

National Seminar

On

Judicial Delays : Maladies and Remedies

(10-11 January, 2020)



Patron

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Hon'ble Vice Chancellor

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Organized by:

University School of Law And Legal Studies
Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi

“Judicial Delays : Maladies and Remedies”

Quality of any governance system is determined by the quality of justice it delivers. While this could be true in general for any system of governance, it is especially true for a democratic system. In fact Democracies are respected all over the globe because they provide better prospects of better justice delivery to common man. It is for this reason that Francis Fukuyama declares the death of history by claiming that “we have arrived at the ‘end of history’, where there are no plausible competitors to the basic ideology of liberal democracy in a capitalist economic context”. Even military dictators take pains to argue that they are just stabilizing the situation so that democracy can be restored or attained fullness of time. Therefore it is eminently important to realise and understand that a healthy judicial system delivering justice to common man is a pre-requisite and kernel of a democratic order.

Indian system which is wedded to the idea of justice and equality has created a three tier hierarchical structure with Supreme Court at the apex, High Courts in the middle and the primary judiciary at common man’s level to take care of immediate needs of a very complex socio-cultural and politico-economic system. Despite around seven decades of experimentation to improve the justice delivery system the common man remains deprived of the most basic requirements of justice provisioning. Judicial delays are so endemic and pandemic that over three crores of cases continue to berate the very idea of justice and the managers of politico-constitutional system find it hard to answer the most basic questions as to justice delivery mechanism under India’s democratic sun where the average waiting period even today is little over 15 years. While the high and mighty can afford the best of legal services , the constitutional promise of securing the operation of legal system promoting justice, on the basis of equal opportunity and in particular, providing free legal aid.....to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities, remain a black letter law with seemingly no impact on the ground situation.

This state of affairs dilutes the very idea of democracy which results in the de-legitimation of the whole Idea of Indian State system being a welfare State. All these issues relating to judicial delays, their repercussions on the very idea of democracy and its likely cascading effect on the governance system are proposed to be the thrust areas of discussion in the two day National Seminar on “Judicial Delays : Maladies and Remedies”, organized by University School of Law and Legal Studies, GGS IP University, New Delhi during 10-11 January, 2020.

In the true tradition of interdisciplinary research the proposed national seminar seeks to delve deep in to the contemporary issues of structuring of whole edifice of democratic

institutions for the purpose of delivering justice to common man. The issues relating to pendency and endemic delays which amounts to travesty of justice, are eating into the very vitals of Indian democratic system, the alternative dispute redressal systems that have been instituted to supplement the system to infuse efficiency, the processes of pre-litigation counseling and mediation, Lok Adalats and several such reforms, brought in to improve the system have proved to be a cropper, barely affecting the system in any significant way. These and such other issues shall be the focus of intense brainstorming amongst legal scholars from across the country in the proposed seminar. The following shall be the major themes that shall be the subject of discussion during 6 technical sessions spread over two days.

- Judicial Delays : Introspecting the Purposes of Judicial system
- Judicial Delays and quality of justice
- Primary Judiciary : Infrastructure bottlenecks and its impact
- Vacancies in Primary Judiciary and its impact
- Court and Case Management Techniques : Any impact?
- Technology in the Courts : Can it be the Saviour?

Appreciating the fact that that the present law has to meet the requirements of a very diverse and complex society and a student of law and an advocate has to be trained in professional skills to meet the challenges of globalization and universalization of law, University School of Law and Legal Studies, GGS IP University has been trying to develop amongst the students a sense of commitment to the cause of national development.

Academicians, lawyers, members of civil society, students and scholars of legal studies are invited to contribute papers for the proposed national seminar. In case of joint authorship of the paper/abstract, only the participating individuals presenting the paper shall get the certificate for his/her participation and presentation.

The following is the proposed schedule

Important Dates : Submissions of abstract : 30th November, 2019

Intimation as to Acceptance of Abstract : 15th December, 2019

Submissions of full paper : 31st December, 2019

Proposed Dates of the National Seminar- 10-11 January, 2020

About the University : Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, a State University came into existence in 1998 as a teaching and affiliating university. During a short span of little over two decades, it has become a premier university in professional and technical education. It offers wide ranging professional and techno-academic programmes in disciplines of engineering, architecture, management, Law, Computer applications, journalism, mass

communication, education, medical and para-medical studies etc. Almost every academic programme that is offered by this university is inter-disciplinary in nature and is knowledge and creativity oriented to meet the demands of today and the years to come.

Campus of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University is roughly 1 KM from Metro Station at Dwarka Sector 14. Necessary arrangements shall be made for picking up the participants from nearest transit point on request.

Registration Charges :

For Students : Rs. 500 (Rs. Five Hundred Only)

For Academics and others : Rs. 1000 (Rs. One Thousand only)

