

## **Legal Research Cell**

Faculty Co-ordinators:

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Legal research bears a vital position in legal profession. For any student of law as well as legal professional, the skill of conducting legal research is indispensable. Systematic legal research facilitates momentum to solve issues and to devise workable solutions to the problems at hand. Having this aspect in view, our college has constituted the Legal Research Cell (LRC) which exerts persistently to infuse students with inquisitive approach and research skills. Dr. Priya Chopde, assisted by Asst. Prof. Janhavi Ghodke and Asst. Prof. Anuja Sharma coordinated and shouldered the responsibility of Legal research Cell this year. Owing to the online and thereafter hybrid mode of working, there were certain constraints in effectively conducting various research activities for students. Despite this, working of Legal Research Cell for A. Y. 2021-22 was carried out in as follows:

### **Selection/Nomination to LRC:**

In order to make the platform of LRC open for all, this year the cell did not keep any selection process and was made open to all those who were interested. A Google form was circulated amongst students to register themselves as a member of the cell. This encouraged participation and response from the students. This reveals keenness on the part of our students towards research methodology and legal aptitude. Apart from this, some students from final year batch, who had worked continuously for past two years, were nominated as members and co-ordinators of Legal Research Cell. With the help of nominated members, core team of LRC is constituted. This year, there were sixty members in Legal Research Cell including ten nominated members in its core team.

### **Working of LRC:**

Smooth working of Legal Research Cell is secured by conducting periodic meetings between faculty coordinators and members of LRC. Usually a preliminary meeting is conducted between faculty coordinators and members of core team for initial discussion about organization of any activity and then the suggestions from the members are shared with other

members of LRC. First preliminary meeting of LRC was organized on 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2022. In this meeting, discussion about strategic working of LRC for current academic year and allotment of different areas to core team members for coordinating with other members of the Cell like Research Publications and participation in outside activities, organization of in-house activities, identification of criterion for enhancing research aptitude etc was carried out. This year, LRC organized its first activity namely, '**Orientation Session**' on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2021. In this session our alumnus, Mr. Aditya Bendre, was invited as a guest speaker, who had worked as an active member of LRC for all the five years of his law program in the college. Through this session, a brief overview into the working of the cell, methods by which students can take advantage of the cell to improve their research skills set as well as the significance of research in legal profession was shared with the current members of LRC. This session was conducted in online mode.

On 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 the Cell for the first time organized an '**Intra-Collegiate Panel Discussion,**' on the topic, "**Data Protection: Privacy v. Security**". This activity of Panel Discussion was kept open for all the students of the college. Alumni of our college - Adv. Vaibhav Karpur, Adv. Pranav Deshmukh and Adv. Yashwant Thorat, having experience of working in this area, were called as judges for the said activity. There were twelve participants out of which, Mr. Adhit Kulkarni from 5<sup>th</sup> B.A.LL. B was declared as Winner and Mr. Swastik Madake from 3<sup>rd</sup> B.A.LL.B stood as Runner Up. Hannah Varghese from 2<sup>nd</sup> B. B. A. LL.B was appreciated as Honorable Mention in this Panel Discussion activity. At last, all the judges shared their words of Wisdom on the topic and concluded the said activity. This was an online activity and fifty students attended the same.

Furthermore, this year, Legal Research Cell organized **12<sup>th</sup> Edition of National Bill Analysis Competition** was organized on 6<sup>th</sup> May and 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 along with a two - day National Seminar in online mode. The Personal Data Protection Bill, 2019 was considered for this competition. An in-depth discussion on various dimensions of the said Bill and its effectiveness in providing comprehensive solution to the issues and challenges in the area of Data Privacy was undertaken by the participants of the competition. For this competition, Adv. Vaibhav Karpur and Adv. Pranav Deshmukh were invited to judge the qualifying round and Dr. Varsha Deshmukh, Principal, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh College of Law; Amravati was invited to preside over as a judge for Final Round. This activity was concluded with a positive note of initiating legal discourse on the burning issue of Data Privacy and Data protection in Digital Era.

Our college also publishes a law journal namely, '*Fiat Justitia*' wherein contributions from academicians, legal practitioners, law students etc. are invited on current issues in socio-legal matters. Coordinators of Legal Research Cell also look after in soliciting contributions and publication of the law journal.

Accordingly, Legal Research Cell of the College strives to enhance research aptitude of law students as well as faculty and to encourage them in contributing in the research areas in legal profession.