

“Marking the 70th Year of Adoption of the Constitution at Gujarat Raj Bhavan in collaboration with the GNLU”

Gandhinagar, November 26, 2018: 26th November 2018 marks the 70th year of adoption of the Constitution of India. Recognising the enduring achievements of the Constitution in creating and maintaining a strong democratic society and working towards the ideals of the Constitution in the 21st Century, a seminar was organized at the Gujarat Raj Bhavan in collaboration with the Gujarat National Law University. The seminar witnessed the presence of **Hon’ble Governor of Gujarat Shri Om Prakash Kohli, Hon’ble Governor of Goa Smt. Mridula Sinha, Hon’ble Law Minister Shri Bhupendrasinh Chudasama, Hon’ble former Chief Justice of Bombay High Court Shri Mohit Shah**, constitutional and statutory authorities, senior officials from the Government of Gujarat, retired judges of the Gujarat High Court, senior faculty and students from GNLU and law institutions and colleges of Gujarat.

Smt Mridula Sinha, Hon’ble Governor of Goa, underlined how the Indian society has been evolving and incrementally achieving justice and equality for all sections of the society despite all challenges. She narrated the success of the Goa Civil Code in ensuring the gender equality and a model code on equality and women empowerment. “*Invest in Your Duties to Earn Your Rights*”, was her special message to the current and future generations.

Shri O. P. Kohli, Hon’ble Governor of Gujarat, elucidated the aims and objectives of the Constitution, the efforts of the three wings of the state, the contribution of these wings in realizing the ideals of the Constitution. Hon’ble Governor called upon everyone to adhere to the vision of the Founding Fathers of the Constitution and implement the Constitution in letter and spirit.

Shri Bhupendrasinh Chudasama, Hon’ble Law and Justice Minister of Gujarat, highlighted various initiatives and schemes Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi initiated during his tenure as the Gujarat Chief Minister in Gujarat and consolidated by the succeeding governments in realizing the objectives of social justice for the society of Gujarat and India as a whole. He highlighted how the programs like Education Enrollment, especially in rural areas, the campaign against malnutrition, subsidy schemes for the household women, among others have contributed to the realization of the spirit of the social justice and upliftment of overall living standards of women. Highlighting the importance of the contribution of Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Shri Babasaheb Ambedkar, in unifying the nation and giving the nation a solid constitution, respectively, Shri Chudasama invited the audience to continue work towards the realization of the ideals of the Constitution.

Shri Mohit Shah, Former Chief Justice of Bombay High Court, succinctly analysed the three phases of the fundamental rights and the role of the Judiciary in protecting and promoting these rights. Recognising the achievement of each of the landmark judgments, he emphasized the latest judgments of the Supreme Court of India on Right to Privacy, Aadhar Card, Sabarimala case,

LGBT which have contributed to the evolving jurisprudence in contributing to the fundamental rights.

Dr Bimal N. Patel, GNLU Director, spoke about the importance of having a new constitution reflecting the hopes and aspirations of the new generation and highlighted the need for research on constitutionalisation of internet law, evolving debates on the modern meaning of judicial independence, international law and the Constitution, social rights and the Constitution and analysed how the 21st Law Commission of India has contributed through its research works to realise the goals of the Constitution.

Dr Avinash Bhagi, Director, Center for Constitutional and Administrative Law, GNLU, having inaugurated the *Lex Populi*, Center's research magazine on constitutional issues by the dignitaries, expressed a vote of thanks.

For more information, please contact Dr Avinash Bhagi, Director, Center for Constitutional and Administrative Law, Assistant Professor of Law (email: abhagi@gnlu.ac.in / mobile: +812 865 0805).