ACTIVITY REPORT: DEBATE CLUB, SCHOOL OF LAW DEBATE COMPETITION ON CONSTITUTION DAY

26/11/2020 Overview

On 26 November 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, and it came into effect on 26 January 1950. The Government of India declared 26 November as Constitution Day on 19 November 2015 by a gazette notification. Since 2015 was the 125th birth anniversary year of B. R. Ambedkar(14 April 1891 – 6 December 1956), who is known as the drafter of the Indian constitution, the government decided in May 2015 to celebrate this year "in a big way". Previously this day was celebrated as Law Day. 26th November was chosen to spread the importance of the constitution and to spread the thoughts and ideas of Ambedkar.

The Constitution lays down the national goals of India - Democracy, Socialism, Secularism, and National Integration. It spells out the rights and duties of the citizens. The Constitution of a nation is treated as a sacred document like the Bible. Hence, the students need to acquire indepth knowledge and understanding of the Constitution. To promote and encourage the constitutional literacy, constitutional rights, and values that are enshrined in the Constitution among the law students, the Debate committee organized a debate competition on the auspicious occasion of National Constitution Day on 26th November 2020. The debate competition was conducted on the topic "Implementation of Uniform Civil Code in the fundamental right chapter". The competition was conducted online on the Zoom application.

The performance of students during the Debate Competition was phenomenal and very professional. This debate competition was judged by 4 honourable judges: Dr. Saurabh Chaturvedi (Associate Dean), Prof. Preethi Kavilikatta, Prof. Manasi Ahire and Prof. Megha Ojha.

The Competition was initiated through preamble reading by Prof. Seoula Vas as she explained the nuances of the preamble in a very magnificent and detailed way. Further history of law day was bestowed to our participants for recognizing the importance of this day. The competition was conducted amongst 20 students from the law batch of 2020 with exceptional and outstanding performance.

After the competition, respected Dr. Saurabh Chaturvedi spoke on the occasion and delved upon the thoughts of Dr. Ambedkar. He elaborated on prominent thoughts of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, viz. "Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence". He explained the power of these thoughts through some examples and proved how relevant they are for the well-being of society.

Lastly, the Vote of thanks was delivered by Bhavya Godawat, President of the Debate Committee. The decisions of the judges were final and the program was concluded by announcing the winners of the competition .One could actually see the future leaders in the contestants as all the students were of equal calibre and potential but in the end, some stood out shining brighter than the others. The program on Constitution Day was attended by faculty members, staff, students, and others in large numbers and actively participated in the event.

