

GNLU launches a new Centre of Excellence for Air and Space Law

Gandhinagar, Sep 04, 2019: Gujarat National Law University (GNLU), today, launched a new interdisciplinary Centre for research in the niche field of Air and Space Law. With a mission to engage in improving the existing legal and policy framework for facilitation and regulation of safe, secure, affordable and sustainable aviation and to contribute to the shaping of the legal foundation for the future of humanity that lies in space, the new centre will undertake education, research, training and advisory functions in the field of Air and Space Law.

The Launch Ceremony was graced by Prof. Stephan Hobe, Director of the Institute of Air and Space Law, University of Cologne, Germany, Mr Tapan Misra (Distinguished Scientist and Senior Advisor to Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation); and Dr S. Shanthakumar, Director, GNLU.

Announcing the launch of the centre, GNLU Director Dr Shanthakumar said that the centre will be named as V.S. Mani Centre for Air and Space Law in the honour of Prof. V. S. Mani, the founding Director of GNLU, who himself was an expert in the field of Air and Space Law. Acknowledging the contribution of his predecessors Prof Mani and Dr Bimal Patel, Dr Shanthakumar said, “their efforts in initiating research in this field and holding a week-long academy on the subject as an annual event at GNLU has today culminated into the establishment of a full-fledged centre of excellence.”

Dr Shanthakumar further announced that Prof Ram Jakhu, Associate Professor at the McGill Institute of Air and Space Law, Canada and a great authority on the subject has graciously offered to donate his personal library to the new centre. Dr Stephan Hobe, who is already associated with the annual academy at GNLU for the past several years has also assured support to the centre in the form of his increased involvement as well as financial assistance for undertaking research in the field. While gratefully acknowledging their generous offers, Dr Santhakumar said, “the new centre is indeed very fortunate in having the patronage of the world-renowned experts in the field of Air and Space Law right from its inception.”

Prof. (Dr.) Stephan Hobe recalled his long association with Prof. Mani and said, “the GNLU’s gesture in naming the new centre after Dr Mani is just enough to ensure my total commitment to the centre.” He hoped that “the Centre will live up to the high standards set by Prof Mani and eventually advise the Government of India in the field of Air and Space Law.”

Mr Tapan Misra complimented GNLU on the launch of the new centre and extended his best wishes.

With this new centre, GNLU has now 14 centres of excellence dedicated to interdisciplinary research in the field of Intellectual Property Rights, Law & Economics, Corporate & Competition Law, Environment & Sustainable Development, Banking & Finance Law, Sports & Entertainment



Gujarat National Law University

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Law, Foreign Policies & Security Studies, Law & Society, Public International Law, Business & Public Policy, Private International Law, Constitutional & Administrative Law, Law & Technology and Air & Space Law.

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