satyam Shivam
Co-convenor	Mr. Vinayak Girdhar
Secretary	Mr. Akshat Jaiswal
Treasurer	Mr. Shashwat Singh

#### **EVENTS ORGANISED**

## IIIRD EDITION OF NATIONAL SEMINAR ON LAW AND TECHNOLOGY

The III<sup>rd</sup> edition of the National Seminar on Law and Technology in collaboration with Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas and Co. conducted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of February, 2024, invited well-researched and authentic research papers, case analysis, and articles by academicians, policymakers, journalists, lawyers, bureaucrats, research scholars and students. The seminar discussed how law interacts with rapidly evolving technology is more important than ever before. The media partner for the flagship event was EBC Reader and SCC Online. This year's triumphant third edition, held in collaboration with Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas and Co., a prominent Technology, Media and Telecommunications (TMT) law firm, witnessed enthusiastic engagement from institutions across India, including NALSAR, WBNUJS, MNLU-Nagpur, IIM-Rohtak, SLS Pune, NMIMS-Mumbai, JGLS, Christ University-Bangalore, Amity Law School, Kolkata, etc. The eminent personalities for the Inaugural day were Hon'ble Justice Om Prakash Shukla, Dr Sonajharia Minz (J.N.U.) and Professor Anurag K. Agarwal (I.I.M. Ahmedabad). The total number of papers were above 80 and participants more than 150.









The national seminar saw participants from all areas of law, from different parts of the country, where discussions were held on a diverse range of themes and topics ranging from cryptocurrency to intellectual property rights, Artificial Intelligence, fintech, e-commerce, and the like. The distinguished guests for the Valedictory event were Hon'ble Justice Subhash Vidyarthi, Dr G.K. Goswami and Advocate Mohit Singh (Counsel, SAM and Co.).

#### UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN

The **Unnat Bharat Abhiyan** (UBA) initiative, initially launched in 2014 and revamped in 2018 by the **Ministry of Education**, aims to involve higher educational institutions in the development of rural India. Transitioning from UBA 1.0's Invitation Mode to UBA 2.0's Challenge Mode, it now requires participating institutions to adopt at least five villages proactively. It is a concerted effort by the Government of India towards comprehensive rural development. The main goal is to thoroughly evaluate the socio-economic conditions of the selected village, pinpointing precise areas in need of intervention to improve the residents' quality of life.





The Seminar Committee, through a significant initiative to enhance the quality of life in rural areas, undertook a comprehensive evaluation to select villages for targeted interventions. This evaluation process involved visiting potential villages and conducting two rounds of interviews that covered key areas such as healthcare, sanitation, education, and agriculture, as well as engaging in community dialogues. The purpose was to thoroughly understand the socioeconomic conditions of these villages and pinpoint specific areas needing improvement. Based on this in-depth assessment, six villages were selected for the initiative: Dhighiya, Pyarepur, Samda, Khurrampur, and Palenhada.

The registration process is ongoing, and Dr. Amandeep Singh has been selected as our coordinator.

#### FDI MOOT ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE

The Committee to Organize Seminars, Workshops, Extra-murals, and Special lectures organized a round-table conference along the lines of **FDI International Arbitration Moot** in the month of November 2023. The round table deliberated on the issue of 'Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) in the 21st Century: Adept Responses to the Evolving Dynamics'. The Panel for the same comprised of eminent figures in the field, including Mr. Steven P. Finizio (Partner, WilmerHale), Mr. Mrinal Jain (Managing Director, Secretariat), and Ms. Shwetha Bidhuri (Director and Head, SIAC). The proceedings were orchestrated and guided accomplished moderators, namely Ms. Chitra Rentala (Partner, Trilegal), Ms. Niyati Gandhi (Principal Associate, SAM & Co.), and Mr. Anubhab Sarkar (Founding Partner, Triumvir Law).



The round table conference was divided into 2 sessions which dealt with the following topics:

**Session 1**- Challenges in Enforcement and Annulment of Awards under Bilateral Investment Treaties.

**Session 2-** Balancing Act: DCF Valuation in Investor-State Disputes – Navigating the fine line between appropriate application and potential misuse.

#### **ATHENA 4.0**

Another edition of the paper presentation competition "ATHENA 4.0", an academically refreshing and inspiring competition was held exclusively for the first-year students on the theme "Federalism". As first-year students embark on their academic journey, ATHENA provides a platform to hone critical thinking, research, and presentation skills. The competition consisted of two phases: first, participants submitted their papers for evaluation by an editorial board, and then they presented their work to a panel in a simulated national seminar environment and were judged by college's experienced fifth-years. To facilitate the first-year students in grasping the fundamentals of paper submission and presentation, the committee organized two sessions.





The first session by Shreyasi Singh, a fifth-year student of RMLNLU revolved around enhancing and brushing legal research skills and drafting findings into a research paper.

The second session by Vaibhav Gaur, a fifth-year student of RMLNLU was on Paper submission and Presentation, to help students to hone their presentation skills and immaculately present the paper in front of the panel.

#### PANEL DISCUSSION ON REVAMPED CRIMINAL LAWS

The Seminar Committee organized a panel discussion on "Revamping the Criminal Law Landscape: Implications of Replacing Traditional Laws with the BNS, BNSS, and BS Bills in 2023" on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2023. The esteemed panel for this session were Dr. Subhash C. Raina, Founding Vice Chancellor of HPNLU and Dr. Sarfaraz A. Khan, Associate Professor at WBNUJS. The event started with the Chairperson, Dr Prem Kumar Gautam, introducing the central theme of the discussion, which revolved around the transformation of the criminal law landscape.





Dr Sarfaraz A. Khan started with a thoughtful discussion on the limited changes brought about in the evidence law by the Bhartiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 and presented suggestions for potential enhancements in the Bhartiya Sakshya Bill. Referring to the 113th Law Commission report, the speaker proposed legislation addressing custodial conditions, including issues related to custodial violence, rape, and death. The Shakila Gaffer Khan case and the recommendations of the Supreme Court were cited as important considerations that could have been incorporated into the bill. Furthermore, he acknowledged the addition of "mob lynching" to the bill.

Dr Raina continued the knowledge discourse by emphasising the need to focus on cybercrime and hate crime and raised the question of whether honour crimes should be treated as a separate category or integrated into existing sections. He underscored the importance of protecting elderly individuals and other vulnerable groups. The topic of witness protection was expressed in relation to the need for police reforms before this implementation. He also commented on the addition of community service as a reformative technique but believed that the bills required more precise framing and interpretation.

The floor was then opened to questions from the audience, which led to an informed and engaged discussion on various aspects of the three bills.

The guest speakers then facilitated the winners of the paper presentation competition, Athena 4.0 and the event was concluded.

# CERTIFICATE WORKSHOP ON LEGAL RESEARCH PAPER WRITING AND PUBLISHING

A certificate workshop on 'Legal Research Paper Writing and Publication' was conducted by Mr. Swapnil Tripathi, an attorney and bachelor of Civil Law graduate from Mansfield College, University of Oxford. Currently pursuing a DPhil in Law at the University of Oxford, Mr. Tripathi also maintains a personal blog titled "The Basic Structure", where he discusses key constitutional law concepts and developments organized by the Seminar Committee. The workshop took place on 21st July 2023. In the two-hour long session, attendees were guided by Mr. Tripathi on excelling in the art of writing legal research papers and navigating the complex process of publication. Participants gained insights into effective structuring, citation practices, and the nuances of legal discourse. The workshop also covered strategies for identifying reputable journals and understanding the peer review process.



Students also had the opportunity to interact with Mr. Swapnil and ask their doubts regarding paper publication, higher studies abroad and other career related doubts in an informal discussion circle after the certificate workshop. The participants got the opportunity to personally interact with him and ask their queries.

#### **HEALTH CHECKUP CAMP**



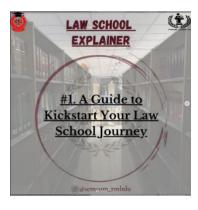
To prirotize health with academics and daily life, the Seminar Committee, in collaboration with **Medanta Labs** (a division of Medanta-The Medicity), orchestrated a Free Health Check-up Camp at Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia National Law University, Lucknow, on 19/08/2023 in the morning breeze.

The camp, held on the VC lawn, aimed to provide vital health assessments to the university community, including guards and staff. Approximately 300 individuals availed themselves of the opportunity to undergo health screenings. The following test were covered in the camp-

- FBS (Fasting Blood Sugar)
- RBS (Random Blood Sugar),
- TSH (Thyroid Stimulating Hormone)
- Uric Acid
- Calcium levels.

Each person was entitled to one free test from the aforementioned list.

### LAW SCHOOL EXPLAINER SERIES







The Seminar Committee continued its annual tradition of supporting incoming students as they navigate law school through the Law School Explainer Series on Instagram. These posts covered a range of topics, from kickstarting one's law school journey to uncovering the hidden advantages of RMLNLU, and even using LinkedIn to build connections. Throughout the series, important pointers were shared, emphasizing the significance of attending classes regularly, leveraging the support of helpful seniors and professors, exploring diverse career options, tapping into a strong alumni network, and actively participating in extracurricular activities and committees to develop essential soft skills and enhance the university experience.

By providing insights into the environment at RMLNLU and guiding newcomers on utilizing these benefits to enhance their experience, it serves as a valuable resource for the incoming students, empowering them to make the most of their time at RMLNLU. Additionally, it significantly bolstered the committee's online presence and engagement.