



Gujarat National Law University

Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India

Gandhinagar, Saturday, 27 February 2016

GNLU PRESS NOTE
No. 27/2016
GNLU Hosts 7th Convocation

Dear Sir/Madam,

Greetings from GNLU!

Gujarat National Law University (www.gnl.u.ac.in) hosted 7th Convocation on Saturday, 27 February 2016 at GNLU AURA. Mr K. K. Venugopal, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India delivered the Convocation Address as the Chief Guest. Mr Justice Abhay Sapre, Judge, Supreme Court of India, in the capacity as the Visitor of the University presided over the function in the presence of Mr Justice R. Subhash Reddy, Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court. The Convocation was graced by sitting and retired judges, advocates, members of the General Council, Executive Council, Academic Council, Finance Committee, government officials, eminent members from the civil society, alumni, parents and graduating batches.

Dr Akilali Saiyed, Dr Nidhi Buch and Dr Fakkiresk Sakkarnikar received PhD degree, the first batch of PhD scholars, from the University. 37 and 157 students received LLM and LLB integrated degree with honors respectively.

Professor Bimal N. Patel, Director GNLU welcomed the guests and presented the report of the University. He highlighted that with 930 LLB and LLM students, 17 PhD candidates, 60 teaching and research faculty, 60 administrative staff members; in terms of education programs – five specialisations, BA, BCom, BBA, BSc, BSW and four specialization at LLM level, inter-disciplinary PhD research, international and national publications, number of foreign and Indian participants and resource persons visited in just one year, variety of certificate and online diploma programs, total number of chairs and fellowships and gold medals, infrastructure spread across in 50 acres of land, 22 crore Rs annual budget, GNLU has become a *Vat Vriksba*. *Vat Vriksba* is thought of as perfectly symbolizing eternal life due to its seemingly unending expansion.

He specified 14 aspects of the GNLU which are marks of its distinction among all national law universities.

1. Vision-Mission, working motto and core values deliberated, adopted and committed for realisation by faculty and staff;



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2. Only NLU to offer 5 specialisations at UG and PG level as well as inter-disciplinary PhD research;
3. Research-based Teaching and Research-based Administrative University model;
4. Specialisation in niche areas; cooperative v. competitive approach to all programs vis-à-vis other NLUs;
5. Academic Support Program;
6. Performance Management Appraisal System;
7. Alternative Academic Credit Program;
8. Pro bono legal service;
9. Foreign language program as curricular requirement;
10. Litigation Assistance and Support Scheme;
11. Recognition by prestigious international and national institutions and organisations by instituting chairs/fellowships; foreign professors program;
12. Incentives to participate in prestigious international internship programs;
13. World-class campus;
14. Community cleaning service, as part of the service condition, by everyone from the Director to Driver.

Mr K. K. Venugopal delivered the 7th Convocation on the theme of *The Changing Face of Legal Education and the Practice of Law*. He highlighted that graduating students from the GNLU would be in demand, as GNLU is known for the excellence of legal education. Citing Abraham Lincoln, that “*If you wish to be a lawyer, attach no consequence to the place you are in, or the person you are with; but get books, sit down anywhere, and go to reading for yourself. That will make a lawyer of you quicker than any other way,*” he said that *for the greater part of my life, I believe that this is what I have done or at least have tried to do*. He lamented on the recent incidents of strikes by lawyers, lawyers beating up media persons, formation of lawyers associations on the basis of caste, and he appealed to young graduates that they carry great responsibility on their shoulders in this noble profession. He concluded by saying that *‘I would end by saying that each one of you is lucky, for having been welcomed into the arms of this institution, which from the vast number of journals published by the institution and the excellence of its teaching, is clearly an outstanding law school, of which all of you can well be proud of’*.

The Convocation witnessed award of 17 gold medals to meritorious needs in various subjects as well as for outstanding overall performance.

For any further information, you may contact Dr Joshua Aston, Assistant Professor and Dean of Students’ Welfare on +91 8511188724 or jaston@gnlu.ac.in.