

स्वDes

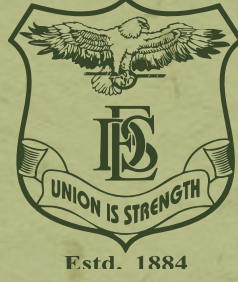
WAR & PEACE

The Global
Challenge at UN
@80



DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune
ID::PU/PN/LAW/207/2004

EDITION: 2025 -2026



Deccan Education Society's
Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune
ID: PU/PN/LAW/207/2004

स्वदेश
2025-26



Gate No. 3, Fergusson College Campus, FC Road, Pune - 411004
Tel.: 020-67656400 | Fax: 020-67656120
Email: deslaw@despune.org | Website: www.deslaw.edu.in

Acknowledgments

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the following whose contributions have made this magazine a success!



Management
Faculty Members
Library Staff
Administrative Staff
Editorial Board
Contributors

— Cover Page Design —

Madhura Vartak - 2nd B.A.LL.B.
Trishna Pultambekar - 3rd B.A.LL.B.
Aryan Devne - 4th B.A.LL.B.

— Design by —

Mr. Balkrishna Tharkude, Faculty, DES' JRVGTI
Vrishti Bhupta, Student, DES' JRVGTI Design Department
Vanshika Bhupta, Student, DES' JRVGTI Design Department

Disclaimer: Views expressed in SwaDES 2025-26 are of the individual contributors and not that of the Editorial Board.

INDEX

01

Editorial
Acknowledgements
Chairman's Message
Vice-Chairman's Message
Principal's Message
Our Founding Fathers
About the College
Vision Statement
Mission Statement
Governing Body of DES
College Development
Committee
Editorial
Walk Around the Campus(Photo
Gallery)

02

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Sunita Adhav
Dr. Priya Pankaj Chopde
Dr. Neeta Ahir
Dr. Janhavi Ghodke
Dr. Aishwarya Rahul Yadav
Dr. Anagha Baldota
Asst. Prof. Pradnya Yadav
Asst. Prof. Pooja Hrishikesh Deo
Asst. Prof. Prithviraj Dhondiram Chavan
Asst. Prof. Sandip Kadu Borse
Asst. Prof. Ajinkya Waghmare
Asst. Prof. Sumit Tak
Asst. Prof. Anuja Sharma
Asst. Prof. Aditi Kulkarni
Asst. Prof. Saurabh Jadhav
Asst. Prof. Kaveri Aditya Deo
Asst. Prof. Chinmay Powar
Administrative Staff

03

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Alumni Relations
Centre for Legal Excellence
Consumer Club
Cultural Department
Debate Department (MIMANSA)
Digital Language Laboratory
Diploma and Certificate Courses
Environmental Cell
Guest Lecture Department
Judicial Internship Program
Legal Aid
Legal Research Cell
Library
Magazine Department
Moot Court Society
MUN Club
National Collaboration and Linkages
National Service Scheme
Placement and Internship Assistance Cell
POSH Committee
Seminar and Workshop
Sports
SPPU Startup Talk Series
Student Development Cell
Vedhas E-Law Journal
Vidhipathi 3.0
Women's Study Cell
Achievements from Nov 2025 - April 2026

04

THE THINKER'S CORNER

Faculty Articles

RIGHT TO DIE: ADDRESSING LEGAL AND ETHICAL BATTLE

- Dr. Priya Chopde

STRUGGLE AND STILLNESS IN AN AGE OF CONFLICT: AN EXPANSIVE INQUIRY

- Dr. Anagha Baldota

WAR AND PEACE AT THE CROSSROADS: A GLOBAL CHALLENGE FOR HUMANITY

- Dr. Prithviraj Chavan

युद्धजन्य परिस्थितीत प्रेमाचा दुष्काळ : अमेरिका-

इराण संघर्ष, सामाजिक मानसिकता आणि प्रेम

शिकवण्याची गरज

- Asst. Prof. संदिप बोरसे

INSTITUTIONAL LONGEVITY VS. GEOPOLITICAL REALITY: THE UN AT 80

- Asst. Prof. Sumit Tak

80 YEARS OF THE UN: WHY WE STILL CAN'T STOP WAR

- Dr. Saurabh Jadhar

THE SHADOW WAR AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD

- Asst. Prof. Chinmay Powar

WAR AND PEACE: THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE AT UN @80

- डॉ. राजश्री पराग देशपांडे

संघ शताब्दी - पंच परिवर्तनाद्वारे - सामाजिक परिवर्तन

- Shri. ओंकार खोल्सम

Student Articles

WAR CRIMES AND INTERNATIONAL LAW: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS IN THE AGE OF MODERN CONFLICTS.

- Amey Bhunne

THE UN AT 80: IS IT STILL RELEVANT?

- Arani Sushbodb

THE ARCHITECTURE OF INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT: CAN INTERNATIONAL LAW RESTRAIN POWER

- Kapil Jodh

WAR AND PEACE: THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE AT UN @80

- Charul Pande

WAR AND PEACE: THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE AT UN@80 (युद्ध आणि शांतता : संयुक्त राष्ट्रांच्या 80 वर्षांपुढील जागतिक आव्हान)

- Balaji Doka

GLOBAL DOUBLE STANDARDS: SUPERPOWERS AND THE EROSION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

- Shubhra Tripathi

80 YEARS OF UNITED NATIONS

- Hrishikesh Pawar

AI AND LITIGATION

- Hrishikesh Pawar

SILENT VICTIMS OF WAR

- Ananya Arya

COEXISTENCE OF WAR AND PEACE IN THE 21ST CENTURY: A MYTH OR A REALITY, A DISCRETIONARY CONVERSATIONAL PIECE

- Radha Rajgurn

THE EROSION OF ARTICLE 2(4) IN THE AGE OF HYBRID WARFARE

- Tejas Chondhary

WAR, PEACE AND FUTURE

- Saeed Deepak Rote

PSYCHOLOGICAL CARE AND REHABILITATION: ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS AND LEGISLATION IN PRISONS

- Swara Kolhe

ECHOES OF CONFLICT, WHISPERS OF PEACE: MAPPING EIGHT DECADES OF UN'S GLOBAL JOURNEY

- Koena Ganguly

05

STUDENT POETRY

THE COST OF WAR BEYOND THE BATTLEFIELD

- *Saniya Khan*

THE WORLD'S BLACK AND WHITE

- *Saniya Khan*

DAWN AFTER THE DARKNESS

- *Siddhi Khare*

देर से सही...

- *Ananya Arya*

HER FREEDOM, HER VOICE

- *Ananya Arya*

A DIGNIFIES DEPARTURE

- *Ananya Arya*

QUIET ROT

- *Adity Patil*

WORLD IN RAGE

- *Sujal Phand*

06

DEPARTMENTS PHOTO GALLERY





Shri. Pramod Rawat,
Chairman, Council & Governing Body, DES

Chairman's Message

Dear Readers,

Every day, when we open the newspaper or scroll through the news, we come across stories of conflict, tension, and uncertainty. What may appear as distant events in different parts of the world slowly find their way into our own lives through rising costs, anxiety about the future, and a general sense of instability. It reminds us of a simple truth: peace is not guaranteed; it is something that must be protected.

This year's theme, "War and Peace: The Global Challenge at UN @80," is therefore not just about international institutions or global politics. It is about people. It is about the lives affected, the families disrupted, and the need for understanding in a world that often moves too quickly towards division.

In a country like India, we may not always experience war directly, but we certainly feel its effects. At the same time, India today emerges as an important voice in the international community. In the years ahead, our role will not only be limited to economic or strategic strength, but also about guiding conversations towards balance, cooperation, and stability.

What gives India a unique place in this global space is its civilizational wisdom. The idea of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" from the Maha Upanishad reminds us that the entire world is one family. Similarly, the ancient prayer "Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah, Sarve Santu Niramayah" reflects a vision where the well-being of all is central. These are not just philosophical ideals rather; they are practical approaches to building harmony in a divided world.

Even in our epics, we see that while conflicts like the Mahabharata were fought, they ultimately emphasized dharma the importance of righteousness, balance, and responsibility. These teachings remain relevant today, reminding us that lasting peace comes not from power alone, but from values.

I see SwaDES as a good effort in this direction. It gives students a chance to put their thoughts into words, to share what they observe around them, and to express what they feel about important issues. Not everything has to be perfect or technical, what matters is honesty of thought and willingness to engage.

Publications like this help students step outside their routine and look at the bigger picture. They begin to connect what they study with what is happening in the world. That, in my view, is an important part of education.

I appreciate the work done by the team and the students who have contributed to this magazine. I hope you will read it with interest and take something meaningful from it.

Best wishes,

Chairman

DES





Adv. Ashok Palande
Vice-Chairman, Council & Governing Body,
DES & Chairman,
College Development Committee, DES SNFLC

Vice-Chairman's Message

Dear Readers,

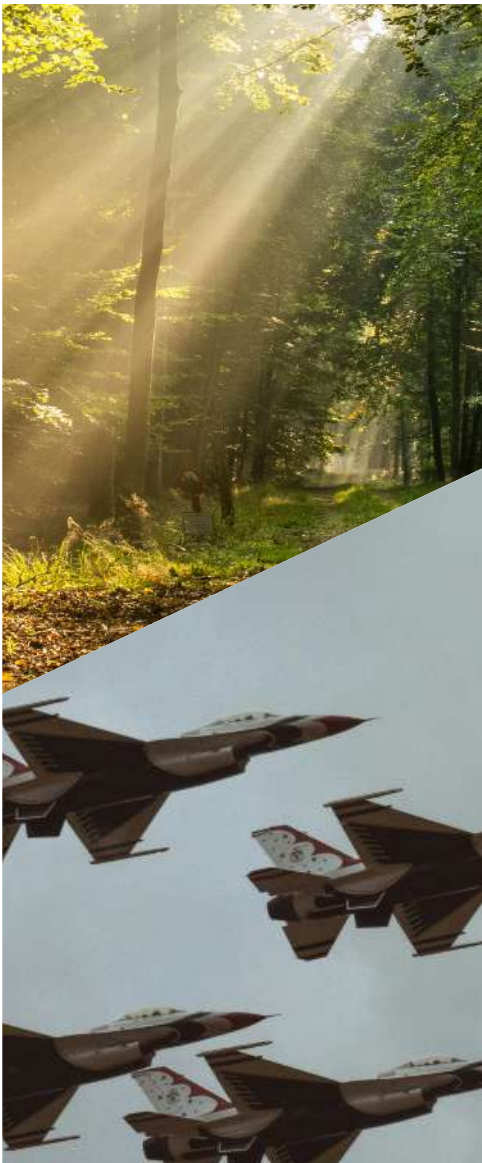
The times we live in compel us to confront an uncomfortable truth, progress and conflict often move side by side. While the world has advanced in technology, governance, and cooperation, it continues to witness unrest, strategic tensions, and humanitarian distress. Such realities urge us not only to observe, but to understand and respond with clarity and responsibility. It is with this perspective that I present SwaDES 2025–2026, the Annual Magazine of DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune. This publication stands as a thoughtful compilation of student engagement with contemporary issues, reflecting both awareness and intellectual curiosity.

The chosen theme, “War and Peace: The Global Challenge at UN @80,” invites a meaningful examination of international developments. Eighty years after the formation of the United Nations, the global community continues to navigate complex challenges ranging from armed hostilities to diplomatic negotiations. Recent geopolitical developments serve as a reminder that stability cannot be taken for granted and must be constantly reinforced through cooperation and adherence to legal norms. The effects of such situations are far-reaching. Disturbances in one part of the world influence supply chain, trade networks, and social conditions elsewhere. A US–Iran war weakens international law by challenging the basic rule of the UN Charter that restricts the use of force, as both sides justify military actions in questionable ways. It also leads to harm to civilians and infrastructure, which goes against the principles of the Geneva Conventions meant to protect non-combatants. Over time, such repeated violations by powerful countries reduce respect for international law and create a dangerous precedent where rules are ignored in global conflicts.

In this backdrop, the relevance of legal education becomes increasingly evident. Understanding the principles that govern international conduct, dispute resolution, and human rights is essential for building informed perspectives. Law, in this sense, is not confined to statutes and judgments; it is a tool that shapes order, accountability, and equilibrium. SwaDES contributes meaningfully to this process. It provides students with a space to articulate their thoughts, analyse developments, and present their viewpoints with coherence and depth. Such engagement strengthens their ability to connect academic learning with real-world dynamics. Publications like this play a vital role in academic life. They encourage reflection, promote informed discussion, and nurture a sense of responsibility among students. The efforts reflected in these pages are indicative of a culture that values inquiry and expression.

I extend my appreciation to the team behind this initiative and to all those who have contributed to its success. I hope this edition encourages readers to think critically and remain engaged with the evolving global landscape.

Best regards,
Vice-Chairman
DES





Dr. Sunita Adhav
Principal

Principal's Message

Dear Readers,

When war speaks, humanity suffers in silence and when young minds write, hope finds a voice.

With immense pride and pleasure, SwaDES 2025–2026 reaches you not merely as a magazine, but as a living expression of thought, creativity, and legal consciousness. It is more than pages bound together; it is a platform where ideas are born, perspectives are shaped, and voices are empowered. This year's theme, "War and Peace: The Global Challenge at UN @80," resonates profoundly with the realities of our times. The world today stands at crossroads, witnessing ongoing conflicts and rising geopolitical tensions. Such situations have far-reaching consequences: humanitarian crises, economic instability, and global uncertainty. War, when viewed through different principles, has varied consequences: from a legal perspective, it weakens international norms like sovereignty and non-aggression; from a humanitarian perspective, it causes large-scale loss of life, displacement, and suffering; from an economic perspective, it disrupts global trade, raises inflation, and damages development; from a political perspective, it leads to instability, power shifts, and erosion of democratic institutions; and from an ethical perspective, it raises serious moral questions about justice, proportionality, and the value of human life.

These realities underline the urgent need for peace, dialogue, and above all, a strong commitment to international law. As students of law, it becomes essential to critically engage with these developments questioning, analysing, and contributing to the evolving discourse on global justice and governance. In this journey of thought and reflection, SwaDES holds a place of immense importance. It is not just a college magazine; it is a forum of intellect, a canvas of creativity, and a voice of emerging legal minds. It nurtures the ability to think critically, write meaningfully, and engage with contemporary issues with sensitivity and depth. It encourages students to move beyond textbooks and participate in shaping ideas that matter.

SwaDES is where learning transforms into expression, and expression into impact. Every article, every poem, every piece of art published here is a step towards building confidence, clarity, and consciousness among students. It is a testament to the vibrant academic culture of our institution and the potential of our students to contribute meaningfully to society.

The strength of a nation lies not only in its laws, but in the minds that question, refine, and uphold them and SwaDES proudly nurtures those minds.

I encourage each reader to engage with this edition not just as a publication, but as a dialogue reflecting on the world around us and our role within it. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Magazine Committee and all contributors for their dedication and vision. May SwaDES 2025–2026 continue to inspire, enlighten, and empower.

Warm regards,

Principal

DES Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune



OUR FOUNDING FATHERS



Shri. Vamanrao Shivram
Apte



Shri. Gopal Ganesh
Agarkar



Shri. Vishnushastri
Chiplunkar



Lokmanya Shri. Bal
Gangadhar Tilak



Shri. Mahadeo Ballal
Namjoshi

FIRST PRESIDENT OF DES



Shrimant Chhatrapati Shri Rajashri
Shahu Maharaj of Kolhapur



ABOUT THE COLLEGE

DES's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune stands as a progressive and vibrant institution, dedicated to excellence in legal education and the all-round development of its students. Accredited with a NAAC B++ grade and certified to the ISO 9001:2015 standard, the college has further strengthened its academic stature by being recognised as a PhD Research Centre by Savitribai Phule Pune University from the academic year 2024–2025. Guided by the philosophy that “every problem has a solution,” the institution is committed to nurturing socially conscious, ethically grounded, and intellectually competent legal professionals. The college fosters a culture of critical thinking, justice-oriented learning, and respect for human values. With a team of highly qualified and dedicated faculty

members, a resource-rich library, and a student-centric approach to teaching, the college consistently promotes academic excellence and professional readiness. What truly distinguishes the college is its strong emphasis on experiential and skill-based learning. Through initiatives such as the DES Centre for Legal Excellence, moot court training, internships, legal drafting exercises, and research projects, students gain practical exposure that bridges the gap between theory and real-world legal practice. The Legal Research Cell, along with seminars, workshops, and national and international competitions, provides a platform for intellectual engagement and innovation. The institution also excels in building meaningful academic and professional collaborations with reputed

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

organisations, law firms, and institutions, enhancing opportunities for internships, placements, and global exposure. Regular guest lectures by eminent judges, advocates, academicians, and industry experts further enrich the learning experience. Equally important is the college's commitment to student welfare and inclusivity. Initiatives such as the Sahjeevan Family Counselling Centre and the Mental Health Cell ensure that students receive emotional, psychological, and legal support, creating a safe and nurturing academic environment. Campus life at the college is dynamic and engaging, offering students numerous opportunities to explore their talents beyond academics. Forums such as Mimansa (Debate Forum), the MUN Club, and cultural platforms like Indradhanush encourage leadership, creativity, and teamwork. Students regularly achieve distinction in sports, cultural events, and

national-level competitions, reflecting the institution's holistic approach to development.

Deeply rooted in the principles of social justice and community service, the college actively promotes legal awareness and access to justice through its Legal Aid Centre and Pro Bono Club. By engaging with underserved communities, students imbibe the true spirit of "Pro Bono Publico" and develop a strong sense of social responsibility. With its blend of academic rigour, practical training, global outlook, and commitment to societal values, DES's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College continues to emerge as a centre of excellence, shaping not just skilled legal professionals but also responsible citizens equipped to thrive in an evolving global legal landscape.



VISION

“The only thing constant in life is change”

- François de la Rochefoucauld

In the present times, the world is exposed to and being buffeted by tremendous changes due to multifaceted and intricate situations. No country can be free from the impact of these changes. Society, in turn, has to respond either by choice or by necessity or by both, with an appropriate legal framework, policies and programmes.

Considering the diversity of India, which is a developing and multicultural democracy, the task of social transformation by bringing about appropriate changes is stupendous and complex. In prevailing conditions such as an enormous population, pluralism in religion, language, ethnic groups and regions, etc., the task is onerous. Keeping in mind all these aspects and what Victor Hugo says, “an invasion of an army can be resisted, but not an idea whose time has come,” D.E.S. Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College was established with the vision of imparting globalised legal education to produce world-class professionals, scholars, and academicians in law. The vision of DES SNFLC is to fulfil this need by equipping its students and faculty with the knowledge and skills they need. DES SNFLC, in these 18 years, has to a great extent tried to achieve its vision by

“Making Excellence a Prevailing Attitude....”



MISSION

We, the people of DES’ Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune, solemnly resolve...

- To be committed to the mission of teaching,
- To sow and germinate the seed for developing a spirit of enquiry to allow students to blossom into enlightened citizens,
- To endeavour to spread nobility in thinking by igniting the minds of the young student body,
- To strengthen the legal foundation of the nation,
- To cultivate conviction of character and strength to explore every potential with valour,

WE PROMISE....WE STRIVE.... & WE DELIVER....

Governing Body

Sr. No.	Names	Designation
1	Shri.Pramod Rawat	Chairman
2	Adv. Ashok Palande	Vice-Chairman
3	Dr. Anand Katikar	Member, Secretary DES
4	Shri. Joshi Anant	Member
5	Dr. Ravindra Acharya	Member
6	CA Shri. Vivek Mathkari	Member
7	Dr. Vinaykumar Acharya	Member
8	Smt. Swati Joglekar	Secretary, Governing Body

College Development Committee (CDC) A.Y.2025-26

Sr.No.	Name	Designation
1	Adv. Ashok Palande	Chairman
2	Shri. Dhananjay Kulkarni	Finance Controller
3	Adv.Ganesh Hingmire	Member
4	Adv. Rajashree Thakar	Member
5	Shri.Rajendra Jog	Member
6	Shri. Anil Bhosale	Member
7	Dr. Anand Katikar	Member, Secretary DES
8	Dr.Priya Chopde	Representative of Teaching Staff
9	Dr.Neeta Ahir	Representative of Teaching Staff
10	Dr. Janhavi Ghodke	Representative of Teaching Staff
11	Dr. Ganga Reshmi	Representative of Teaching Staff
12	Mr. Laxman Badak	Representative of Non-teaching Staff
13	Mr. Shrikant Vinchu	Representative of Non-teaching Staff
14	Mr .Varad Vaidya	Student Council Representative
15	Dr. Aishwarya Yadav	IQAC Coordinator
16	Dr. Sunita Adhav	Member, Secretary, CDC



EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

As we approach the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, we are reminded of its enduring mission to maintain international peace and security in an increasingly complex and divided world. The theme “War and Peace: The Global Challenge at UN @80” invites us to reflect on both the achievements and the limitations of global governance in addressing conflict, fostering cooperation, and upholding human dignity. Since its inception, the United Nations has stood as a symbol of collective hope a platform where nations come together to resolve disputes, prevent wars, and promote dialogue over destruction. Yet, the realities of the contemporary world ongoing conflicts, geopolitical tensions, humanitarian crises, and emerging forms of warfare challenge us to critically examine the effectiveness and future of this institution. For us, as students and practitioners of law, this milestone is not merely historical; it is deeply instructive. It underscores the evolving nature of international law, the significance of diplomacy, and the urgent need for accountability in times of conflict. It calls upon us to understand that peace is not the absence of war, but the presence of justice, equality, and sustained global cooperation. In this edition of our magazine, we explore the multifaceted dimensions of war and peace through diverse perspectives. Our contributors students, faculty, and scholars engage with pressing global issues, from armed conflicts and refugee crises to cyber warfare, nuclear deterrence, and peacebuilding mechanisms. These articles attempt to analyse the role of international institutions, legal frameworks, and civil society in shaping a more stable and just world order. At the same time, we recognise that conversations on war and peace are not confined to policy and law alone. They are deeply human concerns. Through creative expressions, reflections, and poetry, this edition captures the emotional, ethical, and philosophical dimensions of conflict and coexistence, reminding us of the profound human cost of war and the enduring value of peace. As future legal professionals, we bear a significant responsibility to question, to engage, and to contribute meaningfully to the pursuit of justice and global harmony. The United Nations at 80 serves as both an inspiration and a call to action: to strengthen institutions, reimagine cooperation, and reaffirm our collective commitment to peace.

Let us use this moment not only to reflect, but also to act with awareness, responsibility, and hope. Together, we can strive towards a world where conflicts are resolved through dialogue, where rights are protected, and where peace is not an ideal, but a lived reality.

Thank you for being a part of this journey of reflection and purpose.

With determination and hope,
Magazine Editorial Board

EDITORIAL BOARD

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Sunita Adhav	Principal
2.	Asst. Prof. Sumit Tak	Faculty Coordinator
3.	Asst. Prof. Anuja Sharma - LL.B	Course Representative
4.	Asst. Prof Chinmay Powar - BBA	Course Representative
5.	Asst. Prof. Madhura Apte - BA.LL.B	Course Representative
6.	Asst. Prof. Kaveri Deo - LL.M	Course Representative
7.	Dr. Ganga Reshmi	Librarian
8.	Dr. Anagha Baldota	Women Representative
9.	Aryan Devne	Student Representative

STUDENT EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERS

Sr. No.	Name of the Student	Class
1.	Anannya Sinnarkar	4th B.B.A. LL.B.
2.	Ananya Arya	1st LL.B.
3.	Aryan Devne	4th B.A. LL.B.
4.	Avani Afre	3rd B.A. LL.B.
5.	Darshana Gandhi	2nd B.B.A. LL.B.
6.	Gargi Deshpande	2nd B.B.A. LL.B.
7.	Himanshi Jangra	3rd B.A. LL.B.
8.	Kamakshi Phutane	1st B.A. LL.B.
9.	Madhura Vartak	2nd B.A. LL.B.
10.	Mrunal Naik	4th B.A. LL.B.
11.	Priya Mishra	1st LL.B.
12.	Sakshi Kalekar	1st LL.B.
13.	Sakshi Todewale	2nd B.A. LL.B.
14.	Samridhi Singh	3rd B.A. LL.B.
15.	Sanchi Kirtikar	4th B.A. LL.B.
16.	Saniya Khan	1st LL.B.
17.	Sejal Patil	1st B.B.A. LL.B.
18.	Shreya Basene	1st LL.B.
19.	Shubham Patil	2nd B.A. LL.B.
20.	Suhani Kuchankar	1st B.A. LL.B.
21.	Suvi Singh	1st B.A. LL.B.
22.	Tejas Choudhary	2nd B.A. LL.B.
23.	Trishna Pultambekar	3rd B.A. LL.B.
24.	Urukirti Gupta	3rd B.A. LL.B.



A Walk Through Campus

01



COLLEGE EXTERIOR



MOOT COURT HALL



ICT CLASSROOM



COMPUTER LAB

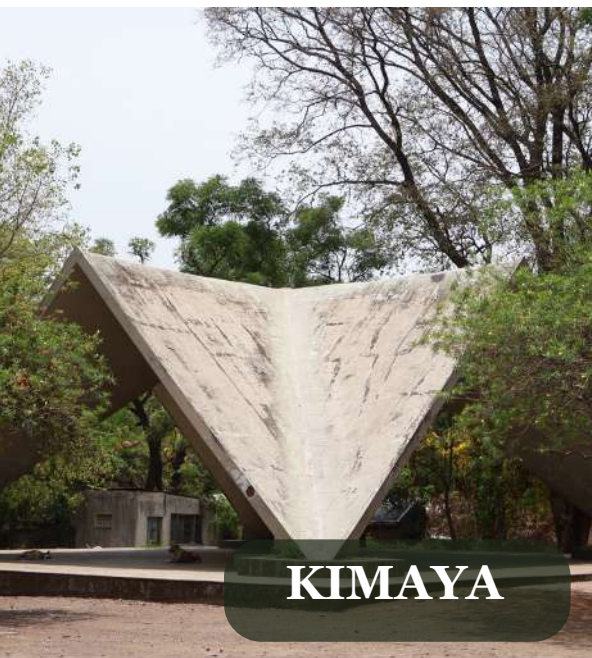


PHD RESEARCH CENTRE





AMPHITHEATRE



KIMAYA



**FIRODIYA
AUDITORIUM**



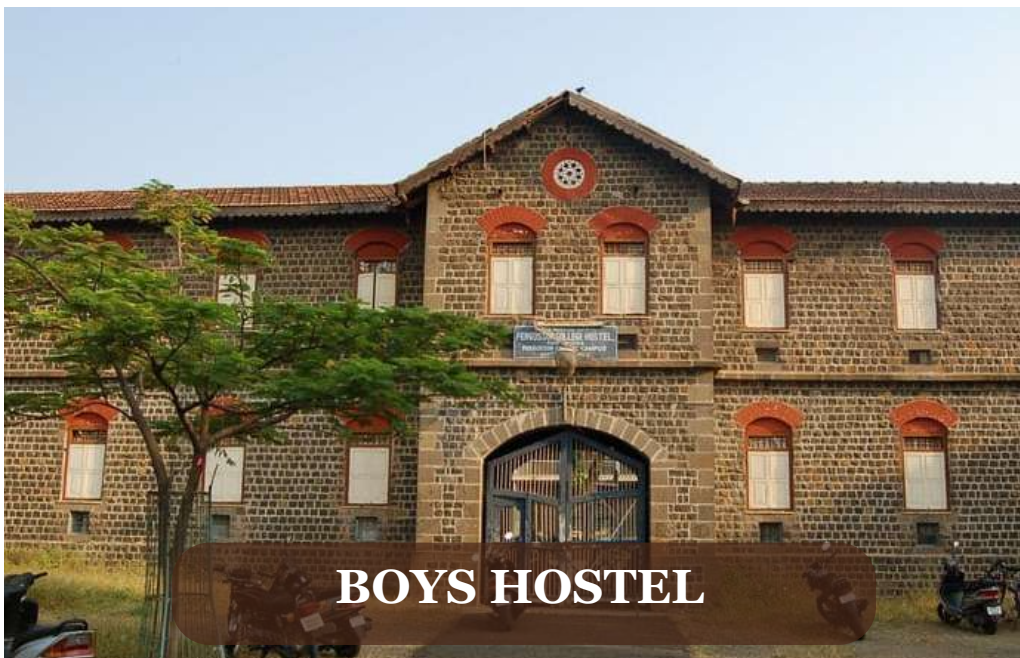
OPEN THEATRE



GIRLS HOSTEL



GUEST HOUSE



BOYS HOSTEL



CANTEEN



CAMPUS SECURITY



CONFERENCE HALL



LADIES ROOM



FACULTY ROOM



DISABILITY FRIENDLY CAMPUS



GREEN CAMPUS



BADMINTON COURT





TENNIS COURT AND TABLE TENNIS



BASKETBALL COURT



GROUND



GYM

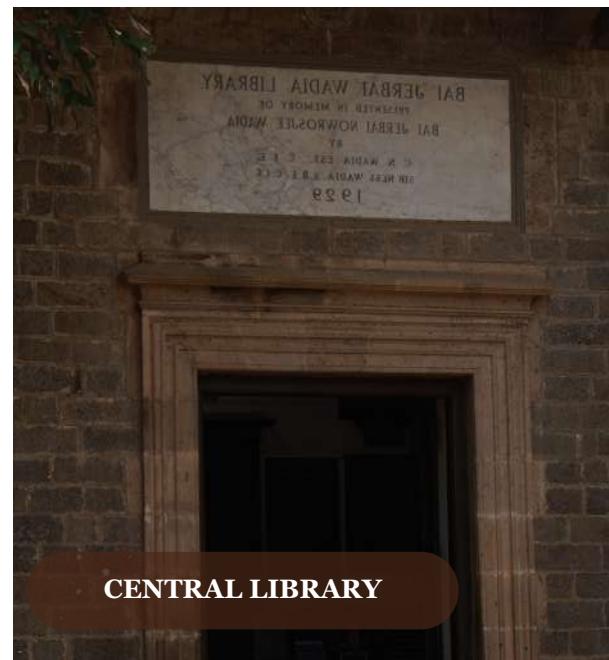




HERITAGE BUILDINGS



SWATANTRA VEER SAVARKAR ROOM



CENTRAL LIBRARY

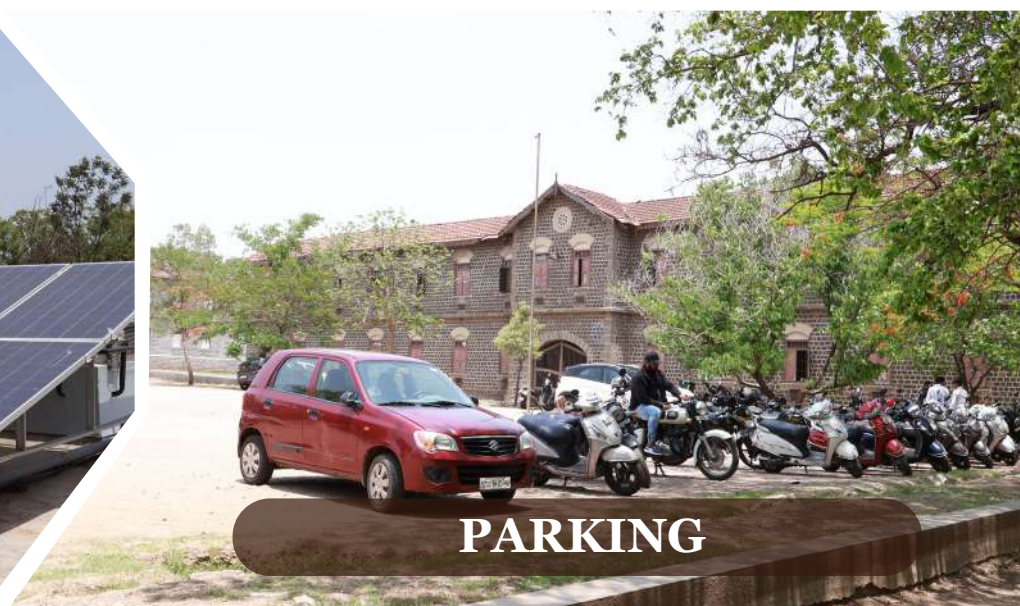




LOBBY



SOLAR



PARKING



AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



BATCH PHOTOS



BALLB-V BATCH PHOTO



BBA LLB-V BATCH PHOTO





TEACHING AND ADMIN STAFF





DEPARTMENT PHOTOS





CLE, MUN



**CONSUMER CLUB AND GUEST
LECTURE DEPARTMENT**



CULTURAL DEPARTMENT



DEBATE SOCIETY



ENVIRONMENT CELL



FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE



HOSTEL DEPARTMENT



CSR



JUDGEMENT WRITING



LANGUAGE LABS AND VEDAS LAW JOURNAL DEPARTMENT



LEGAL AID CENTRE AND NSS DEPARTMENT



LEGAL RESEARCH CELL



PHD DEPARTMENT



**NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS
DEPARTMENT**



MOOT COURT SOCIETY







Faculty Accolades

02



Dr. Sunita Adhav
Principal
B.com, LL.B., LL.M., Ph.D (Law)
27 Years' Experience

Notable Achievements

- A distinguished academician with 27 years of experience in legal education, dedicated to nurturing future legal professionals through excellence in teaching, research, and institutional leadership.
- Recipient of the Prestigious Best Teacher Award, in recognition of exceptional teaching excellence, student mentorship, and outstanding contributions to legal education.
- Successfully supervised and mentored ten Ph.D. scholars, guiding them through advanced research and contributing significantly to the growth of legal scholarship.
- Author of several books and academic publications in the field of law, reflecting a sustained commitment to legal research, knowledge creation, and academic excellence.
- An accomplished researcher and scholar, with publications in UGC CARE-listed and Scopus-indexed journals, contributing valuable insights to the fields of law and higher education.
- Frequently invited as a Resource Person, Speaker, and Expert at State, National, and International seminars, conferences, workshops, and Faculty Development Programmes, sharing expertise on contemporary legal and academic issues.
- Demonstrated exemplary academic leadership as Examination Coordinator, ensuring the efficient, transparent, and ethical conduct of examination processes.
- Actively contributed to quality assurance and institutional excellence as a Member of the NAAC Peer Team, participating in assessment, accreditation, and quality enhancement initiatives across higher educational institutions.
- Recognized for her unwavering commitment to academic excellence, research mentorship, institution building, and student success, leaving a lasting impact on legal education and the broader academic community.





Dr. Priya Pankaj Chopde

Vice-Principal

B.Sc., LL.B., LL.M., Ph.D (Law), PGDHR, DCL

Departments: Students' Development Officer, Women's Study Cell, Centre for Legal Excellence, Clubs, NIRF and IQAC Assistance

13+ years' experience

Notable Achievements

Special achievement: (Award of Ph.D. etc.)

- Received Certificate of Appreciation for contribution in conducting vocational guidance session for students from Skill Dunia and MSME, Government of India.
- Recognised as, Certified POSH Trainer.
- Recognised as Certified POSCO Trainer.

Research work published:

- Published a Book Chapter, titled "Dowry - A Social Evil: Understanding the Legislative Framework & Social Realities in India" in Journal of Research – Swayamprabha with ISSN : 2249 - 9016 in October : 2025, Volume : VIII, Issue : III.
- Published a Book Chapter entitled, "Social Transformation through Judicial Process: The Indian Experience" in a book – Seven Decades of the Constitution of India: Issues and Challenges with ISBN: 978093-49566-28-6 in November, 2025.
- Worked as Editor for a book, "Transforming Higher Education through IKS: Global Perspectives" with ISBN: 978-81-969024-8-3.
- Worked as Editor for a book, "Women, Technology and Law: Understanding the Synergy" with ISBN: 978-81-969024-5-2.

FDP/workshop/Orientation/ Refresher courses/Short term courses etc.

- Attended Online Refresher Course on SDG Goals & Futuristic Technologies for Quality Education and Research organized by UGC MMTTC and JNV University, Jodhpur from 7th – 20th February, 2026.
- Attended Online Short Term Course on BNS, 2023 organized by UGC MMTTC and University of Mumbai from 15th to 20th December, 2025.
- Attended Online Course on SWYAM on New Criminal Laws in April, 2026.
- Co-ordinated Online Interdisciplinary FDP on Interdisciplinary Approach Towards Law from 18th to 22nd August, 2025.
- Co-ordinated Certificate Course on IKS – Dharmashastra and Indian Constitution in October-November, 2025.

Guest lectures delivered (please include date/duration, topic, venue etc.)

- Delivered Lecture on "Legal Implications of Ragging for Faculty and Students" at DES' Smt. Subhadra K. Jindal College of Nursing on 16th January, 2026.

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

- Delivered Lecture on “Constitutional Rights: Powers, Protection and Participation” at MCES’s M.A. Rangoonwala Institute of Hotel Management & Research, Pune on 10th Feb, 2026.

Conferences/ seminars/webinars attended (please include date/duration, topic, venue etc.)

- Attended One Day Workshop on 5th March, 2026 on Women Empowerment organized by Board of Students’ Development, Savitri Bai Phule Pune University, Pune.
- Attended One Day Workshop for Students’ Development Officers at Board of Students’ Development, Savitri Bai Phule Pune University, Pune
- Participated and Presented paper entitled, “Comprehending Justice under Indian Constitution: Critical Appraisal of Judicial Endeavour’ in Two Day National Seminar on “75th years of the Constitution of India: Realising the Promise of Justice” organized by Department of Law, SPPU, Pune on 13th & 14th September, 2025.



Dr. Neeta Ahir
Assistant Professor
Ph.D in Law
Departments: NSS and Legal Aid
13 years’ experience

Notable Achievements

Research Work Published:

- “RIGHTS OF CHILD VIS-À-VIS REGULATION, COVERAGE AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN INDIA.” In January 2026 | IJIRT | Volume 12 Issue 8 | ISSN: 2349-6002.
- “Accountability, Equity, and Transparency in the Context of Sexual Offenses in India: Artificial Intelligence and Gender Justice”: Virtual conference on artificial intelligence and rule of law by DY. Patil Law College, Pune in collaboration with the safety chic, Nigeria and Ramkrishna law firm and research centre chikodi on 14th and 15th October 2025. Along with Asst. Prof Prithviraj Chavan.





Dr. Janhavi Ghodke

Assistant Professor

LL.M., PhD in Law

Departments: VIDHIPATH Street play Competition, HOD LL.M Dept.,
IQAC Coordinator till Dec.2025, CEO from January'2026

22 years' experience

Notable Achievements

Research work published

- Publication of a Paper titled “Seven Decades of Constitutional Journey- Ensuring Economic Justice”, in a Book titled “**Seven Decades of the Constitution of India: Issues and Challenges**”. Bharti Publications, New Delhi- 110002 (INDIA), ISBN no. – 978-93-49566-28-6
- Publication of Chapter titled – “An upcoming challenge of Sustainable Consumption & Sustainable Lifestyle” in a book titled “**The Consumer Protection Act 2019: Challenges and Perspectives**”, ISBN:978-93-341-1503-1 Published in July'2025.
- Published an Article titled “Justice – Jurisprudential basis of the Preamble”, in Peer- Reviewed International Multilingual Research Journal ‘Vidyawarta’, ISSN 2319 9318, Indexed (IIJIF), Impact factor 9.45, Spl. Issue of April to June 2025
- Co-Edited Book Titled “**Beyond the Walls: Human Rights in the Digital Age**”, ISBN: 978-81-969024-3-8

Presented Research Paper Titled “A Critical Study on the Functioning of Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) and Its Impact on the Enforcement of Financial Rights” at International Research Conference ‘VISHLESHAN 2k25’, organized by International Institute of Management Studies, held on 26th and 27th December 2025.

FDP/workshop/Orientation/ Refresher courses/Short term courses etc.:

- Short Term Course- Bhartiya Nyay Sanhita 2023, organized by University of Mumbai and UGC - Malviya Mission Teachers Training Centre, from 15/12/25 to 20/12/25
- Five Days International Online (Session) FDP on “**The Mindful Mentor-A Proactive Framework for fostering Student Resilience and Mental Well-being**”, 11th to 15th November 2025, Organized by JMJ College for Women(A), Tenali, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.
- Participated in A Five-Day National Webinar cum Faculty Development Programme on “**Transformative Education for the Future: Innovations in Pedagogy, Research and Knowledge Creation**” organized by Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of JMJ College for Women(Autonomous), Tenali, held from 28th July to 1st August 2025.
- Completed 3 Days ‘POSH Certification Course’ from 9th March to 12th March 2026, organized by National Institute of Skill Training (N.I.S.T), received title ‘Certified POSH Trainer’.
- Completed 3 Days ‘POCSO Train the Trainer’ from 13th March to 15th March 2026, organized by Skill Deck.

Guest lectures delivered:

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

- Lecture delivered on the topic 'E- Resources and Digital Research Tools', at the Workshop on "Research Tools and Academic Integrity", organized by PhD Research Centre and LL.M. Department of Y.C. Law College, Pune, on 24/3/2026.

Any other activity:

- Invited as External Subject Expert of Board of Studies at JSPM University, Pune on 2nd December' 2025.
- External Examiner for dissertation Viva-voce.
- Internal Subject Expert for PhD Research Advisory Committee.





Dr. Aishwarya Rahul Yadav

Assistant Professor

Dillt, PhD, NET (JRF), LLM, BSL LLB, MBL, IPR.

Department(s): Legal Research Cell, Coordinator PhD Research Centre, CSR, ISO, International and National Collaboration, Family Counselling Centre, Anti Ragging Member, CEO SPPU examination.

13 years' experience

Notable Achievements

Special Achievements (e.g., Award of Ph.D., recognitions, honours):

- Honoured as a 'Prabandhak' by Deccan Education Society.

Research Work Published:

- Wordwall (Four Wall): Reimagining Learning Through Immersive Experiences in "Advancing Engineering and Technology through Interdisciplinary Approaches: A Pragmatic Approach," edited by Dr.Mathew, to be published by Cambridge Publication indexed in Web of Science.
- Mining Laws and their Amendments in India: A Survey. jmmf [Internet]. 2025 Jun. 4 [cited 2025 Oct. 1];73(6):1481-6.
- Submitted a paper on the topic "Automating Justice Delivery Systems: Reality or Illusion?" during the International Virtual Conference of Artificial Intelligence and Rule of Law organised by Dr. D.Y.Patil Law College, Pune in collaboration with Ramkrishna Law Firm and Research Centre, Chikodi and The Safety Chic, Nigeria.
- "Redefining Legal Education with traditional Knowledge in the age of Modern Justice" Book Chapter submitted and awaited for publication for Book on Indian Knowledge System ,an Initiative by Law Teachers India & Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab.
- Developing an Operational Checklist to Enhance Governance, Compliance, and Institutional Effectiveness in Indian NGOs indexed and available at research gate in January 2026.

Books Published

- Co-authored a book on Social Inequality published by Abhay Pubication, Delhi.
- Explanatory notes of Family law published by Professional Bare text Law on Marriage and Divorce laws.
- Co-authored a book in Cyber Security 5.0 published by San International Publisher.

Funded Research Project

- Research project on Medical Law has been selected for funding by Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU), with a sanctioned grant of ₹1,25,000/-

FDP/Workshop/Orientation/Refresher Courses/Short-Term Courses attended:

- Completed One Week Faculty Development Program On Jurisprudence And Legal Theory, Jointly Organised By SNBP Law College And Law Teachers India-8th to 14th September, 2025.
- One Week online National Level Faculty Development Programme for Law teachers on use of AI in teaching and research from 3rd January to 9th January 2026.
- International online Summer School on Climate Justice and Law: Bricks Perspective – University of Russia
- One day workshop of Academic and Research Co-coordinators held at SPPU on 31st July 2025.

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

- Completed the certificate course Family and Marriage Counselling from MKSSS's Baya Karve Women's Study and Research Center, Pune

Guest Lectures Delivered (with date/duration, topic, and venue):

- Invited as a Resource Person for lecture in Certificate course in AI and Human Rights at SSRA Law College, Beed on 6th March 2026
- Delivered a lecture in Fergusson College, Junior wing on PoSH Act and composition of IC on 17th February 2026.
- Invited as resource person for POSH Session at YASHADA on 7/10/2025, 22/1/2026 and 20/2/2026
- Conducted a workshop for DES IC members- Train the Trainers on 9th January 2026.
- Conducted POSH training and consultancy on 10/12/2025 at Wishtree Technology, Baner Pune.
- Conducted a POSH Session on 2/2/2026 at Fergusson College, Pune, on 26/2/2026 at DES TIP Unit, Pune, on 7/8/2025 at Bharati Vidyapeeth New Law College, Pune.
- Delivered a lecture in DES Nursing College on law making and Indian Judicial System on 16/12/2025
- Conducted a session Indian Politics: Policy Making and the rule of Law for PhD students on 29/9/2025 at Rajgad Dnyanapeeth's Ananthrao Thopte College, Bhore, Pune
- Conducted a session on Research Techniques and Avishkar Research Competition in workshop organised by Abhinav Law College, Pune on 4/9/2025.
- Conducted a session on Landmark Judgements under the POSH Act organised by the Maharashtra State Women Commission in association with AVK Posh advisory Services, Pune on 7/9/2025.

Conferences/Seminars/Webinars Attended (with date/duration, topic, and venue):

- Presented a paper on the topic **"Automating Justice Delivery Systems: Reality or Illusion?"** during the International Virtual Conference of Artificial Intelligence and Rule of Law organised by Dr. D.Y. Patil Law College, Pune in collaboration with Ramkrishna Law Firm and Research Centre, Chikodi and The Safety Chic, Nigeria

Any Other Academic or Professional Activity:

- Co-authored a booklet on INDIA'S NEW LABOUR CODES: LEGISLATIVE REFORM LEADING TO ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT.
- Drafted a medico legal problem for Mock All India Police Meet in March 2026.
- Invited as a Judge in Vidhi Manthan-2.0- Mediation Competition on 9/1/2026 at Modern Law College, Pune.
- A booklet on - "From Principles to Policy: Ten Years of DPSP-Driven Constitutional Governance."
- CID cases analysis on 4/3/2026.
- Edited Fiat Justicia (Law Journal of DES SNFLC) ISSN 2320-2696





Dr. Anagha Baldota

Assistant Professor

Ph.D. (English), LL.B

Department(s): Vedhas e-law Journal, College Website, Girls Hostel, Judicial Internship Program, Digital Language Laboratory

15 years' experience

Notable Achievements

Special Achievements (e.g., Award of Ph.D., recognitions, honours):

- Honoured as a 'Prabandhak' by Deccan Education Society.
- Honoured with the 'Distinguished Professor Award' by Star International Foundation For Research & Education (SIFRE), Tamilnadu, India.

Research Work Published:

- 'The Technological Renaissance Of English Studies: Integrating Artificial Intelligence In Indian Higher Education For Linguistic, Literary, & Professional Excellence' Published in Advances in Consumer Research, ISSN (Print): 0098-9258 | ISSN (Online): 3079-1766, Volume 3, Issue 2, 2026, DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.1888542, **ABDC Scopus Indexed Journal Link: <https://acr-journal.com/> in February 2026.**
- 'A Human Capital Imperative, Education, Skilling & Employment for Viksit Bharat @ 2047' published in Insight Bulletin : A Multidisciplinary Interlinked International Research Journal with ISSN 3065-7857, Volume 2, Issue -10, October 2025 with Impact Factor
- Published a Poetry Book ' Muse & Mutes' with ISBN 978-88-199949935
- Edited a book ' Transforming Higher Education System through Indian Knowledge System' with ISBN – 978-81-969024-8-3

FDP/Workshop/Orientation/Refresher Courses/Short-Term Courses attended

- Completed 8 Day FDP cum Short Term Course on 'Relevant Research Methodologies in English Language & Literature: 21st Century Perspective with AI & technological Integration from 10.08.2025 to 17.08.2025 organised by Pragati engineering College, Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.
- One Week FDP /Capacity Building Program on Jurisprudence & Legal Theory organised by SNBP Law College Pimpri & Law Teachers India from 08.09.2025 to 14.09.2025
- One Week FDP on ' Original & Review Manuscript Drafting, Plagiarism, checking & Free Publication Process (Manuscript Mastery 3.0 2025) organised by Academic Senate & International Research Council of Eudoxia Research University from 8.12.2025 to 15.12.2025
- One Week FDP on ' Interdisciplinary Approach Towards Law' from 18.08.2025 to 22.08.2025 organised by DES's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College & UGC - MMITC in collaboration with SPPU

Guest Lectures Delivered (with date/duration, topic, and venue)

- Guest Lecture at Usha Martin University, Ranchi Jharkhand on ' Advanced Paraphrasing Technique For Academic Content' on 7th January 2026
- Guest lectures at DES Pune University, Pune for ' Writing for Public & Institutional Communication from August 2025 to October 2025

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

- Guest Lecture at Aakashwani, Pune on 'Shakespeare & Law' on 25th April 2026

Conferences/Seminars/Webinars Attended (with date/duration, topic, and venue)

- One Day E- Conference on 'Viksit Bharat @ 2047': India's Roadmap for Holistic Sustainable Development on 4th October 2025 organised by D.G. Tatkare Arts & Commerce College, Tala.
- One Day International Conference on 'Interface on Human Intelligence & Artificial Intelligence – Possibilities & Challenges' on 14th Feb 2026 organised by M.L.Dahanukar College of Commerce, Mumbai.

Any Other Academic or Professional Activity:

- Planned & co-ordinated Start-Up Talk Series funded by Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune for DES SNFLC students on 17.02.2026
- Planned & co-ordinated 'Mental Wellness for Me & the Teacher in Me' for Deccan Education Society's employees across all the units on 31.01.2026
- Co-ordinated Certificate Course in Soft Skills, Corporate Law, IKS Foundation etc.
- Coordinated a Two Day International Seminar in collaboration with heritage Foundation on 'Transforming Higher Education Society through Indian Knowledge System' on 13.02.2026 & 14.02.2026





Pradnya Yadav

Assistant Professor

PHD (Pursuing), SET(Law), LLM , MA, B.ED

Departments: Seminar Department, Cultural Department, Internal Exam, External Exam (SPPU), Certificate Course in Arbitration Law and Procedure.

11 years' experience

Notable Achievements

Research Work Published:

- “Children, Algorithms and the law: bridging legal & ethical gaps in India’s framework” – Paper presented and publication awaited at International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and the Rule of Law jointly organized by Dr. D.Y. Patil Law College, Ramkrishna Law Firm & Research Centre, and The Safety Chic.
- “Exploring IKS for Ecological Harmony: Addressing Contemporary Challenges” - Book Chapter submitted and awaited for publication for Book on Indian Knowledge System ,an Initiative by Law Teachers India & Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab.

FDP/Workshop/Orientation/Refresher Courses/Short-Term Courses attended

- One Week online National Level Faculty Development Programme for Law teachers on Use of AI in Teaching and Research from 3rd January to 9th January 2026.

Guest Lectures Delivered (with date/duration, topic, and venue):

- Invited as a Resource Person for Lecture on New Labour Codes on 7th March 2026 at Technical Institute of Polytechnic, DES
- Invited as a Resource Person for lecture in Certificate course in AI and Human Rights at SSRA Law College, Beed on 20th March 2026

Other:

- Certificate of Registration of Design granted for design to “Ergonomic Legal Document Organizer with Integrated Digital Interface”
- Co-Author A booklet on India’s New Labour Codes Legislative Reform leading to Atmanirbhar Bharat.





Pooja Hrishikesh Deo

Assistant Professor

PhD (Pursuing), SET (LAW), LLM, MSc.

Department(s): Seminar workshop, National Collaboration, Family, Counselling Centre, Anti Ragging Squad, SPPU examination.

8 years' experience

Notable Achievements

Research Work Published:

- Submitted a paper on the topic “Automating Justice Delivery Systems: Reality or Illusion?” during the International Virtual Conference of Artificial Intelligence and Rule of Law organised by Dr. D.Y.Patil Law College, Pune in collaboration with Ramkrishna Law Firm and Research Centre, Chikodi and The Safety Chic, Nigeria.
- “Exploring IKS for Ecological Harmony: Addressing Contemporary Challenges” Book Chapter submitted and awaited for publication for Book on Indian Knowledge System ,an Initiative by Law Teachers India & Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab.

FDP/Workshop/Orientation/Refresher Courses/Short-Term Courses attended:

- Completed One Week Faculty Development Program On Jurisprudence And Legal Theory, Jointly Organised By SNBP Law College And Law Teachers India-8th to 14th September, 2025.
- One Week online National Level Faculty Development Programme for Law teachers on use of AI in teaching and research from 3rd January to 9th January 2026.

Guest Lectures Delivered (with date/duration, topic, and venue):

- Invited as a Resource Person for lecture in Certificate course in AI and Human Rights at SSRA Law College, Beed on 6th March 2026
- Delivered a lecture in Fergusson College, Junior wing on PoSH Act and composition of IC on 17th February
- Conducted a workshop for DES IC members- Train the Trainers on 9th January 2026.

Conferences/Seminars/Webinars Attended (with date/duration, topic, and venue):

- Presented a paper on the topic “Automating Justice Delivery Systems: Reality or Illusion?” during the International Virtual Conference of Artificial Intelligence and Rule of Law organised by Dr. D.Y.Patil Law College, Pune in collaboration with Ramkrishna Law Firm and Research Centre, Chikodi and The Safety Chic, Nigeria

Any Other Academic or Professional Activity:

- Co-authored a booklet on INDIA'S NEW LABOUR CODES: LEGISLATIVE REFORM LEADING TO ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT.
- Drafted a medico legal problem for Mock All India Police Meet in March 2026.
- Completed a course in Family and Marriage Counselling from Baya Karve Institute, Pune.





Prithviraj Dhondiram Chavan
Assistant Professor
B.A., LL.M. SET, Ph.D. (Pursuing)
Department(s): Consumer Club, Guest Lecture
5 years' experience

Notable Achievement

Special Achievement:

Secure joint UK Patent for the design-Computer Device for Automated Judicial Document Reduction.
Design No.6429872.

Research Work Published:

- Published a paper title “The New Criminal Laws in India and Forensic Integration: An Overview” in **Platinum A** Peer Reviewed National Multidisciplinary Journal Special Issue No.3, Volume.15, ISSN.2231-0096
- 2. Published a paper title “The New Criminal Laws in India and Forensic Integration: An Overview” in **Research Journey** Multidisciplinary International Research Journal Peer Referred & Indexed Journal, ISSN.2348-7143

Published a paper title “Decoding New Criminal Procedural Law: A Comparative Analysis Between BNSS and CrPC” in **Current Global Review**, Peer-Reviewed & Referred Index Multidisciplinary International Research Journal, **ISSN 2319-8648**, Special Issue: XI, Vol.I

Published a paper title “Gender Neutrality in New Criminal Laws in India: A Critical Study with Reference to Sexual Offences” in **International Journal For Multidisciplinary Research**, **ISSN: 2582-2160**

Published a paper title “A Study on Social Security, Legislative Framework & Challenges Under Labour Laws in India.” Published in the Conference Proceedings of Two Day Conference on Labour Law- Labour Laws for Transforming World of Work & Promoting Decent Work- ISBN-978-81969024-2-1

FDP/Workshop/Orientation/Refresher Courses/Short-Term Courses attended

- Three Days FDP on Access Ability Organised by MSFDA.

Participated in One week FDP on Jurisprudence and legal theory Organised by Law Teachers India and SNBP Law College, Pune

Guest Lectures Delivered (with date/duration, topic, and venue)

- “Anti-Ragging” at Brijlal Jindal College of Physiotherapy, Pune.
- Use of Artificial Intelligence in Law and Its Social and Ethical Concerns at Swatantrya Senani Ramrao Awargaonkar Law College Beed.
- AI and Criminal Justice Concerns at Swatantrya Senani Ramrao Awargaonkar Law College Beed.

Conferences/Seminars/Webinars Attended (with date/duration, topic, and venue)

- Participated Two Day Conference on Labour Law- Labour Laws for Transforming World of Work & Promoting Decent Work organised by DES SNFLC.
- Participated and Presented research paper on “A study of Role of Police in Cyber Crime Investigations and Challenges in the Age of AI” in one day state level Seminar organized by S. S. Maniyar Law College, Jalgaon, held on 22 Feb 2025.
- Participated and presented a research paper on ‘The Role of State in Promoting Educational Equality in India’ in International Multidisciplinary Conference on Inclusive Education and Social Equity organized by Poona College, Pune, held on 29th April 2025.
- Participated and Presented research paper on “Accountability, Equity and Transparency in the Context of Sexual Offenses in India: Artificial Intelligence and Gender Justice” in international Conference on Artificial Intelligence and the Rule of Law, jointly organized by Dr. D.Y. Patil Law College, The Safety Chic. Nigeria and Ramkrishna Law Firm and Research Centre, Chikodi held on 14th of October, 2025.
- Participated in Three Days Will Asia- Pacific Conference organised by Worldwide Independent Lawyers League on 28th to 31st January 2026.

Any Other Academic or Professional Activity

- Edited News Letter on Consumer Law
- Edited Proceeding book of Two Day Conference on Labour Laws for Transforming World of Work & Promoting Decent Work.
- Invited as an external examiner for Viva-voce at MIT World Peace University, Pune.
- Judging moot court competition at various institutes.



Sandip Kadu Borse
Assistant Professor
BA,Bsc(Chemistry), LLB,MA(Sociology,Economics), NET, SET
Departments: Sports Department and Environment Cell
12 years' experience

Notable Achievements

Research work published Published one research paper in ISBN Journal
FDP/workshop/Orientation/ Refresher courses/Short term courses etc.

- Participated in FDP conducted by Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy on Dis-ability.
- Invited by Yashwantrao Law College as a Judge for Student Conference on the issue of Sustainable Development.

Any other activity:

- Published 27 articles in Marathi newspaper daily Prabhat, Sakal and Lokmat Pune.



Ajinkya Waghmare
Assistant Professor
BSL.LLB, LLM, SET, NET Pursuing Ph.D
Departments: NSS Department , Cultural Department
7 years' experience

Notable Achievements

FDP/workshop/Orientation/ Refresher courses/Short term courses etc.

- Successfully completed 'NEP 2020 Orientation & Sensitization Programme' under Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MM-TTP) of University Grants Commission (UGC) Organized by Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre, Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya, Indore (M.P) from 01-05-2024 to 10-05-2024.
- Participated in One week FDP on "Emerging Tools & Techniques of Legal Research", Organised by HRSPM' Sersenapati Hambirrao Mohite Law College,Rajgurunagar,Dist. Pune
- Published paper on " Artificial Intelligence (AI) challenges and safeguard's Under the Indian Constitution". In International interdisciplinary research journal of Maniyar law college Jalgaon.
- Published paper on "Role of National and International Law in Protecting the Rights of Disabled Person" in **Current Global Reviewer, ISSN SSN : 2319 – 8648** Peer-Reviewed &Referred Index Multidisciplinary International Research Journal, Special Issue No.47 Page No.6-11



Sumit Tak

Assistant Professor

B.com, D.T.L., D.M.J. & F.S, LL.M, SET in Law, Pursuing Ph.D

Departments: Magazine Department, Alumni Department, Ph.D Research Center.

8 years' experience

Notable Achievements

Publication in Seminar Proceedings:

- Research paper titled “Revisiting International Economic Law through India’s Emerging Legal Role” accepted for publication in the seminar proceedings of DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College in collaboration with National Commission for Women. Held on 24th February 2026

Participation in CSR Conclave 2025:

- Participated in CSR Conclave 2025 organized by DES Pune University on 29 November 2025 at Pune and received a Certificate of Participation.

Completion of Programme on “Exploring Inclusion and Diversity”:

- Successfully completed the programme titled “Exploring Inclusion and Diversity” organized by Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy in collaboration with MSFDA from 15 September 2025 to 19 September 2025 in offline mode at Pune.

Completion of Programme on “Access-Ability”:

- Successfully completed the programme titled “Access-Ability” organized by Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy from 12 November 2025 to 14 November 2025 at Vidyarthi Sahayak Samiti.

Participation in WILL Asia-Pacific Conference 2026:

- Participated in the WILL Asia-Pacific Conference 2026 organized by Worldwide Independent Lawyers League held at Pune, India from 28 January 2026 to 31 January 2026 and received a Certificate of Participation.

Guest Lecture:

- Delivered an invited guest lecture at Marathwada Shikshan Prasarak Mandal’s Swatantraya Senani Ramrao Awargaonkar Law College on 20 March 2026 on the contemporary themes “AI & Health Care” and “AI and Fairness”, focusing on the emerging legal, ethical, and regulatory dimensions of Artificial Intelligence in modern governance and healthcare systems.

Guest Lecture on Legal Compliance for Startups:

- Delivered an invited guest lecture at Progressive Education Society’s Modern Engineering College on 22 April 2026 on the topic “Legal Compliance for Startup”, addressing key regulatory, corporate, intellectual property, and compliance frameworks essential for emerging entrepreneurs and startup ecosystems.

Guest Speaker on Disability Rights Awareness:

- Invited as a Guest Speaker by Ekansh Trust in collaboration with District Legal Services Authority on 20 February 2026 for an awareness programme on “Know the Law, Protect the Rights: Disability Awareness Under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016”, highlighting legal safeguards, accessibility rights, and social inclusion for persons with disabilities.



Anuja Sharma

Assistant Professor

NET, LLM (BUSINESS LAW), BA LLB

Department(s) : IQAC, LRC, ISO AUDIT, TIME TABLE, Certificate

Course coordinator for course in AI & LAW

4.5 years' experience

Notable Achievements

Research Work Published:

- CHILDREN, ALGORITHMS AND THE LAW: BRIDGING LEGAL & ETHICAL GAPS IN INDIA'S FRAMEWORK – paper presented and publication awaited at International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and the Rule of Law jointly organized by Dr. D.Y. Patil Law College, Ramkrishna Law Firm & Research Centre, and The Safety Chic.
- “Dharma as Jurisprudence: Indigenous Roots of Human Rights in Indian Knowledge Systems” – chapter in Edited Book on Indian Knowledge System An Initiative of Law Teachers India & RGNUL, Punjab : Publication awaited.

FDP/Workshop/Orientation/Refresher Courses/Short-Term Courses attended:

- One Week online National Level Faculty Development Programme for Law teachers on use of AI in teaching and research from 3rd January to 9th January 2026.
- MSFDA-FDP on Access-Ability-12-14-Nov-2025.

Guest Lectures Delivered (with date/duration, topic, and venue):

- Guest Lecture on Topics of “ Indian Constitution, Sources of Law and Law Making Process and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act” in the subject of Forensic Nursing at DES' Smt Shubhadra K. Jindal College of Nursing.
- Resource Person for lecture in Certificate course in AI and Human Rights at SSRA Law College, Beed on 10th March 2026

Any Other Academic or Professional Activity

- Edited Fiat Justicia (Law Journal of DES SNFLC) ISSN 2320-2696.
- Ongoing research in collaboration with Pune Zilla Parishad on single women in Pune.
- A booklet on INDIA'S NEW LABOUR CODES LEGISLATIVE REFORM LEADING TO ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT.
- A booklet on - “From Principles to Policy: Ten Years of DPSP-Driven Constitutional Governance.”





Aditi Kulkarni
Assistant Professor
LLM, NET
Departments: Placment Cell, Mental Health Cell
3.5 years' experience

Notable Achievements

FDP/Workshop/Orientation/Refresher Courses/Short-Term Courses attended

- 5-Day Faculty Development Program (FDP) on “Corporate Governance, Business Ethics, and Legal Compliance in the Contemporary Business Environment”
- Online Interdisciplinary Faculty Development Programme in association With Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme, SPPU, Pune On ‘Interdisciplinary Approach towards Law’ 18 - 22 August 2025
- 3 days FDP- Access-Ability (Disabilities & Inclusion)



Saurabh Jadhav
Assistant Professor
NET JRF Political Science and International Relations
Departments: Debate and International Collaborations
6 years' experience

Notable Achievements

- Participated in FDP conducted by Maharashtra State Faculty Development Academy on Disability.
- Invited by MMCC for Debate Competition as a Judge.
- Delievered Guest lectures in Sinhgarrh Institute of Engineering and Management.





Kaveri Aditya Deo
Assistant Professor
LL.M, SET in Law, pursuing Ph.D. from SPPU.
Department: Handling Moot Court department
6.5 years' experience

Notable Achievements

More than 17 achievements in Moot Court Society

New event was coordinated under Moot Court Society i.e. Vidhivedh which was conducted on 2nd April 2026. Vidhivedh was a rare simulation of a 9-Judge Constitution Bench hearing, inspired by the forthcoming Supreme Court proceedings on constitutional questions arising out of the Sabrimala Review Petition on 7 April 2026, recreating the gravity and decorum of the Court five days prior. The Bench included distinguished judges, senior advocates, and constitutional law experts, with a distinguished audience of practicing advocates, academicians, media, NGOs & civil society, and students.

Research and Publication:

- Two-Day National Seminar on “75 Years of the Constitution of India: Realising the Promise of Justice”, organised by the Department of Law, Savitribai Phule Pune University. 13th and 14th September 2025
- Attended Offline 3 days FDP on “Access Ability” by MSFDA from 12th to 14th November 2025
- Attended Online Interdisciplinary Faculty Development Programme organised By DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College Pune in association with Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme, SPPU, Pune on ‘Interdisciplinary Approach towards Law’ 18th -22nd August, 2025.





Chinmay Powar
Assistant Professor

UGC NET | MBA | PGDM | BBA – International Business

Departments: Study Tour Department, Internship and Placement Cell
Department

Notable Achievements

Special Achievements

- **Pursuing Ph.D.** – Enrolled as a full-time Research Scholar at Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University), Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development (IMED), Pune.
- **Qualified UGC NET** – National Eligibility Test conducted by the University Grants Commission of India, establishing eligibility for Assistant Professorship at the national level.
- **Dual Post-Graduate Credentials** – Holds both an MBA and a PGDM, reflecting strong grounding in management theory and applied business practice.

Research Work Published

- **Competitive Analysis for Law Colleges in India: Impact of Marketing and Advertising in the Evolving Legal Education Landscape**
 - Journal / Platform: SSRN (Social Science Research Network)
 - Focus: Examines marketing strategies, brand positioning, and advertising effectiveness in the Indian legal education sector amidst growing competition among law colleges.
- **Cognitive Crossroads: Empirical Effects of Replacing Social Media with Generative AI Tools on Learning, Retention, Attention, and Critical Thinking Among Young Adults (18–35)**
 - Journal: Advanced International Journal for Research
 - E-ISSN: 3048-7641 Impact Factor: 9.11
 - Focus: Empirical study investigating how substituting social media usage with Generative AI tools affects key cognitive outcomes – learning, memory retention, sustained attention, and critical thinking – among the 18–35 age group.
- **Using Deep Tech in Transportation and Logistics in India**
 - Journal: International Journal of Progressive Research in Engineering Management and Science (IJPREAMS)
 - e-ISSN: 2583-1062 Impact Factor: 7.001
 - Focus: Explores the application of deep technologies – including AI, IoT, blockchain, and autonomous systems – in transforming India's transportation and logistics infrastructure.

FDP / Workshop / Orientation / Short-Term Courses Attended

- **Access-ability – Faculty Development Programme**
 - Organised by: Maharashtra State Faculty Development Association (MSFDA)

- Date: 12–14 November 2025 Duration: 3 Days
- Focus: Accessibility in higher education, inclusive pedagogy, and strategies for making academic environments more equitable for students with diverse learning needs.

Certifications

- **High-Performance Leadership: Lessons from Formula 1®**

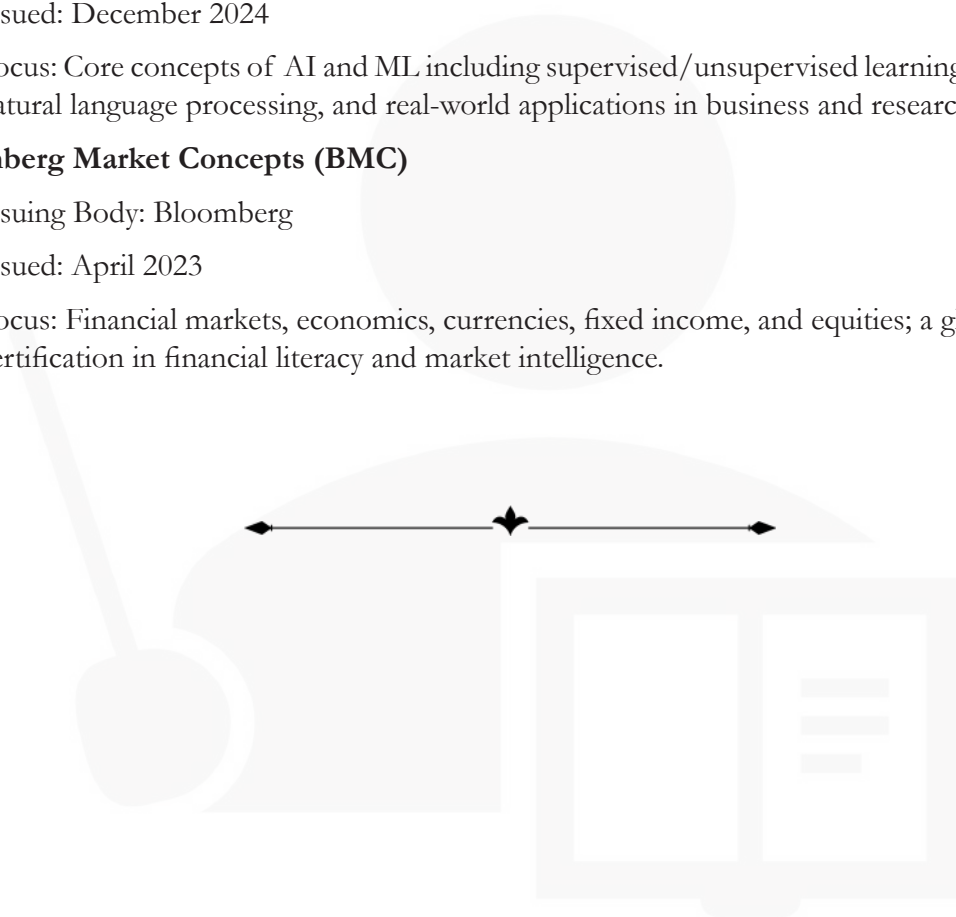
- Issuing Body: Santander Open Academy
- Issued: August 2025
- Focus: Leadership strategies, high-stakes decision-making, team dynamics, and performance management drawn from the operational excellence of Formula 1 racing teams.

- **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Program**

- Issuing Body: Indian Council for Technical Research and Development (ICTRD)
- Issued: December 2024
- Focus: Core concepts of AI and ML including supervised/unsupervised learning, neural networks, natural language processing, and real-world applications in business and research.

- **Bloomberg Market Concepts (BMC)**

- Issuing Body: Bloomberg
- Issued: April 2023
- Focus: Financial markets, economics, currencies, fixed income, and equities; a globally recognized certification in financial literacy and market intelligence.



Administrative Department Details



Name: Shri. Laxman Badak
Designation: Head Clerk
Department/Section: Examination
Experience: 15 Years



Name: Shri. Shrikant Vinchu
Designation: Head Clerk
Department/Section: Account
Experience: 12 Years



Name: Omkar Rajendra Khollam
Designation: Sr. clerk
Department/Section: Administratitve
Experience: 15 Years



Name: Shri. Somnath Ide
Designation: Senior Clerk
Department/Section: Scholarship
Experience: 14 Years

Administrative Department Details



Name: Smt. Swapnali Chikane
Designation: Office Assistant
Department/Section: Exam
Experience: 9 Years



Name: Smt. Arpita Kulkarni
Designation: Office Assistant
Department/Section: Administrative
Experience: 04 Years



Name: Shri. Sumit Hage
Designation: Office Assistant
Department/Section: Administrative
Experience: 04 Years



Name: Rutuparna Ravindra Padture
Designation: Asst. Librarian
Department: Library
Experience: 1 year as Assistant
Technical Librarian

Administrative Department Details



Name: Shri. Ravindra Bhandari
Designation: Peon
Department/Section: Library
Experience: 18 Years



Name: Shri. Malhari Jadhav
Designation: Peon
Department/Section: Library
Experience: 16 Years



Name: Shri. Atul Dalvi
Designation: Peon
Department/Section: Administrative
Experience: 15 Years



Name: Shri. Sanjay Patole
Designation: Peon
Department/Section: Administrative
Experience: 09 Years

Administrative Department Details



Name: Shri. Vijay Bakare
Designation: Peon
Department/Section: Administrative
Experience: 3 Years



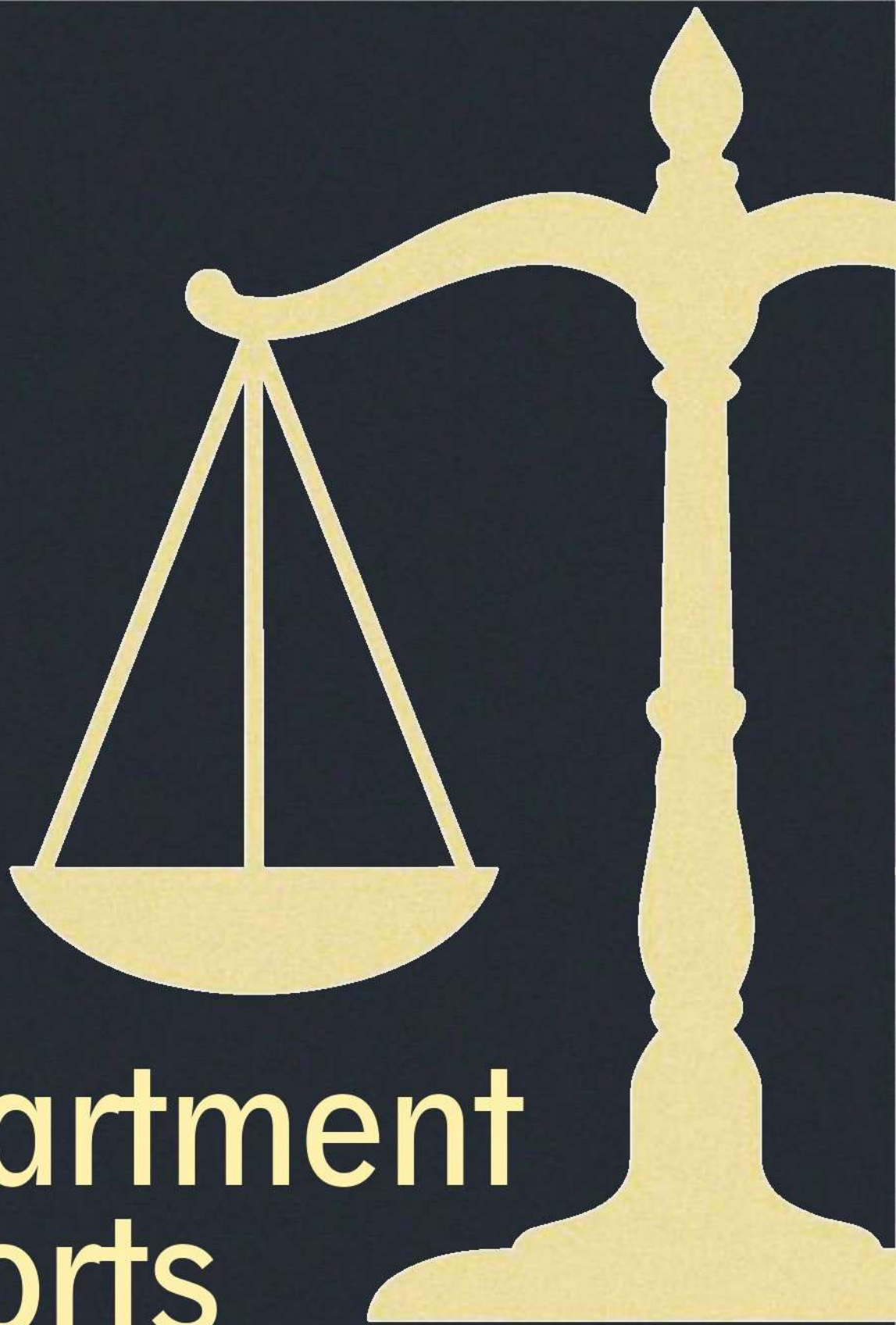
Name: Smt. Sujata Dhotre
Designation: Peon
Department/Section: Administrative
Experience: 3 Years



Name: Shri. Swapnil Palaskar
Designation: Peon
Department/Section: Administrative
Experience: 3 Years



Name: Shri. Tushar Kamble
Designation: Peon
Department/Section: Library
Experience: 03 Years



Department Reports

03

ALUMNI DEPARTMENT REPORT 2025-26

Faculty Co-ordinators-

Dr. Ganga Reshmi

Asst. Prof. Sumit Tak

The Alumni Department plays a vital role in strengthening the connection between the institution and its former students. It serves as a bridge that fosters long-term relationships, enabling alumni to remain actively engaged with the growth and development of the college. Through this connection, alumni contribute valuable insights, mentorship, and real-world experience, which greatly benefit current students. The department facilitates networking opportunities, career guidance, internships, and placement support by leveraging the professional achievements of alumni. It also enhances the institution's reputation, as successful alumni reflect the quality of education and training provided by the college. Alumni interactions, guest lectures, and collaborative initiatives help students gain practical exposure and industry perspectives. Moreover, the Alumni Department encourages a sense of belonging and institutional pride among former students, motivating them to contribute through knowledge sharing, resource support, and participation in academic and co-curricular activities. Overall, it plays a crucial role in building a strong academic community and supporting the continuous growth of the institution.

ALUMNI VIDEO MESSAGE INITIATIVE FOR TEACHER'S DAY 2025

The Alumni Association of DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune undertook a thoughtful and engaging initiative on the occasion of Teacher's Day, celebrated on 5th September 2025, with the aim of reconnecting alumni with their teachers and expressing gratitude towards them. This initiative invited alumni to convey their appreciation and heartfelt wishes to their teachers through short video messages. The activity was rooted in the belief that teachers play a pivotal role not only in imparting knowledge but also in shaping the character, values, and future of their students. As rightly expressed, *"a teacher not only imparts knowledge but also inspires, guides, and shapes the journey of every student towards success and values."* The response from alumni was overwhelmingly

positive, with participation from graduates belonging to different batches and professional backgrounds. Their messages reflected deep respect, fond memories, and a strong emotional connection with their teachers and the institution. The compilation of these messages was presented on the occasion of Teacher's Day, making the celebration more meaningful and memorable for the faculty members. The initiative served as a reminder of the lasting influence of teachers and the enduring bond shared between educators and their students. Overall, the activity was a great success, strengthening alumni engagement and fostering a sense of pride and belonging within the college community.

DESSNFLC ALUMNI MEET 2025-26

The Alumni Meet was successfully organised on 24th January 2026 at the Amphitheatre, Fergusson College campus, providing a vibrant and welcoming platform for reconnecting former students with their alma mater. The open-air venue created an energetic and celebratory atmosphere, enabling alumni to relive their college memories while engaging meaningfully with faculty members, college authorities, and students. The programme was graced by Shri. Ashok Morale, *Special Inspector General*, as the Chief Guest, whose presence added dignity and prestige to the occasion. His address inspired the gathering and highlighted the importance of discipline, professional ethics, and social responsibility. The event was further honoured by the presence of Tejeswini Satpute and Shri. Ganesh Shirsat as the Guests of Honour, whose participation reflected the diverse professional achievements and leadership roles attained by the alumni of the institution.

A total of 178 alumni participated in the meet, demonstrating strong alumni engagement and their continued emotional and professional association with the college. In addition, more than 100 current students were present at the event, making it a vibrant gathering of past and present members of the institution and fostering meaningful intergenerational interaction.

On this occasion, the college felicitated 65 notable alumni in recognition of their outstanding professional achievements and valuable contributions to society. This gesture of appreciation brought pride to the institution and served as a strong source of motivation for the student community.

The programme was enlivened by several cultural performances, which added colour, vibrancy, and enthusiasm to the event. A special highlight of the evening was the performance by the DES SNFLC Musical Band, which performed for the first time before the alumni. The musical presentation was warmly appreciated, and the alumni thoroughly enjoyed the performance, making the event memorable and lively. An interactive session between alumni and current students was also organised, during which students gained valuable insights into professional life, career opportunities, and real-world challenges. The interaction strengthened the bond between alumni and students and encouraged mentorship and guidance.

Dr. Sunita Adhav, *Principal*, actively interacted with the alumni, appreciated their achievements, and encouraged them to remain closely associated with the institution. On the occasion, Shri. Pramod Rawat, *Chairman, Governing Body and Council, DES*, and Adv. Ashok Palande, *Vice-Chairman, Governing Body and Council, DES and Chairman, CDC, DES SNFLC*, conveyed their warm wishes and appreciation to the alumni, acknowledging their achievements and reaffirming the institution's commitment to nurturing a strong and supportive alumni network.

DES SNFLC Alumni Association, organized an Alumni Get-Together over dinner in Delhi on 20 January 2026 along with the students of Study Tour of the college along with the faculty members, bringing together alumni, students, and faculty members on a common platform. The informal interaction enabled alumni to reconnect with their alma mater and share professional experiences, career guidance, and insights into legal practice and higher studies with students, while faculty members engaged with alumni to strengthen institutional ties and explore future collaboration. The gathering fostered a sense of belonging, camaraderie, and pride in the institution, contributing positively to student learning and alumni relations.

ALUMNI MEET: DELHI CHAPTER

The Delhi Chapter Alumni Meet of the institution

was successfully held on 19 January 2026, from 10:00 PM to 12:00 midnight, at the prestigious Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi. The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of 11 distinguished alumni, including professionals practicing before the Supreme Court and the High Court of Delhi.

The meet served as a valuable platform for interaction between alumni and students. Alumni shared their professional experiences in diverse fields such as corporate law, litigation, and other legal domains, providing practical insights into the legal profession.

An engaging interactive session enabled students to ask questions and gain clarity on career paths, challenges, and opportunities in the legal field. The alumni also fondly revisited their college memories and appreciated the continuous efforts of the institution in shaping competent legal professionals.

The event concluded with a dinner, where students and alumni interacted informally, strengthening their connection with the institution. Overall, the meet was highly successful in promoting alumni engagement, mentorship, and a sense of institutional belonging.

ALUMNI MEET: LONDON CHAPTER

The London Chapter Alumni Meet was successfully organised on 30th March 2026 at around 8:00 p.m. at Hotel Park Grand Heathrow, London, in a warm and engaging atmosphere. The gathering brought together alumni from different batches and served as a valuable platform for reconnecting, networking, and strengthening alumni relations in the United Kingdom. The meet was held in the presence of College Management Chairman Adv. Ashok Palande and Principal Dr. Sunita Adhav, along with members of the teaching and office staff, whose presence added significance to the occasion and strengthened the institutional connect with the alumni abroad. The event commenced with a warm welcome, emphasising the importance of alumni engagement in fostering lifelong connections and contributing to the continued growth of the institution. The meet was attended by Virendra Ghorpade, Neha Ghorpade, Shubhankar Kale, Jaswat Rao, and Sumit Uttekar. This was followed by an interactive introduction session, where alumni shared updates on their professional journeys, achievements, and experiences after pursuing their Master's studies abroad.

Highlight of the meet was the insightful interaction during which the alumni also briefed about the

comparative work practices and professional work culture in London, offering valuable global perspectives to the institution and its students. These discussions created an enriching and intellectually stimulating environment.

The event further encouraged meaningful networking, particularly in areas relating to internships and opportunities within solicitor firms, facilitating exchange of ideas and potential collaborations. Discussions

were also held on future initiatives such as mentorship programmes for recent graduates, career guidance sessions, and alumni engagement activities for current students. The meet concluded with a pleasant get-together over dinner, allowing participants to continue their interactions in an informal and friendly setting, thereby strengthening bonds of camaraderie and shared institutional pride. Overall, the London Chapter Alumni Meet was a highly successful and enriching event, reinforcing the global presence of the alumni network



CENTRE FOR LEGAL EXCELLENCE REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Dr. Priya Chopde

DES Centre for Legal Excellence is one of the novel initiatives of our institute, which was established with a view to ensure multifaceted development of law students in addition to their regular curriculum. DES CLE organizes activities relating to ongoing developments in the field of law and its impact on social enrichment.

5th Edition of Swatantryaveer Savarkar Smriti Abhinav Bharat Vyaspeeth Lecture Series, 2026. Date & Time of the Event: 20th & 21st February, 2026. Place/Venue: Legal Aid Centre, DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune. Name of the Guest and their Designation: Adv. (Prof.) Ganesh Hingmire, Founder, and Chairman at GMGC/GMGC Info World - Chief Guest for Inauguration Session. Speakers who delivered the lecture on various dimensions of Interplay between Artificial Intelligence and Law; Shri. Bala Nadar, Founder, Startupwala.com & Member, ICSI, Dr. Ashok Wadje, Associate Professor of Law, Maharashtra National Law University, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar Shri. Prafulla Lele, Assistant Professor of Law, Maharashtra National Law University, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar

Our institute is well known as one of the premier institutes across the nation imparting quality legal education. It plans academic activities with a vision of holistic development of students. Introduction of DES Centre for Legal Excellence is one of the endeavour of the college, through which it undertakes multi-faceted initiatives for bringing about professional development of law students. In remembrance of Shri. Vinayak Damodar Savarkar an eminent freedom fighter, politician, lawyer, writer and social reformer and above all the distinguished alumni of Deccan Education Society, DES CLE organizes a lecture series on topics of contemporary significance. It was introduced in 2021 and is named as, 'Swatantryaveer

Savarkar Smriti Abhinav Bharat Vyaspeeth Lecture Series.' It was inaugurated at the auspicious hands of Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, the then Honorable Governor of West Bengal as a Chief Guest.

As we look back at the legacy of Shri. Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, it is visible that he condemned the irrational practices of religious rituals and advocated a strong embrace of science. The rational ideology of Savarkar was to unify people for the cause of Indian Independence, giving prominence to fraternity whereby the platform of public opinion was used to mobilize the thinking of common masses which eventually led to significant changes in the society. Hence, through this lecture series, we endeavor to reach out the masses on topics like history, socio-legal, economics and political importance having bearing in social reforms and development.

This year, we proudly organized the 5th Edition of Swatantryaveer Savarkar Smriti Abhinav Bharat Vyaspeeth Lecture Series. It was organized on 20th & 21st February, 2026. Theme for this year lecture Series was, 'Artificial Intelligence and Law.' It was inaugurated by Adv. (Prof.) Ganesh Hingmire, Founder, and Chairman at GMGC/GMGC Info World - Chief Guest for Inauguration Session. On this occasion, Principal of Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College Dr. Sunita Adhav was present on the dais along with other dignitaries. Inauguration ceremony was followed by lectures by eminent speakers in the area technology and law. All the guest speakers unfolded different dimensions of impact of technological emergence on law and social transformation. This Two Days event was coordinated by Dr. Priya Chopde smoothly and successfully. The said lecture series was extremely insightful and conversant for students to understand the interplay between Artificial

CONSUMER CLUB REPORT

Faculty Coordinator:

Asst. Prof. Prithviraj D. Chavan.

The Consumer Club of DES SNFLC is an initiative taken to enhance awareness among the students as well as in the society about rights and responsibilities of consumer. It was inaugurated on 20th December 2023 on the occasion of National Consumer Rights Day. In order to safeguard interest of consumer at international level the day of 15 March is observed as “World Consumer Day” and in India the day of 24th December of each year observed as “National Consumer Rights Day”. The Consumer Club of DES SNFLC aims to educate students about consumer related issues such as consumer rights, duties, consumer protection and creating awareness among the society.

Vision Of Club:

“AWARE”, “ALERT”, “ACT”

Objectives:

- To educate the students, create and increase awareness of consumer rights and trained them in consumer awareness in order to reach the unreachable.
- To draw the attention to the importance of consumer rights.
- To educate the public on laws enacted to ensure the safety and welfare of consumer.

Following are the events organised in the academic year-2025-2026

A ONE-DAY EDUCATIONAL TRIP

A One-day Educational Trip District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, Pune & Office of the Deputy Inspector General IGR, Pune. Date and Time of the Event: 25th August 2025 Place: -District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, Pune & Office of the Deputy Inspector General IGR, Pune. Number of Attendees: 40

Outcome of the Event: The Consumer Club of DES SNFLC organised a student visit to the District Consumer Redressal Commission, Pune and the Office of Deputy Inspector General IGR, Pune on 25th August

2025 with aim to provide practical oriented knowledge to the students. During this visit, students observed the commission proceedings, interacted with judges and gained practical knowledge about trial & proceeding of commission. As well as students also interacted with Mr Abhaysinh Mohite, Deputy Inspector General IGR, Pune and understood practical aspects of the functioning of the IGR Dept and registration-related processes. This visit was very fruitful for the students to understand practical procedures and application of theoretical knowledge.

A ONE DAY CONSUMER AWARENESS CAMP

A One Day Consumer Awareness Camp, Date and Time of the Event: Monay,30th March 2026._Place: Maan Gram Panchayat, Tq: Mulshi, Dist: Pune_Name of the Guest: Mr.Vivek Velankar, Founder President, Sajag Nagrik Manch,RTI and Consumer Activist., Asst. Prof. Umesh Jawalikar, Department of Law, JSPM, University, Pune. Former President, District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, Maharashtra.

In collaboration with Maan Gram Panchayat, Tq: Mulshi, Dist: Pune and DES's Shri.Navalmal Firodia Law College,Pune organised a One-Day workshop Consumer Awareness Camp on the occasion of World Consumer Day. Number of Attendees: 100

Outcome of the Event: The overwhelming response was received from the natives of Maan for this one day camp, the first Key speaker of this one-day awareness camp Mr.Vivek Velankar, spoke about Government offices services, consumer rights and redressal mechanisms and shared practical experiences with audience. The second key Speaker Asst. Prof. Umesh Jawalikar, was former Secretary of District Redressal Commission and presently working as Professor, he enlightened Six consumer rights provided under consumer Act. In addition to this to create consumer awareness the group of students perform skit. This one-day camp is very fruitful to the natives of Maan to understand basic rights of consumer.

CULTURAL DEPARTMENT REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinators-

Asst. Prof. Pradnya Yadav,

Asst. Prof. Ajinkya Waghmare

The Cultural Department serves as the cornerstone of heritage preservation, artistic promotion, and community engagement. Its primary mission is to safeguard the cultural identity and legacy of the community while encouraging creativity, diversity, and inclusive participation in cultural activities. Through the organization of festivals and performances, the department actively promotes traditional and contemporary art forms. In addition to preserving cultural heritage, the department plays a key role in fostering intercultural dialogue, supporting talent, and enhancing the cultural and economic vitality of the region. By acting as a bridge between the past and present, the Cultural Department continues to enrich society with meaningful cultural experiences and contributes to a vibrant community. Cultural events play a vital role in preserving and promoting the rich heritage, traditions, and values of a community. They provide a platform to showcase diverse art forms, languages, rituals, and histories that define a region's identity. These events foster unity, pride, and belonging while encouraging intercultural dialogue and mutual respect. In today's rapidly globalizing world, organizing cultural events is more important than ever to maintain cultural continuity, promote inclusivity, and educate future generations about their roots.

Objectives of the Cultural Department:

- **Creating a Welcoming Environment:** Ensuring inclusivity so individuals from all backgrounds feel valued and respected, strengthening belonging within the college community.
- **Empowering Student Leadership:** Encouraging students to take part in planning and organizing events to develop leadership skills.
- **Creating Lasting Memories:** Providing meaningful experiences that inspire cultural learning and appreciation both on and off campus.

The Cultural Department actively engages students of all age groups to collaborate and contribute ideas to make events memorable.

DUM-INDRADHANUSH 2026

As every year, the college hosted DUM-INDRADHANUSH 2026, a series of fun, sports, and cultural activities held from 11th March 2026. Date of the Event: 6th March to 13th March 2026 Venue: DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune. Around 350 students participated in various events. Approximately 800 attendees were present. The event was a grand success. Number of Events Conducted in this cultural fest such as Treasure Hunt: Interactive activity involving riddles, puzzles, and clues. Promotes critical thinking and teamwork. 8 teams participated. Singing: 22 students performed individually, showcasing their talent and musical skills. Impromptu Dance: Participants performed spontaneously on random music within 2 minutes. One Minute Fame: Participants showcased any talent (acting, singing, dancing, etc.) Group Dance: Non-competitive performances spreading joy and entertainment. Mr. and Ms. Indradhanush: A competition promoting Indian heritage, cultural awareness, leadership, and personality development. Mad Ads Competition: It is a creative marketing competition where participants develop and perform humorous advertisement to promote a product or service.

Winner List of Participants

Name of Event	Winner	Runner-up
Treasure Hunt	4th BBA LLB	2nd LLB
Singing	Meenakshi Jawale	Pawni Jain
Impromptu Dance	Yashoda	Sanidya Muttemwar
One Minute Fame	Preeti Shanbhag	Tanvi Kajbaje
Mad Ads	4th BA LLB	1st BA LLB

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

Mr. Indardhanush	Apoorva Deshmukh	Matriye Bhosale
Miss. Indardhanush	Preksha Lunkad	Saumya Srivastav

The event concluded with a valedictory session attended by distinguished guests, including the President of the Pune Bar Association. Students' performances and creativity were appreciated. Winners were awarded trophies, certificates, and medals, and organizers were specially recognized. The event ended with a vote of thanks followed by Vande Mataram. Outcome of the Cultural Event

- Increased Community Engagement: Strong participation from students and attendees.
- Cultural Awareness: Enhanced understanding of traditions and heritage.
- Unity and Pride: Strengthened community bonds and cultural identity.
- Encouragement of Talent: Provided a platform for artistic expression.

Overall, the event successfully promoted cultural heritage and created a meaningful and enriching experience for all participants.

Sr. No	Name	Competition	Positions Held
1.	Trishala Dugad – I LLB	DY Patil Debate Competition	Runner up
2.	Ishita Chaudhary- I BALLB, Navya Chandedia- I BALLB, Kamakshi Phutane- I BALLB	Agni Vaani Competition by MIT WPU	Runner up
3.	Preksha Lunkad- III BALLB and Raghunandini Singh – III BALLB	Vidhirang by Modern Law College, waxing eloquent inter collegiate Debate competition by Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce.	Runner up
4.	Parth Chide- I BALLB	Comrade Eknathrao Bhagwat Smriti Karandak at Ahilyanagar.	Third Position
		State Level Extempore Competition at Vidhirang 2026	First position.
5.	Omkar Jadhav- I BALLB and Sanchit Gaikwad- I BALLB	Sanskar Mandir Society's Arts and Science college	Second Position
6.	Mansi Bhardwaj- III BALLB	Justice Ranade National Inter-Collegiate Debate Competition organized by Vaktrutvottejak Sabha, Pune & Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth.	Third Position

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

7.	Shrushti Dumbre- III BALLB	Vidhibhashya 1.0 organized by Modern Law College.	Runner Up
8.	Riya Shyamsingh Bayas- II BALLB	1. Akk law academy intercollegiate creative essay competition: Winner 2. Modern law college state level Ppt competition: Winner 3. Modern law college state level creative writing competition: 1st Runner Up 4. Dy patil state level legislative Drafting : 2nd Runner Up	Winner
9.	Nandini Tyagi – II BALLB	1. Extempore competition - Modern law college, Pune, 2. Elocution competition - DY patil law college, Pune 3. Debate competition - DY patil law college, Pune	Winner
10.	Winner Sanchit Gaikwad- I BALLB	New arts College ahilya Nagar state level debate competition	Third Position
		Bajirao Mastani college shirur state level debate competition	Second Position
		Anna Hazare state level Elocution Competition Raligan Siddi	Third Position
		Camp education society Arvind Telang college Pune State level elocution competition	Second Position

DEBATE DEPARTMENT (MIMANSA) REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Asst. Prof. Saurabh Jadhav

The Debate Department of Deccan Education Society's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College is a dynamic platform dedicated to nurturing critical thinking, public speaking, and advocacy skills among students. It regularly organizes debates and discussions to encourage informed and confident expression on socio-legal issues. Its flagship event, the Late Gopal Ganesh Agarkar International Intercollegiate Debate Competition, attracts participants from across the globe, promoting intellectual exchange and upholding the legacy of rational and fearless discourse.

LATE GOPAL GANESH AGARKAR SMRUTI KARANDAK INTERNATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE DEBATE COMPETITION

Late Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Smruti Karandak International Intercollegiate Debate Competition Date & Time of the Event- 12-13th September 2025. Place/ Venue- Deccan Education Society's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College. For Inauguration Session Guest of Honour was Shri Anant Joshi, Member Governing Body and Council, DES and Chief Guest – Shri. Ravindra Shinganapurkar, Member management Council, SPPU, Pune. For Valedictory ceremony Guest were Dr. Payal Thaorey, Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar School of Law and Dr. Prabhakar Desai, Director of Examination and evaluation, SPPU.

The Late Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Smruti Karandak International Intercollegiate Debate Competition is a prestigious platform that enhances the academic

reputation of Deccan Education Society's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College at both national and international levels. It attracts diverse participation, fostering intellectual exchange and cross-cultural dialogue. The event strengthens students' advocacy, critical thinking, and public speaking skills. It also reflects the legacy of Gopal Ganesh Agarkar by promoting rational, fearless, and progressive discourse. Additionally, it creates networking opportunities for students and institutions, contributing to holistic academic growth. Number of Participants- 148, Number of Attendees- 220, Number of Teams (if any) - 74 teams – 69 National and 5 International Teams. Name of Winner/Runner-up - First Prize- SP College Second Prize- ILS College, Third Prize- MP law College

Outcome of the event- The Late Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Smruti Karandak International Intercollegiate Debate Competition witnessed an impressive participation of 69 national teams and 5 international teams, making it a truly global academic platform. This diverse representation led to a rich exchange of ideas, perspectives, and debating styles. The event significantly enhanced students' critical thinking, research ability, and public speaking skills through high-level competition. It strengthened the national and international academic standing of Deccan Education Society's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College. Overall, the competition successfully fostered intellectual engagement, cultural interaction, and the spirit of healthy academic rivalry among participants.

DIGITAL LANGUAGE LABORATORY REPORT

Faculty Coordinator –
Dr. Anagha Baldota

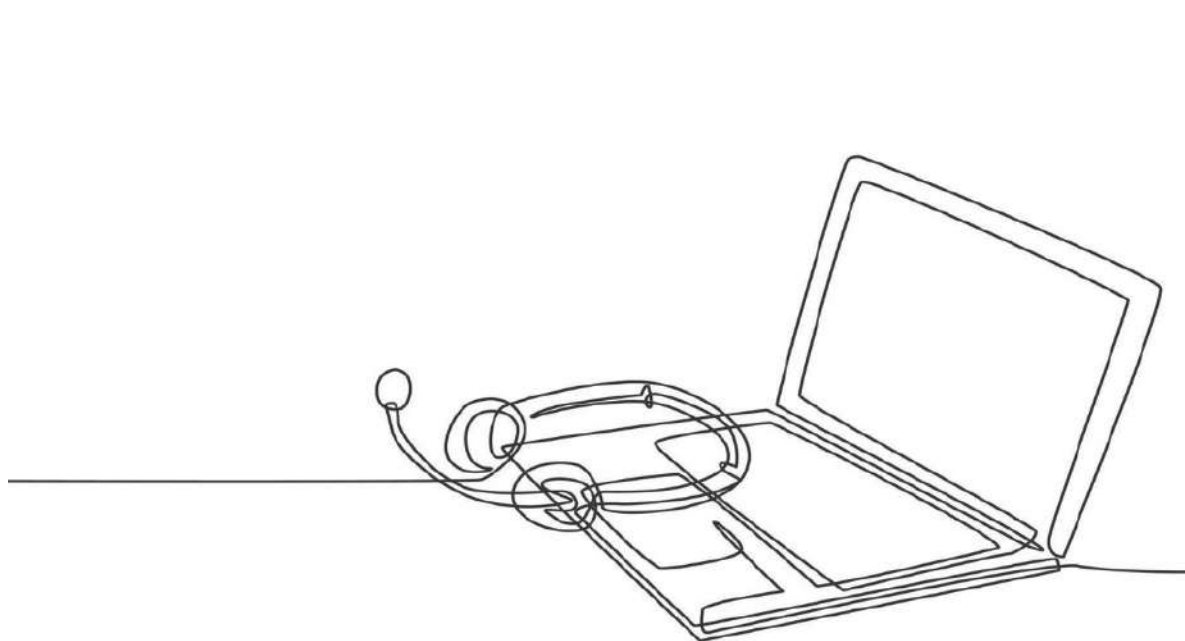
Digital Language Laboratory was established to inculcate grammar skills, reading, writing, listening & spoken skills amongst the students. After having a comparative study of available software specimens & students' requirements, Biyani Technology software of Digital Language Laboratory was selected. The Software was installed on 22.11.2024 on the server & 14 computers available in the computer Laboratory.

Since then, the students are provided demonstration of the modules, tests, audio-video lectures & spoken assignments etc. available in the software. Based on the various learning opportunities in the Digital Language Laboratory software, the students weaker at English Grammar were assigned various lessons, assignments etc. which enhanced their language skills.

Along with the General English Grammar lessons in the software, the activity of recording videos on the basis of legal maxims, Latin Terms & Foreign phrases was also conducted in A.Y.2025-26 for addition of E-content to the language laboratory. The activity

encouraged students to hone their skills in terms of reading, writing, speaking, listening legal language. There were almost 195 students who contributed to the content development. They also undertook various lessons from the software & completed various activities related to group discussion, role play, extempore, debate, negotiation etc. in day today sessions. The student activity is regularly recorded on the language lab software. The students are showing keen interest in availing the grammar lessons, tutorials based on such grammar lessons & audio-video applications on such grammar lessons. The practice tests are helpful to boost the confidence of learners if they are regularly taking the sessions.

The language Laboratory Software keeps on updating timely as per the need of learners & hence it contributes diverse group of learners at a time. The digital language laboratory is successful as it caters to the need of language acquisition & advancement in personal & professional domains along with business purpose for diverse group of learners at a time.



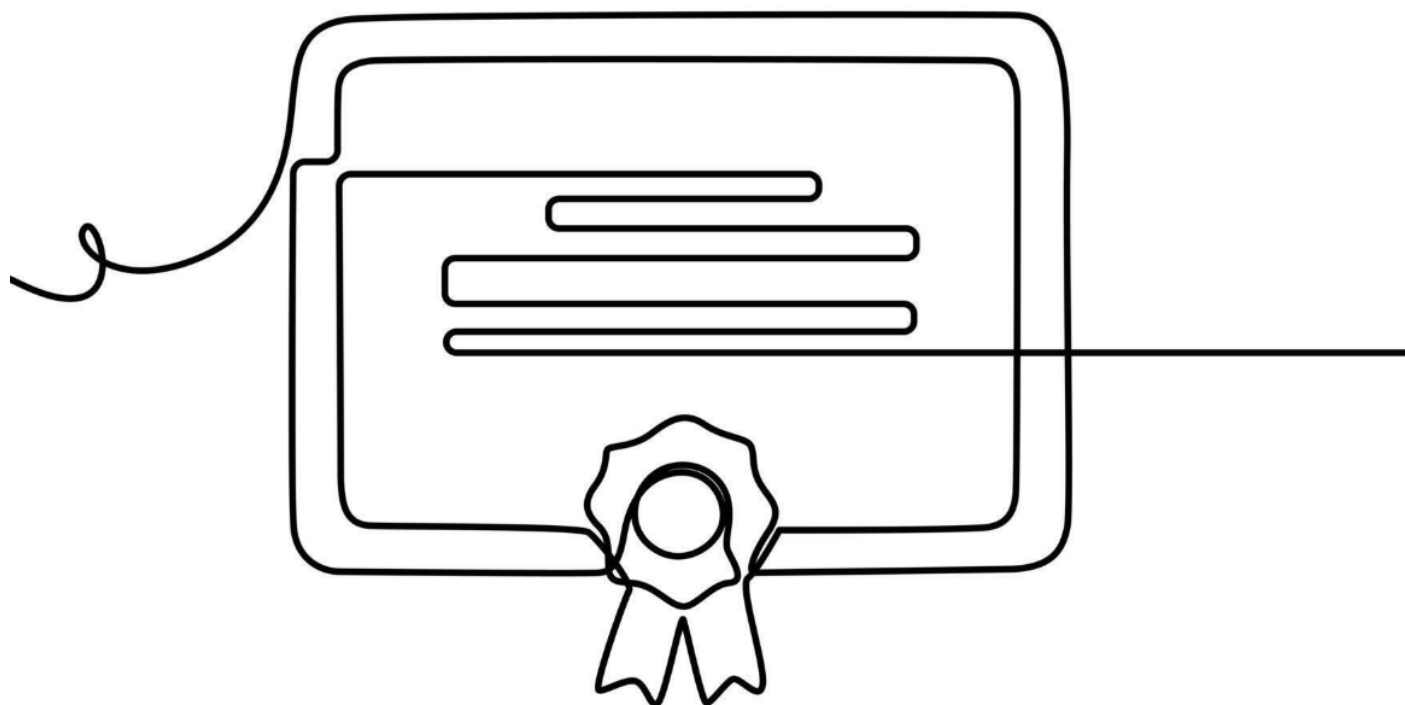
DIPLOMA & CERTIFICATE COURSES REPORT

The college initiates & promotes various diploma & certificate courses for qualitative enhancement of students. During A.Y. 2024-25, the college engaged three diploma courses affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, namely, Diploma in Cyber Security,

Diploma in Intellectual Property Rights & Diploma in Taxation law. Along with the diploma courses, the college also conducted eight certificate courses for the students for their academic improvement & skill development. The details are as mentioned below-

Sr.No.	Name of the Course	No. of participants	Duration	Co-ordinator/s
1.	Certificate Course in Alternate Dispute Resolution (Arbitration Law & Procedure)	89	18.08.2025 to 04.10.2025	Dr. Aishwarya Yadav Asst.Prof. Pradnya Yadav
2.	Certificate Course in AI & Law	79	18.08.2025 to 22.09.2025	Dr. Aishwarya Yadav Asst.Prof. Anuja Sharma
3.	Certificate Course in Soft Skills Development	127	16.09.2025 to 21.11.2025	Dr. Anagha Baldota
4.	Certificate Course in Law & Management	53	25.08.2025 to 20.11.2025	Asst. Prof. Aditi Kulkarni
5.	Certificate Course in Practical Approach in GST	68	28.08.2025 to 27.09.2025	Dr. Neeta Ahir Asst. Prof. Sumit Tak
6.	Certificate Course in Law & Economics	45	25.09.2025 to 28.12.2025	Asst.Prof. Madhura Apte Asst.Prof.Prithviraj Chavan
7.	Certificate Course on IKS (Dharma Shastra) & Constitution	75	28.10.2025 to 15.11.2025	Dr. Priya Chopde

8.	Certificate Course in Corporate Law	42	03.09.2025 to 28.10.2025	Dr. Janhavi Ghodke Dr. Anagha Baldota
9.	Certificate Course in IKS Foundation	65	05.02.2025 to 02.04.2025	Dr. Anagha Baldota Asst. Prof. Chinmay Powar
10.	Diploma in Taxation Law	53	Throughout the year	Asst.Prof. Madhura Apte
11.	Diploma in Cyber Security	60	Throughout the year	Asst.Prof. Madhura Apte
12.	Diploma in Intellectual Property Law	59	Throughout the year	Asst.Prof. Madhura Apte



ENVIRONMENT CELL REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Asst. Prof. Sandip Borse

The Environment Cell in a college plays a crucial role in promoting environmental awareness and sustainable practices among students and staff. It serves as a platform to educate individuals about pressing environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, waste management, and conservation of natural resources. By organizing activities like cleanliness drives, tree plantation, awareness campaigns, and workshops, the cell encourages students to adopt eco-friendly habits in their daily lives. The Environment Cell also helps in developing a sense of social responsibility and environmental ethics among students, making them more conscious citizens. It fosters active participation in community-based initiatives and connects academic learning with real-world environmental challenges. Moreover, it contributes to creating a greener and healthier campus by implementing sustainable practices such as waste segregation, energy conservation, and reduction of plastic use. The Environment Cell plays an important role in shaping environmentally responsible individuals and contributes to the broader goal of sustainable development and ecological balance.

CLEANLINESS DRIVE

The Cleanliness Drive was organized by the Environment Cell of Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College on 21st August 2025 at the college premises.

The Environment Cell of Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College organized a successful Cleanliness Drive on August 21st, 2025, within the college premises. The primary aim of the event was to promote a clean and hygienic environment while raising awareness about environmental conservation and responsible waste management. This initiative also sought to inspire active participation from students, faculty, and staff in community service and environmental stewardship.

The Cleanliness Drive featured a variety of meaningful activities designed to enhance the campus environment. Volunteers engaged in a comprehensive campus cleanup, collecting litter from classrooms, corridors, lawns, and parking areas. This was accompanied by a

waste segregation activity where participants sorted the collected waste into recyclable and non-recyclable materials, encouraging better disposal habits. In addition to these efforts, a plantation drive was conducted, during which saplings were planted in designated areas of the campus to increase greenery and contribute to cleaner air. To further promote environmental consciousness, an awareness campaign was carried out with informative posters and banners displayed around the college, educating the campus community about the importance of cleanliness, waste management, and sustainability.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty, and staff members, all of whom showed a strong sense of responsibility and teamwork. Their collective effort led to a noticeable improvement in the cleanliness of the campus and helped reinforce the value of environmental responsibility. The drive not only beautified the college grounds but also sparked important conversations about conservation and community involvement. Ultimately, the Cleanliness Drive served as a powerful reminder of the impact that unified action can have in fostering a cleaner, healthier, and more environmentally aware community.

POSTER MAKING COMPETITION

The Environment Cell of DES's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune organized a Poster Making Competition on 26th January 2026 at the DES SNFLC Campus, Pune-4. The activity aimed to foster creativity among students while promoting environmental awareness. It provided a platform for students to express their ideas and convey meaningful messages on environmental conservation through artistic expression, encouraging them to reflect on sustainable practices and ecological responsibility.

The Poster Making Competition was held on 26th January 2026 and received enthusiastic participation from students across different years. Participants presented visually impactful and meaningful posters on various environmental themes. The entries were judged based on creativity, relevance to the theme, visual impact,

and clarity of message. After a thorough evaluation by the judges, the following students were recognized for their outstanding work:

Results:

First Prize	Swapna Narayan
Second Prize	Harshada Sarpatwar & Sakshi Todewale
Third Prize	Vaishnavi Jadhav

The Poster Making Competition was a successful initiative by the Environment Cell in promoting environmental consciousness and student engagement through creative expression. The event highlighted the importance of sustainability and environmental responsibility, aligning with the college's mission to encourage holistic student development.

TREE PLANTATION DRIVE

The activity was organized by the Environment Cell "Nisarg" of DES's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune on 9th April 2025 at the college campus and surrounding areas.

On April 9, 2025, the Environment Cell 'Nisarg' of DES's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune, organized a vibrant and impactful tree plantation drive, reinforcing its commitment to environmental sustainability and a greener tomorrow. The event brought together students, faculty members, and volunteers, all united by a shared sense of purpose and enthusiasm for contributing to the health of our planet.

With great dedication, participants planted a variety of saplings across the college campus and its surrounding areas. This initiative was not just about planting trees—it symbolized a deeper effort to foster environmental consciousness and reconnect with nature. Each sapling planted was a testament to our collective aspiration for a cleaner atmosphere, richer biodiversity, and restored ecological balance. Beyond the physical act of planting, the event emphasized the importance of environmental stewardship and the role individuals play in preserving nature. It was a moment to reflect on our responsibilities and to inspire proactive action for a sustainable future. The drive fostered a spirit of unity, resilience, and hope—values as essential to community well-being as they are to environmental care. The

enthusiastic participation and support received from the entire SNFLC community made the event a resounding success. Heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this green initiative. Together, we have not only planted trees, but also the seeds of a healthier and more conscious future. The Environment Cell looks forward to continuing its mission with more such eco-friendly activities in the times ahead.

WATER AUDIT

The water audit was conducted at DES's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College (SNFLC) on 16th April 2026 with the objective of evaluating water consumption patterns within the campus. The audit focused on water usage sourced from two 2500-liter tanks and included a detailed assessment of consumption across various facilities such as toilets, staff rooms, water coolers, and plant watering activities, aiming to promote efficient water management and conservation practices within the institution.

The college relies on two 2500-liter water tanks for its daily water needs. These tanks are replenished through two primary sources, namely groundwater extracted via borewells or wells situated on the college campus, and tap water supplied through the municipal water distribution system. The water usage across the campus is primarily distributed among toilets, water coolers, and plant watering activities. The campus has a total of seven toilets, including three male toilets, three female toilets, and one staff room toilet. The average water consumption per flush is 7 liters. Accordingly, the daily water consumption for toilet flushing is calculated as $(3 + 3 + 1) \text{ toilets} \times 7 \text{ liters}$, which equals $7 \text{ toilets} \times 7 \text{ liters}$, amounting to 49 liters per day.

There are three water coolers installed across the campus. The average consumption per cooler per day is B liters. Therefore, the total daily water usage for water coolers is calculated as $3 \text{ water coolers} \times B \text{ liters}$, which equals $3B \text{ liters per day}$. In addition, approximately 40 to 50 plants are watered daily on the campus. The average water used per plant per day is C liters. Hence, the total daily water consumption for plant watering is calculated as $(40 \text{ to } 50) \times C \text{ liters}$, which equals $40C \text{ to } 50C \text{ liters per day}$. The total estimated water consumption per day is calculated by adding the usage from toilets, water coolers, and plant watering. Thus, Total Daily Usage =

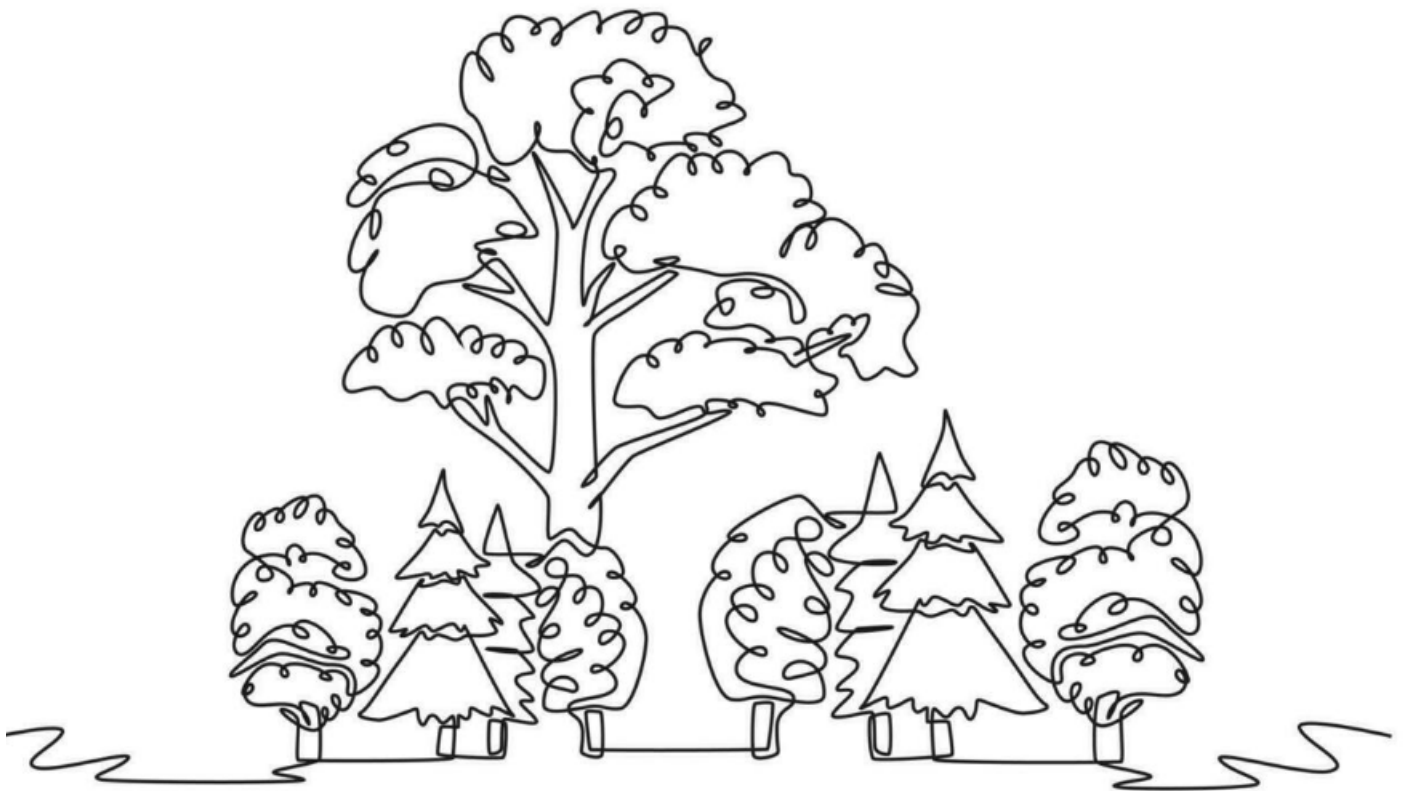
Toilet Usage + Water Cooler Usage + Plant Watering Usage = $(7 \times 7) + (3 \times B) + (40 \text{ to } 50 \times C)$, which equals $49 + 3B + (40C \text{ to } 50C)$ liters per day.

Calculation Assumptions:

- The average consumption values used in calculations are based on standard usage patterns.
- Actual usage may vary based on fixture type, user behavior, and efficiency.

- The audit does not account for water usage related to cleaning, maintenance, or recreational purposes.

This water audit provides a foundational overview of SNFLC's water consumption and highlights the significance of monitoring water usage. By understanding how and where water is utilized, the college can adopt effective conservation strategies. Implementing such measures will contribute to long-term sustainability and resource efficiency on campus.



GUEST LECTURE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Asst. Prof. Prithviraj Chavan

Guest Lecture Department of DES' SNFLC serve as a platform for intellectual discourse and academic achievements. The department recognises the importance of engaging with experts from various filed to supplement to classroom learning and expose student to diverse perspective. Through effective communication and promotion, the department always ensure that students are informed and encouraged to participate actively in these enriching experiences. Each lecture is thoughtfully curated to align with the college academic objective and to provide students with the valuable insights and practical knowledge.

The Guest Lecture Department of DES' SNFLC is committed to excellence in organising and executing events that enrich the academic experience of the students. By adhering to structured approach that prioritizes meticulous planning, seamless execution and through follow-up, the department ensures that every guest lecture is memorable and rewarding experience for both speaker and attendees alike.

Following are the events organised in the academic year 2025-2026

GUEST LECTURE ON 'INTERNATIONAL LAW AND COLLABORATIVE MECHANISM'

The event was held on 5th February 2025 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Legal Aid Clinic of DES' SNFLC. The session was graced by Shri Vijay Chafekar, Retired Additional Director General of the Indian Coast Guard, as the guest speaker. A total of 58 students attended the event.

The guest lecture on 'International Law and Collaborative Mechanism' by Guest Lecture Department on 5th Feb 2025. The event aimed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the principles of international law and the significance of collaborative mechanisms among nations in addressing global challenges. It seeks to familiarize learners with the role of international organizations, treaties, and diplomatic cooperation in maintaining peace, security,

and sustainable development. Additionally, the lecture aims to develop critical insights into how countries work collectively to resolve transnational issues such as climate change, human rights protection, trade regulation, and conflict resolution. It also intends to encourage students to appreciate the practical relevance of international legal frameworks and to enhance their analytical and global perspective towards law. Shri. Vijay Chafekar, shared his practical knowledge and insights with the participants.

GUEST LECTURE ON 'PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND DPC'

The event was conducted on 26th September 2025 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Amphitheater, Fergusson College Campus, Pune. The session was graced by Adv. Sushma Kadam and Adv. Pallavi Wavhal, both practicing at the District and Sessions Court, Pune, as guest speakers. A total of 300 students attended the event.

The Guest Lecture Department organised an academically enriching and professionally significant guest lecture on 'Professional Ethics and Disciplinary Proceedings Committee' on 26th September 2025 with the objectives of sensitizing law students towards the ethical foundation of the legal profession. The distinguished speakers enlighten the students sharing their courtroom practice and disciplinary proceeding under the Advocates Act.

PANEL DISCUSSION ON 'NATIONALISM AND GOOD GOVERNANCE IN A CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY: DIALOGUE ON THE MAHARASHTRA SECURITY BILL'

The event was held on 27th September 2025 from 10:30 am onwards at the Kundanmal Firodia Auditorium, Fergusson College Campus, Pune. The session was graced by Adv. S.K. Jain, Senior Advocate at the District and Sessions Court, Pune, and Adv. Dr. Uday Warunjikar, Advocate at the Bombay High Court, as guest speakers. A total of 250 students attended the

event.

The Guest lecture Department organised a thought-provoking panel discussion on the topic **'Nationalism and Good Governance in a Constitutional Democracy: Dialogue on the Maharashtra Security Bill, 2025'** in this discussion, The panelists examined Maharashtra Security Bill, 2025 from multiple perspectives including constitutional validity, legislative competence, fundamental rights implications and public order. They discussed the concept of Nationalism not as mere political slogan but as constitutional value rooted in unity, sovereignty and democratic accountability. The Panel critically analyse provision of the proposed legislation particularly in relation to freedom of speech and expression, personal liberty and preventive measures adopted in the name of security. The discussion was very interactive student raised various question regarding the proposed bill.

SPECIAL PROGRAM ON 'POSCO ACT: REVISITING THE AGE OF CONSENT: LEGAL, SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL DIMENSIONS'

The event was held on 29th November 2025 from 10:30 am onwards at the Kundanmal Firodia Auditorium, Fergusson College Campus, Pune. The session was graced by Shri Priyank Kanoongo, Member of the NHRC and former Chairman of the NCPDR, as the guest speaker. A total of 150 students attended the event.

On 29th November 2025, the guest lecture department organised a socially relevant and intellectually engaging lecture titled **'Revisiting The Age of Consent: Legal, Social and Psychological Dimensions'**. The distinguished speaker shared expert insights on child rights, adolescent issues and legal policy consideration. The lecture focused on the age of consent provision under POCSO framework and related criminal law provision, the discussion encouraged critical reflection on whether existing statutory provisions required review or reinterpretation in the light of social change.

SPECIAL PROGRAM ON THE OCCASION OF YOUTH DAY- 'SWAMI VIVEKANAND & YOUTH'

The event was conducted on 21st January 2026 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Legal Aid Clinic of DES' SNFLC. The session was graced by Shri Pratik Dhattrak

and Adv. Maharudra Gite as guest speakers. A total of 60 students attended the event.

On 21st January 2026, the Guest Lecture Department organised a special program on the occasion of youth day with objective of inspiring students to cultivate moral strength, self-discipline and commitment towards nation building. The invited guest for the program were Shri. Pratik Dhattrak and Adv. Maharudra Gite who address the students on the importance of youth empowerment and ethical eldership. The speakers highlighted the teaching and ideals of Swami Vivekananda, emphasising self-confidence, discipline, service to the society and moral courage.

GUEST LECTURE ON PRACTICAL TRAINING PAPER- MOOT COURT EXERCISE AND INTERNSHIP

The event was conducted on 26th September 2025 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Amphitheater, Fergusson College Campus, Pune. The session was graced by Adv. Pramod Bendre, Adv. Rohan Nahar, and Adv. Raunak Rane, all practicing at the District and Sessions Court, Pune, as guest speakers. A total of 400 students attended the event.

The Guest Lecture Department of DES' Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune, successfully organized a series of guest lectures on 24th March 2026 for the students of 5th B.A. LL.B., 5th B.B.A. LL.B., and 3rd LL.B., in accordance with the syllabus requirements of Moot Court Exercise & Internship. The objective of this program was to provide practical insights and professional training to students, thereby bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world legal practice.

The session commenced with a warm welcome and introduction of the esteemed guest speakers. The first lecture on "Pre-trial Preparation on Civil Side" was delivered by Adv. Pramod Bendre. He elaborated on the procedural aspects involved before the commencement of a civil trial, including drafting of pleadings, filing of suits, framing of issues, and importance of documentation. He emphasized the need for thorough preparation, strategic planning, and clarity in pleadings for effective representation in civil litigation.

The second session on "Pre-trial Preparation on Criminal Side" was conducted by Adv. Rohan Nahar. He provided valuable insights into the stages prior to trial in

criminal cases, such as registration of FIR, investigation, filing of charge-sheet, and framing of charges. He highlighted the role of a defense counsel as well as the prosecution in ensuring a fair trial, and stressed the importance of understanding procedural safeguards and evidentiary requirements. The third session on “Client Counselling & Interview Techniques” was delivered by Adv. Raunak Rane. This session focused on developing essential lawyering skills such as effective communication, active listening, client handling, and ethical responsibilities. He guided students on how to conduct client interviews professionally, build trust, and gather relevant information systematically.

All the sessions were highly interactive and engaging. Students actively participated by asking questions and sharing their perspectives, which made the lectures more insightful and practically oriented. The speakers also shared real-life experiences from their professional practice, which greatly enhanced the learning experience of the students. The program proved to be extremely beneficial in equipping students with essential practical skills required for moot court exercises and internships. It also helped in boosting their confidence and understanding of court procedures and professional ethics. The session concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Faculty Coordinator Asst. Prof. Prithviraj Chavan, expressing sincere gratitude to the esteemed speakers for their valuable time and guidance.

GUEST LECTURE ON PRACTICAL TRAINING PAPER- ADR

The event was conducted on 26th September 2025 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Amphitheater, Fergusson College Campus, Pune. The session was graced by Adv. Chaitanya Marne and Adv. Pooja Thakur, both practicing at the District and Sessions Court, Pune, as guest speakers. A total of 410 students attended the event.

The Guest Lecture Department of DES' Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune, organized a guest lecture on 25th March 2026 for the students of 4th B.A. LL.B., 4th B.B.A. LL.B., and 2nd LL.B., in accordance with the syllabus of Practical Training Paper II – Alternative Dispute Resolution System. The primary objective of

the program was to provide students with practical exposure to various ADR mechanisms and to enhance their understanding of dispute resolution beyond traditional court procedures. The program commenced with a formal welcome of the distinguished speakers and a brief introduction highlighting the importance of ADR in the contemporary legal system. The first session was conducted by Adv. Chaitanya Marne on the topic “Arbitration Proceeding and Award.” He provided a detailed explanation of the arbitration process, beginning from the arbitration agreement to the appointment of arbitrators, conduct of proceedings, and passing of arbitral awards. He emphasized the significance of party autonomy, procedural flexibility, and enforceability of arbitral awards. He also shared practical insights into drafting arbitration clauses and handling arbitration proceedings effectively.

The second session was delivered by Adv. Pooja Thakur on the topic “Lok Adalat and ADR Mechanism under Legal Services Authority Act: Practical Dimensions and Challenges.” She elaborated on the concept, structure, and functioning of Lok Adalats under the Legal Services Authorities Act. The speaker highlighted the role of Lok Adalats in ensuring speedy and cost-effective justice, especially for marginalized sections of society. She also discussed the practical challenges faced in ADR mechanisms, such as lack of awareness, implementation issues, and the need for greater institutional support. Both sessions were highly informative and interactive. The speakers engaged the students through practical examples, case-based discussions, and real-life experiences from their professional practice. Students actively participated by raising queries and sharing their viewpoints, which contributed to a dynamic learning environment. The lecture proved to be extremely beneficial in helping students understand the practical application of ADR mechanisms, including arbitration and Lok Adalats. It also enhanced their awareness of alternative dispute resolution as an effective tool for reducing the burden on courts and promoting access to justice. The session concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Faculty Coordinator Asst. Prof. Prithviraj Chavan, expressing sincere gratitude to the esteemed speakers for their valuable time and guidance.

JUDICIAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Dr. Anagha Baldota

DES's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College initiated Judicial Internship Program in A.Y.2024-25 for developing litigation attribute & argumentative skills & for inculcating legal advancements, contributing to enhancing their legal trajectory in law practice. As the theory of law & its practical approaches, remain quite distant in learning phase of students, the college initiated an ambitious project i.e. Judicial Internship Program wherein the selected group of students visited the respective courts for knowing & understanding the procedural part of law.

The Judicial Internship Program was conducted for a duration of 21 days at the Family Court, Pune, and the District & Sessions Court, Pune, providing students with practical exposure to judicial proceedings and court functioning.

The college initiated correspondence for Judicial Internship Program with District & Sessions Court, Pune & Family Courts in Pune. The judges readily cooperated for this venture & accommodated students in their respective courts. 131 students sincerely joined the program, observed the proceedings & interacted about their queries with the judges. The judges in turn acknowledged their concerns & guided them in the Civil as well as criminal matters along with, POCSO & family disputes etc. cases as per the respective jurisdictions. The students were entrusted to record the proceedings, observations of all procedural details & link those to the theory of law they learn as a part of curriculum. The interns also visited e-filing section, Mediation section, interacted with family counsellor, learned formalities

at Nazir section, researched various cases like judicial separation, grounds for divorce, mutual consent divorce, contesting divorce, child's custody, parental role in the divorce etc. under the supervision of respected judges in Family courts.

The students maintained the record of their observations, the information received relevant provisions of law, research work done & outcome of the judicial internship program in a journal and were awarded with the certificates for their consistent efforts towards completing this innovative endeavour facilitated by college for the first time. The legal profession can be effectively mastered when practical skills are developed alongside academic knowledge, especially through direct guidance from experienced legal professionals. This program provided participants with valuable field experience, including exposure to mediation in family law matters, e-filing procedures, and legal research on case laws under the supervision of honourable judges in the respective courts. A total of 131 participants took part in the program.

The Judicial Internship Program was innovative & productive exercise initiated by the college. The participants showed enthusiasm in all these activities & maintained a well organised journal of all 21 days. The participants were awarded with the certification by the college & letter of appreciation by the respective courts. The initiative was successful due to the kind cooperation of college authorities, participants & the honourable judges.

LEGAL AID REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinators-

Dr. Neeta Ahir

Asst. Prof. Ajinkya Waghmare

To consistently uphold its commitment to social responsibility and the promotion of legal awareness through a series of impactful legal aid activities, the college ensure that the wits for conducting various activities with the objective of bridging the gap between law and society, ensuring access to justice for all, especially marginalized and underprivileged communities. The following is a detailed report of the activities carried out:

One-Day Legal Aid Camp at Budwadi Village, Taluka Maval, District Pune: The college organized a One-Day Legal Aid Camp on 26th July 2025 at Budwadi Village in Taluka Maval, District Pune. This initiative aimed to extend legal assistance to rural populations who often face challenges in accessing legal services due to lack of awareness and resources. with the objective of creating legal awareness among rural citizens and providing basic legal guidance on issues affecting their daily lives. The programme focused on empowering villagers through knowledge of property rights, agricultural welfare schemes, women's protection laws, senior citizen rights, and the availability of legal aid mechanisms. The programme witnesses a drama on domestic violence and role of mediation in settlement of dispute and that eloquently captured the state of women in everyday households and their subjugation in day and age, women are still denied the respect, equal opportunities, and rights that they are due. We learned from the play the value of mediation and how it can be used to resolve disputes. The session was concluded with a message to raise public awareness of legal issues, encourage the general public to seek out legal information, and assure them that the institute will assist in fostering this kind of understanding. Also a survey was conducted as to legal aid and issues faced and promoting access to justice and rule of law in rural areas.

Programme at Juvenile Home – Awareness of Rights and Street Play on 12th August 2025 :- An awareness programme was organized at the Juvenile Home focusing on the legal rights of children in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection. The session highlighted provisions of the *Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015*, emphasizing rehabilitation, education, and dignity. A street play was performed by students to convey messages related to child rights, reformatory justice, and the importance of social reintegration, which received active engagement from the inmates and staff.

Visit to the Commissioner of Police office and Interactive Session: To provide students with practical exposure to administrative and legal functioning, the college organized a visit to the Commissioner of Police (CP Office). This visit served as an important academic exercise, bridging theoretical learning with real-world governance. on 24th September 2025 where students gained insights into the working of the police administration, law enforcement mechanisms, and public grievance redressal systems. The interaction enhanced students' understanding of the role of police in maintaining law and order and strengthened awareness of citizen and police cooperation. Students were given the opportunity to ask questions and clarify their understanding, making the session highly engaging and informative. This exposure helped students appreciate the practical dimensions of public administration and its intersection with law.

Lok Adalat Preparation and Collaboration with District Legal Services Authority (DLSA): In collaboration with the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Pune, students of the college actively participated in the preparation and organization of a Lok Adalat held on 14th March 2026. The involvement of students included case identification, documentation, client coordination, and logistical support. They also contributed to spreading awareness about Lok Adalat

as an effective and speedy alternative dispute resolution mechanism that ensures amicable settlement of disputes without lengthy litigation. Through this experience, students gained practical knowledge of the functioning of Lok Adalats, including the principles of conciliation and compromise. The activity not only enhanced their professional skills but also instilled a sense of social responsibility and commitment to justice.

PRISON VISIT TO Yerwada Central Prison on 14th March 2026 and 28th March 2026: DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune, organized educational visits to Yerwada Central Prison on 14th March 2026 and 28th March 2026. The visits were conducted as part of practical legal education to provide students with firsthand exposure to the functioning of the prison system and the realities of criminal justice administration. A group of law students, accompanied by faculty members, visited the prison premises with prior permission from the concerned authorities. The objective of the visit was to understand prison administration, inmate rights, rehabilitation measures, and the implementation of laws relating to incarceration. During the visit, prison officials briefed the students about the organizational structure and daily functioning of the prison. The students were informed about admission procedures, classification of prisoners, security arrangements, and the maintenance of discipline within the prison. Special emphasis was laid on the distinction between undertrial prisoners and convicted prisoners. The students also gained insights into various welfare and reformative measures undertaken for inmates. These included vocational training programs, educational initiatives, and counseling services aimed at rehabilitation and reintegration into society. The authorities highlighted efforts to ensure basic human

rights of prisoners, including access to healthcare, legal aid, and sanitation facilities. On both days, students were given the opportunity to interact (subject to restrictions) and observe the living conditions of inmates. This interaction helped them understand the socio-economic backgrounds of prisoners and the challenges faced by them within the criminal justice system. The visit also sensitized students towards the importance of legal aid and the role of lawyers in ensuring justice for marginalized sections of society.

Free Legal Aid Cases at the Legal Aid Centre: The Legal Aid Centre of the college continued its dedicated efforts in providing free legal services to those in need. During this period, the centre successfully handled four cases, offering legal advice, drafting assistance, and representation to deserving clients. These cases primarily involved individuals seeking the free legal aid at the centre for varied legal issues as to domestic violence, filing report before the authorities and DLSA would not have been able to afford legal services. Under the guidance of faculty members, students actively contributed to case handling, thereby gaining hands-on legal experience.

The legal aid activities conducted by DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College demonstrate a holistic approach to legal education that goes beyond classrooms. By actively engaging in community service, administrative exposure, and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, the college has successfully fostered a sense of professionalism, empathy, and social responsibility among its students. These initiatives not only benefited the community at large but also enriched the learning experience of students, preparing them to become competent and socially conscious legal professionals.

LEGAL RESEARCH CELL REPORT

Faculty Co-Ordinators

Dr Aishwarya Yadav

Asst. Prof. Anuja Sharma

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 an inquisitive approach and research skills. Responsibility of the Legal Research Cell this year was shouldered by Dr Aishwarya Yadav and Anuja Sharma. Activities for the academic year 2025-2026 under the Legal Research Cell were carried out as follows:

Selection/Nomination to LRC:

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 members 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.

RESEARCH GUIDANCE WORKSHOP FOR AVISHKAR COMPETITION 2025

On 3 September 2025, the Legal Research Cell of DES SNFLC organized an insightful workshop to orient students on the Avishkar Research Competition, led by Dr. Ketaki Patwardhan Dalvi, In-charge Principal and Head of Department at TMV's Lokmanya Tilak Law College, Pune. The session provided an overview of the competition and highlighted its objectives of fostering innovation, showcasing academic talent, and encouraging collaboration between academia and industry. Dr. Dalvi shared practical guidance on selecting impactful research topics, designing effective posters, delivering concise presentations, and adhering to documentation requirements, while emphasizing the importance of societal relevance. The interactive Q&A session addressed student queries on various aspects of the competition, making the workshop highly engaging and informative. Overall, the session equipped students with clarity, confidence, and a structured approach to

participate effectively in the Avishkar competition.

AVISHKAR COMPETITION COLLEGE LEVEL

The Avishkar Research Competition was successfully organized by DES' Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College in accordance with the guidelines of IQAC, Savitribai Phule Pune University. Registrations were invited from students under the UG and PG categories. The competition was conducted on 19th September 2025 and was evaluated by esteemed judges, namely Dr. Santosh Jaybhaye, Director (Legal Affairs), MIT-WPU, Kothrud; Dr. Ranjana Patil, Principal, PDEA Law College, Pune; and Dr. Sheetal Ruikar, Head of School and Associate Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, DES Pune University. Dr. Sunita Adhav, Principal of DES SNFLC, felicitated the judges during the formal ceremony. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, and constructive feedback was provided by the judges to all participants. From the UG category, Shubhra Tripathi, Shrushti Dumbre, and Aditya Raj (BA LL.B, 3rd Year) were selected for the zonal level of the competition. The competition served as a valuable platform for promoting research aptitude among students and encouraged them to engage in academic inquiry.

AGROVIGYA

The project Agrovigya was successfully initiated and passed the testing phase, marking a significant milestone toward its practical implementation. This research contributes to the digital transformation of agriculture and offers policy insights for strengthening rural livelihoods and promoting inclusive growth. The Agrovigya project aims to reduce disguised unemployment in rural India by integrating technology-driven solutions for job matching, agricultural optimization, and direct marketplace access. Through a combination of primary and secondary research including farmer surveys, government data, and labor statistics the project examines rural labor trends,

agricultural inefficiencies, and digital accessibility. Using data analytics and market research, Agrovigya identifies employment opportunities, enhances productivity, and fosters sustainable economic participation for rural communities.

FIAT JUSTITIA PUBLICATION- LAW JOURNAL

The *Fiat Justitia* Law Journal, Volume XII (ISSN 2320–2696), was successfully published by DES' Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College as a double-blind peer-reviewed journal, upholding high standards of academic rigor, objectivity, and quality research. The journal functioned under the esteemed patronage of His Excellency Shri Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj and was guided by a distinguished Advisory Board comprising Shri Pramod Rawat, Adv. Ashok Palande, and Dr. Sunita Adhav. The publication process was efficiently managed by a dedicated Editorial Board, with Dr. Aishwarya Yadav serving as Editor-in-Chief and Anuja Sharma as Co-Editor. Scholarly submissions on contemporary legal issues were rigorously reviewed for originality and analytical depth, and the entire process adhered to established academic and editorial standards. The journal significantly contributed to fostering a research-driven academic environment and provided a credible platform for legal scholarship.

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

On the occasion of Republic Day, the Legal Research Cell marked the celebration through the release of its annual booklet titled “From Principles to Policy: Ten Years of DPSP-Driven Constitutional Governance.” The booklet was conceived as a research-oriented initiative to examine the practical implementation of the Directive Principles of State Policy in contemporary governance. It traced the evolution of DPSPs from their Constitutional foundation in Part IV to their growing influence on welfare policies, economic reforms, and social justice measures over the past decade. The publication analysed key government initiatives and judicial developments, highlighting the translation of constitutional ideals into actionable policy frameworks. The booklet was formally unveiled during the Republic Day celebration in the presence of esteemed dignitaries, adding significance to the academic endeavour.

THEMISIA 4.0

The fourth edition of Themisia, *Themisia 4.0*, was successfully organized on 13th and 14th February 2026, focusing on the theme “Integration of the Indian Knowledge

System in Higher Education in India,” in alignment with the vision of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The event featured a National Legislative Drafting Competition, a Legal Quiz Competition, and an Intra-Collegiate Judgment Analysis Competition, along with a two-day International Seminar on “Transforming Higher Education through Indian Knowledge System: A Global Perspective,” which served as the intellectual core of the event. The competitions were evaluated by distinguished academicians and legal professionals, ensuring rigorous assessment and meaningful feedback. In the National Legislative Drafting Competition, Ms. Chhavi Jaiswal and Mr. Sourabh Gupta from Modern Law College, Pune emerged as winners, while Mr. Shrilabh Deshmukh and Mr. Farooqui Moiz from Narayanrao Chavan Law College, Nanded were runners-up. Ms. Palak Lunkad from Nirma University, Gujarat won the Legal Quiz Competition, with Mr. Ronal Fernandes and Mr. Lleyton Colaco from VVM Govind Ramnath College, Goa as runners-up. In the Intra-Collegiate Judgment Analysis Competition, Mr. Murtaza Bohra (2nd LL.B) secured first place and Hridya Bharara (2nd LL.B) was the runner-up. Overall, Themisia 4.0 provided a comprehensive academic platform that fostered research, critical thinking, and engagement with contemporary legal and educational issues.

ASPIRE

the ASPIRE Research Mentorship Grant was awarded to Dr. Aishwarya Rahul Yadav, Assistant Professor at DES' Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune. The research project titled “*Workplace Violence in the Healthcare Sector: Legal Remedies and Policy Recommendations*” was provisionally selected under the Faculty of Humanities (Law) for funding of ₹1,25,000. The grant aims to encourage young researchers to undertake impactful and policy-relevant research. As per the scheme guidelines, periodic progress reports are to be submitted every six months, and the continuation of funding is subject to evaluation by an expert panel. The project also mandates publication of research findings in reputed international or UGC-recognized journals. This achievement reflects the institution's commitment to promoting quality research and academic excellence.

The Legal Research Cell, through its diverse activities during the academic year 2025–2026, successfully fostered a strong research culture within the institution. By providing platforms for academic engagement, competitions, publications, and funded research, the Cell enhanced students' analytical abilities, critical thinking, and interest in legal research. Overall, the initiatives undertaken have significantly contributed to promoting quality research and academic excellence.

LIBRARY REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Dr. Ganga Reshmi

"A law library is not merely a repository of books, but a living laboratory where justice is studied, interpreted, and shaped."

The Library serves as the intellectual and research hub of the institution, supporting academic excellence, legal research, and professional development. The year 2025–26 focused on digital transformation, inclusive access, and research-oriented services aligned with NAAC and NIRE.

Library Collection and Resources

- **Total Collection:** The library houses over 18,500 books, reflecting continuous efforts to expand and update academic and research resources.
- **Types of Resources:** The collection includes textbooks, reference materials, bare acts, law reports, journals, and research publications to support comprehensive legal education.
- **Special Collections:** Dedicated resources are available for competitive examinations and research work, catering to the advanced academic and career needs of students.

E-Resources and Digital Library

- **Subscribed Databases:** The library provides access to leading legal data
- **atabases such as** AIR Online, SCC Online, Manupatra, EBC Reader, Lexis Nexis, Hein Online etc. enabling users to conduct in-depth and up-to-date legal research.
- **Consortium Access:** Membership in DELNET enhances access to a vast range of national and international academic resources.
- **Remote Access Facility:** The MapMyAccess system allows users to access digital resources anytime and from any location, ensuring uninterrupted learning.

ICT Integration and Automation

- **OPAC Facility:** The Online Public Access Catalogue enables users to easily search and locate library resources.
- **Barcode System:** The barcode-based circulation system ensures efficient and accurate issue and return of books.
- **Wi-Fi Enabled Library:** The library provides internet connectivity to facilitate seamless access to digital resources.
- **Computer Lab:** A dedicated computer lab supports digital research, database access, and academic activities.

Library Services

- **Open Access System:** Users can freely browse and access library materials, promoting independent learning.
- **Research Assistance:** The library offers guidance and support for academic and legal research activities.
- **CAS & SDI Services:** Current Awareness and Selective Dissemination services keep users informed about the latest developments and resources.
- **Extended Hours:** Library timings are extended during examinations to support students' study requirements.

Best Practices

- **Best Library User Award:** This initiative encourages students to actively utilize library resources and develop reading habits.
- **User Orientation Programmes:** Regular sessions are conducted to familiarize users with library services and databases.
- **Digital Resource Awareness:** Efforts are made to promote effective use of e-resources among students and faculty.

Inclusive Library Initiatives

- The library is taking progressive steps to create an accessible environment and provide inclusive services for Persons with Disabilities, ensuring equitable access to knowledge.

NATIONAL LIBRARIAN'S DAY

The event was held on 12th August 2025 at the Library of DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College.

National Librarian's Day was observed on 12th August 2025, the occasion was marked to honour the invaluable contributions of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan and to promote awareness about the significance of libraries. A Book Exhibition was organised for students and faculty, providing them an opportunity to recommend titles for the library's collection. Several reputed book vendors from Pune and Mumbai participated, showcasing a diverse range of publications. The event also featured the presentation of the Best Library User Award in recognition of exemplary library usage.

VACHAN PRERANA DIWAS

Vachan Prerana Diwas was observed on 15th October 2025 at the Library of DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College. The event was organized to mark the birth anniversary of A. P. J. Abdul Kalam and to promote reading habits among students.

The programme featured thoughtful reflections by students on the importance of reading in personal and intellectual growth. An engaging "Letter to Kalam" activity was conducted, where participants expressed their inspirations, dreams, and favorite books. Selected students also presented their letters, making the session interactive and inspiring.

Participants were felicitated with books as a token of encouragement, and a "Mind Map Creating Competition" was announced to further enhance students' analytical and reading skills. The event concluded by reinforcing

Dr. Kalam's vision of learning as a pathway to creativity, knowledge, and greatness.

SAVITRIBAI PHULE JAYANTI CELEBRATION

Savitribai Phule Jayanti Celebration was observed on 3rd January 2026 at the Library of DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College to honour the birth anniversary of Savitribai Phule and her remarkable contribution to education and social reform.

The programme began with a brief introduction to her life, work, and ideals, followed by a curated book display focusing on women's empowerment and social reform. Students and faculty actively participated in the celebration, making the event both meaningful and inspiring.

The event emphasized the enduring significance of education as a powerful tool for empowerment and social transformation, reflecting the vision and legacy of Savitribai Phule.

The library regularly conducts research workshops and training programmes aimed at enhancing students' and faculty members' research skills, particularly in the effective use of academic databases. It also provides strong research support by assisting in publication processes, citation management, and maintaining researcher profiles on platforms such as Scopus and Google Scholar. Looking ahead, the library has several progressive initiatives planned. These include the implementation of RFID technology to improve automation and security, the development of an institutional digital repository to archive and showcase research output, and the expansion of digital resources to meet the growing academic demands of users. The library continues to evolve as a technology-enabled and user-focused learning centre, committed to supporting academic excellence and research development.

MAGAZINE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Faculty Co-coordinator-
Asst. Prof. Sumit Tak

The Magazine Department of Deccan Education Society's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune successfully carried out its activities during the Academic Year 2025–2026 with the objective of promoting literary, academic, and creative excellence among students while documenting the significant achievements and events of the institution. The Department continued its longstanding tradition of publishing the college's annual magazine, "SwaDES," which serves as an important platform for showcasing the intellectual, literary, artistic, and cultural talents of students, faculty members, and administrative staff. The magazine also documents the annual reports of various departments, committees, clubs, centres, and institutional activities, thereby preserving the academic and cultural heritage of the College.

At the commencement of the academic year, the SwaDES Editorial Board for 2025–2026 was constituted under the guidance of Dr. Sunita Adhav, Principal, with Asst. Prof. Sumit Tak appointed as the Faculty Coordinator. The Editorial Board also included faculty representatives from the LL.B., B.A. LL.B., B.B.A. LL.B., and LL.M. programmes, the College Librarian, the Women Representative, and a Student Representative to ensure effective coordination and representation from all academic programmes. To strengthen the editorial process and introduce greater transparency, the Magazine Department framed and implemented a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the selection of Student Editorial Board Members. The SOP established a structured, transparent, and merit-based selection process based on language proficiency, creativity, originality, communication skills, analytical ability, editorial aptitude, and commitment towards departmental responsibilities. The procedure also included orientation on editorial ethics, plagiarism, proofreading, responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), publication workflow, and maintenance of editorial standards, thereby institutionalizing the functioning of the Magazine Department.

Subsequently, a Student Editorial Board comprising twenty-four students from different programmes and academic years was constituted after the completion of the prescribed selection process. Throughout the year, the student editors actively assisted the Department in planning publication activities, coordinating with contributors, scrutinizing submissions, proofreading manuscripts, compiling departmental reports, and facilitating communication with students and faculty members. Their dedicated efforts significantly contributed to the editorial quality and timely progress of the annual publication. One of the major activities undertaken during the academic year was the finalization of the annual theme for the SwaDES 2025–2026 edition. After detailed deliberations, the Editorial Board unanimously selected the theme "War and Peace: The Global Challenge at UN @80." The theme commemorated the completion of eighty years of the United Nations and encouraged contributors to critically reflect upon international peace, armed conflicts, humanitarian concerns, diplomacy, international law, conflict resolution, and the evolving role of global institutions in maintaining international peace and security. While contributors were encouraged to write on the annual theme, the Department also welcomed non-theme-based submissions to promote diverse literary and scholarly expression in English, Hindi, and Marathi. To invite quality contributions for the magazine, the Magazine Department released the Call for Submissions during the second semester of the academic year. The notice invited original and unpublished contributions in the form of research articles, essays, poems, short stories, creative writing, sketches, paintings, photography, cartoons, and other creative expressions. Comprehensive submission guidelines were prescribed regarding originality, formatting, citation style, plagiarism, and the use of Artificial Intelligence in academic writing. The Department clearly stipulated that only original works free from plagiarism and AI-generated content would be considered for publication. The last date for submission

of entries was fixed as 19 March 2026 (11:59 p.m.), and submissions were accepted through a dedicated Google Form.

To further promote creativity among students and to identify a suitable cover page for the annual magazine, the Magazine Department organized the Digital Poster Making Competition (2025–2026) based on the annual theme “War and Peace: The Global Challenge at UN @80.” The competition witnessed enthusiastic participation from students representing different academic programmes. Participants presented innovative digital posters reflecting diverse perspectives on war, peace, diplomacy, and the role of international organizations in promoting global harmony. The entries were evaluated on the basis of creativity, originality, relevance to the theme, visual presentation, and overall impact. After careful evaluation, Ms. Madhura Vartak (Second Year B.A. LL.B.) secured the First Prize, Ms. Trishna Pultambekar (Third Year B.A. LL.B.) secured the Second Prize, while Mr. Aryan Devne (Fourth Year B.A. LL.B.) secured the Third Prize. The Department further announced that the winning poster would be published as the cover page of the SwaDES Annual Magazine 2025–2026, thereby encouraging artistic excellence among students. Simultaneously, the Editorial Board undertook the extensive process of collecting and compiling annual reports from all academic departments, committees, clubs, cells, centres, and institutional bodies of the College. Reports highlighting important academic activities, seminars, workshops, conferences, competitions, extension programmes, legal aid initiatives, cultural events, sports achievements, research accomplishments, publications,

and student achievements were carefully reviewed and incorporated into the magazine. Alongside institutional reports, literary contributions received from students, faculty members, and members of the administrative staff were scrutinized, edited, proofread, and arranged for publication after ensuring originality and editorial quality.

The Magazine Department also ensured that every manuscript underwent a systematic editorial review before final selection. Particular emphasis was placed on maintaining high standards of academic integrity, language quality, originality, and ethical publication practices. Contributors were encouraged to produce meaningful and socially relevant content that reflected the values of constitutionalism, justice, equality, creativity, and intellectual inquiry. Continuous coordination between the Faculty Coordinator, Editorial Board members, student editors, and contributors ensured the smooth execution of the entire publication process. The activities undertaken by the Magazine Department during the Academic Year 2025–2026 significantly contributed towards nurturing a vibrant literary culture within the institution. The publication process not only provided students with an opportunity to showcase their intellectual and creative abilities but also enabled them to develop valuable skills in writing, editing, research, communication, teamwork, leadership, and publication management. The introduction of a formal Standard Operating Procedure for editorial board selection, coupled with structured editorial practices, further strengthened the institutional framework of the Department and enhanced the overall quality of the forthcoming edition of SwaDES.



MOOT COURT SOCIETY REPORT

Faculty Coordinator:-

Asst. Prof. Kaveri Deo

The Moot Court Society plays a crucial role in shaping law students into competent legal professionals by bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. It provides a platform for students to engage in simulated court proceedings, helping them understand courtroom procedures, legal drafting, and the application of legal principles in real-life scenarios. Participation in moot court activities significantly enhances essential skills such as legal research, analytical thinking, argumentation, and public speaking. Students learn how to prepare memorials, present oral arguments, and respond to judicial queries, which builds confidence and sharpens their advocacy skills. The society also fosters teamwork, discipline, and time management, as participants often work in groups under strict deadlines. Exposure to national and international moot court competitions further broadens students' perspectives and prepares them for litigation, corporate practice, and judicial services. The Moot Court Society is an integral part of legal education, contributing to the holistic development of students and preparing them for the professional challenges of the legal field.

- **Orientation Session:**

Moot Court Society had organized orientation Session on 20th Sep. 2025. It was an orientation session specially designed for the Intra Moot court and Novice students. This session was regarding intra moot court and memorial making and conducted in LC II of DES SNFLC. The purpose behind this session was to develop the legal acumen, research skills and to provide a platform to explore merging issues of the law.

- **Intra Moot Court competition:**

This year the event had been organized on 10th Oct. 2025, in our college. Eligibility for intra moot court competition was 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th year BALLB, and BBALLB and 2nd and 3rd year LLB. Total 5 courtrooms were organized for the competition with 2 judges in each court room. More than 100 students participated in the competition. The competition was conducted in English language. The moot problem was related to

Family Law. Team codes were allotted to the participants individually. The participants were supposed to submit the memorials physically. Total 50 students qualified under Intra Moot Court Competition.

- **Novice Moot Court Competition:**

This year DES'S SNFLC's Moot Court Society has conducted the Intra and Novice Moot Court Competition together. The Competition was conducted in an offline mode on 16th Oct. 2025. It was open for the students of 1st BA LLB & BBA LLB & 1st LLB. The language of the court was English. Each speaker had been given 8 minutes to advance their arguments. An additional 2 minutes were provided to each participant to answer questions posed by the judges. This is how Novice College Moot Court Competition was conducted for the academic year 2022-23.

LOKMANYA TILAK NATIONAL APPELLATE MOOT COURT COMPETITION

Deccan Education Society's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College organized the 18th edition of the Lokmanya Tilak National Appellate moot court competition on 6th and 7th February that witnessed enthusiastic participation from numerous esteemed law colleges across the country. Renowned Senior Advocate Shri S. K. Jain was felicitated as the chief guest of the Inauguration Ceremony. The Valedictory ceremony and prize distribution was concluded in the presence of chief guest Hon'ble Justice Shri. Shyam Chandak (Sitting Judge Bombay High Court, Bombay) and Guest of Honour Prin. Bhausaheb G. Jadhav (Executive President Marathwada Mitra Mandal). The Vice President of Deccan Education Society and Chairman of College Development Committee Advocate Ashok Palande, Finance Controller of Deccan Education Society Shri. Dhananjay Kulkarni and Principal of Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College Dr. Sunita Adhav were all present for the Event.

The competition integrated a matter in front of NCLAT. A total of 24 law colleges across the country participated in the competition, each represented

by a team of three students i.e. 2 speakers and 1 researcher. The competition comprised of preliminary round 1 & 2, semi-final, and final rounds. The moot court competition featured of 12 expert judges for preliminary rounds, comprising of experienced legal practitioners. For final round Adv. Makarand Joshi, Adv. Akshay Petkar & CS Vikas Vohra were appointed as a judge. The judges evaluated the participants based on their legal knowledge, oral advocacy skills, and ability to counter arguments effectively. Their expert insight and feedback provided invaluable learning opportunities for the participants. MMM's Shankarrao Chavan Law College, Pune hold the winning position of the competition and

The moot court competition organized by Deccan Education Society's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College was a resounding success, fostering healthy competition, camaraderie, and skill development among law students. It offered participants a platform to hone their advocacy skills, enhance their legal knowledge, and learn from experienced professionals. Moreover, it provided a glimpse into the practical aspects of the legal profession, preparing students for their future careers. The competition not only showcased the talent and dedication of the participants but also highlighted the commitment of Deccan Education Society's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College towards providing a holistic legal education. The competition was conducted successfully through offline mode owing to all the efforts of the faculty coordinators, teaching, non-teaching, Moot court society and various volunteers.

VIDHIVEDH 1.0 – RELIGION VS RIGHTS - BEFORE THE NATION HEARS IT

Vidhivedh is a rare simulation conducted on 2nd April in Amphitheatre of Fergusson college at 10am to 2:30pm.

To understand the background of the event, On 7th April 2026, a Nine-Judge real Constitution Bench hearing of the Supreme Court of India will hear the petitions arising from the Indian Young Lawyers Association v. State of Kerala. The Sabarimala case, stemming from a centuries-old practice that restricted women of menstruating age from entering the temple, was revisited in 2018 when the Court allowed women of all ages access to the shrine. The Bench will hear arguments that go to the very heart of our constitutional democracy, exploring how equality, liberty, and faith can coexist within India's pluralistic society.

Five days prior, on 2nd April 2026, this event was organised. This event recreates this constitutional moment before it unfolds reality. Through this simulation, we mirror the structure, grand decorum, and analytical depth of this real constitutional proceeding. Separate report writing panel amongst students was appointed to write a detailed analysis of the event and the report included the suggestions in legislation based on the issues argued in the Mock Hearing. The report of suggestions in legislation was then submitted to Law and Judiciary, Government of Maharashtra.

JANUARY 2026	
Date - 9 January 2026 Team - Sananta Tuljapurkar - BBA LLB 2nd Saayli Vaishampayan - BA LLB 2nd Yashswini Mane- BA LLB 3rd Organizers - Modern Law College, Pune in collaboration with Satya Muley & Co. and the Modern Arbitration Centre Competition Name - Vidhimanthan 2.0 Mediation Competition Position - Runner-ups	
Date - 11 January 2026 Team - Rashika Dubey – LLB 2nd Murtaza Bohra – LLB 2nd Lakshi Mehta – LLB 2nd Organizers - Modern Law College, Pune Competition Name - 20th Shankarrao Kanitkar (National Level) Moot Court Competition Position - Winners	
Date - 15 January 2026 Team - Aditi Shah – BBA LLB – 5th Year Organizers - Vivekanand Education Society's College of Law, Mumbai. Competition Name - 3rd National Inter-Collegiate PIL Drafting Competition 2025-2026 Position - 1st Position	
Date - 24th January 2026 Team - Avanti Deshmukh – LLB 3rd Rakshita Kulkarni – BA LLB 4th Organisers - Narayanrao Chavan Law College, Nanded Competition Name - Late Kusumtai Chavan Memorial 11th National Moot Court Competition. Position - Runner up Team award and	

FEBRUARY 2026

Date - 6th and 7th February 2026

Team - Shreya Upadhye – BA LLB 5th

Aayushi Vatsal – BA LLB 4th

Brinda Galagali – BA LLB 4th

Organizers - A.B.M.S. Parishad's Yashwantrao Chavan Law College, Parvati, Pune

Competition Name - Yashwantrao Chavan Moot Court Competition 2026

Position - Winners



Date - 13th & 14th February, 2026

Team - Aakanksha Jamadar – BA LLB 5th

Himanya Upadhyay – BA LLB 1st

Organizers - Dayanand College of Law, Latur.

Competition Name - Dayanand Law National Moot Court Competition-2026

Position - Team Consolation Prize and Aakanksha Jamdar won the Best Speaker Award.



Date - 11th to 14th February 2026.

Team - Arinjay Nandgaonakar – BA LLB 3rd

Yashaswini Mane – BA LLB 3rd

Varad Vaidya - BA LLB 3rd

Organisers - Kerela Law Academy Moot Court Society

Competition Name - 35th Kerela Moot Competition 2026.

Position - 2nd Best Memorial



Date - 28 February 2026

Team - Murtaza Bohra – LLB 2nd

Lakshi Mehta – LLB 2nd

Sanjana Erande – BA LLB 3rd

Organizers - Navrachana University, Vadodara

Competition Name - Verdictus 2.0

Position- Winners



Date - 28 February 2026 Team - Sana Mitkari – BA LLB 3rd Dhruv Singh – BBA LLB 5th Himani Chitre – BA LLB 5th Organisers - Unitedworld School of Law, Karnavati University in collabration with Gujarat Council on Science and Technology Competition Name - Gandhinagar Karnavati IPR Moot Court Competition Position - Winners	
MARCH 2026	
Date - 9th March 2026 Team - Shreya Upadhye - BA LLB 5th Aayushi Vatsal - BA LLB 4th Organisers - KES Shri Jayantilal H. Patel Law College, Mumbai Competition Name - Crime Scene Investigation Competition Position - Runner-Up position	
Date - 14th March 2026 Team – Aditi Shah - BBA LLB 5th Shaunak Joshi - BA LLB 3rd Organizers - Shri Shivaji Maratha Society's Law College, Pune Competition Name - Chhatrapati Shri Shivaji Maharaj 7th Moot Court Competition Position - Runner-Up position	
Date - 15th March 2026 Team - Ruhee Desai - BA LLB 4th Rakshita Kulkarni - BA LLB 4th Suman Kumar - BA LLB 4th Organizers - Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi Competition Name - Banaras Hindu University Moot Court Competition Position - Runner- up Position	

Date - 25th March 2026 Team - Shantanu Kashid - LLB 3rd Arinjay Nandgaonkar - BA LLB 3rd Veera Solanki - BA LLB 2nd Organizers - Ajeenkya DY Patil University, Pune Competition Name - ADYPU Moot Court Competition Position - Winners	
Date - 26th March 2026 Team - Yashaswini Mane - BA LLB 3rd Swaaraj Shinde - BA LLB 4th Janhavi Dhumal - BBA LLB 3rd Organizers - DY Patil University, Pune Competition Name - State-Level Intercollegiate Mediation Competition Position - 2nd Position – Runner-up	
Date - 28th March 2026 Team - Shantanu Kashid - LLB 3rd Gargee Tendulkar - LLB 3rd Saayli Vaishampayan - BA LLB 2nd Organizers - MIT ADT University, Pune Competition Name - MIT ADT National Moot Court Competition Position - Winners, Shantanu Kashid Awarded with Best Speaker	
APRIL 2026	
Date - 4th April 2026 Team - Murtaza Bohra – LLB 2nd Amruta Umberkar – BA LLB 2nd Saisha Luthra – LLB 2nd Organizers - Sri Balaji University, Pune Competition Name - 12th Late Dr. (Col.) Prof. A. Balasubramanian Moot Court Competition, 2026 Position - Winners	

Date - 6th to 8th April, 2026

Team – Aayushi Vatsal

Hrushikesh Wanjale

Organisers – D.Y.Patil Law College Pimpri, Pune.

Competition Name- 1st Trial Advocacy Competition

Position – Winners & Best Advocate



MUN CLUB REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Dr. Priya Chopde

The Pune Model United Nations 2026 (PUNEMUN 2026) was held on 28th and 29th March 2026 at DES' Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune.

Pune Model United Nations 2026 (PUNEMUN 2026) was a two-day academic simulation conducted on 28th and 29th March, 2026 at DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune in collaboration with Pune MUN. The conference aimed to foster critical thinking, diplomacy, and policy-oriented debate among students from diverse academic backgrounds. The conference brought together participants from across Maharashtra, including representation from over 15 colleges and international schools, thereby creating a dynamic platform for intellectual exchange and collaborative problem-solving.

The activity was organized with the objective of promoting awareness of global and national issues through structured debate, while also developing essential skills in diplomacy, negotiation, and public speaking among students. It aimed to encourage research-based policymaking and critical thinking, and to provide a platform for inter-collegiate as well as international collaboration.

Pune MUN Conference was organized by MUN Club of DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune in collaboration with Pune MUN under the MoU signed by both. The event was co-ordinated by Dr. Priya Chopde, Faculty Co-ordinator of MUN Club and an organizing committee of Pune MUN. The committee consisted of following members.

The organising committee for the event was led by Nitish Sharma as Secretary General, supported by Aarya Dhamne as Deputy Secretary General. Krishna Purohit served as the Chief Advisor, while Asad Sayyed took on the role of Conference Director, ensuring the smooth planning and execution of the conference.

The conference featured a diverse range of committees and agendas designed to engage participants in critical global issues. The college committees included PSCEA, which deliberated on Strategic Autonomy and Emerging Security Architectures; CEIRPP, focusing on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People; UNGC, addressing Agenda Admissibility in an Era of Global Crisis; ECPS, examining Preventive Diplomacy under Article 99; and the Historical UNCIO (San Francisco, 1945), which simulated the drafting of the United Nations Charter.

In addition, the school committees included UNHRC, which discussed the theme of Assassination as Statecraft, and UN Women, which focused on Combating Cross-Border Exploitation.

The conference witnessed diverse and enthusiastic participation, contributing to a rich exchange of perspectives and ideas. A total of 190 delegates participated, representing more than 15 institutions, along with special participation from delegates of international schools.

The conference commenced with an inaugural session that set the tone for two days of rigorous debate and intellectual engagement. Multiple committee sessions were conducted, featuring moderated caucuses, unmoderated caucuses, and resolution drafting. The Historical UNCIO committee stood out for its simulation of the drafting of the UN Charter, offering delegates a unique experiential learning opportunity. The Prize Distribution Ceremony was graced by Chief Guest, Smt. Aishwarya Pathare Patil, who addressed the delegates and appreciated their efforts. The ceremony concluded with the distribution of awards and recognition of outstanding performances.

The conference featured a total prize pool exceeding ₹2,50,000, recognizing excellence in diplomacy and debate. Participants were honoured with various awards,

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

including Best Delegate, High Commendation, Special Mentions, and Verbal Mentions, acknowledging their outstanding performance and contribution during the sessions.

Pune Model United Nations 2026 was a significant academic initiative that combined intellectual engagement with practical learning. The conference not only provided a platform for debate but also fostered leadership, collaboration, and critical thinking among participants. Pune MUN, 2026 successfully achieved its objectives by:

The event contributed significantly to enhancing participants' understanding of global governance and

diplomacy while providing a platform for meaningful dialogue on pressing international issues. It also helped in strengthening the institution's reputation through large-scale participation and active engagement from diverse participants. The conference received positive feedback from delegates and participants, highlighting its academic rigor and organizational excellence. The organising committee of Pune MUN expresses its sincere gratitude to the Chairman, Principal and Faculty Co-ordinator of DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune as well as all the participants, and all stakeholders for their support in making the event a success.



NATIONAL COLLABORATION AND LINKAGES REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinators -

Dr. Aishwarya Yadav

Asst. Prof. Pooja Deo

The College has taken a progressive step and established collaboration linkages department in order to achieve networking activities with local, national entities for mutual benefits and assistance in the areas research, academic collaborations and Community Engagement.

Following activities are conducted in the year 2025-26 (July 2025-March 2026)

1. MoU with Heartfulness Education Trust: The Trust is engaged into wellness at work through wellbeing workshops and yoga and polarity techniques. College has entered into MoU with HET on 8th July 2023 in order to provide positive work environment and wellness to its teaching and non teaching staff.
2. MoU with Tilak College of Education: Tilak College of Education is a premier and dynamic institution with an unrivalled reputation in pre-service training of teachers over the past 82 years. DES SNFLC has entered into MoU with Tilak College of Education On 7th February 2024 for academic collaboration in the area of Certificate courses, FDPs etc.
3. MoU with MMM's Shankarrao Chavan Law College, Pune for academic collaboration.
4. MoU with KLE Law College:

Under the umbrella of Karnataka Lingayat Education Society, the KLE law college was established in 1975 to cater to the needs of young students desirous of pursuing legal education in Bangalore. On 24th February,

DES SNFLC has signed a MoU with KLE law college to foster the academic collaboration and to strengthen the mutual connections.

1. Collaboration with National Commission for Women, Delhi for conducting One Day PG department seminar on "Evolving Role of India in Global Governance and International Trade"
2. Linkage with Crime Investigation Department: Under the MoU, CID gave an excellent opportunity to work on project of judgement analysis in the month of January 2026. The copy of judgement analysis was submitted at Ms. Pallavi Barge office (SP, CID, Law and Research) on 4th March 2026. The work is appreciated by the authority. The students who contributed in this project are- Sanika Bopardikar (3rd LLB), shravani otari, Saumya Singh, Tanvi Shinde(4th BA LLB) and Varad Vaidya (3rd BA LLB).
3. Linkage with ReCharkha Ecosocial: This is a Social Enterprise, focusing on upcycling of waste plastic. Under this collaboration, college is upcycling the waste flex of various events. We have received an appreciation letter for the same.
4. Linkage with Zilla Parishad, Pune: Zilla Parishad, Pune has carried out a survey on Single Women and has given college the opportunity for collaborative research on the said topic.

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinators-

Dr. Neeta Ahir

Asst. Prof. Ajinkya Waghmare

“Not Me But You,” the motto of NSS, clearly reflects the spirit of selfless service for social causes. NSS student volunteers work with great enthusiasm to contribute to social development through various activities organized by the college throughout the year. The NSS activities are divided into two parts: regular activities and a 7-day NSS Residential Camp. The students worked tirelessly to make each event successful.

The college actively demonstrated its participation in social outreach by organizing and participating in various NSS programmes.

1. Bhakti Yoga Participation – 21st June 2025: Bhakti Yoga 2025 is a premier academic and interdisciplinary outreach programme of Savitribai Phule Pune University, aiming to promote Bhakti Yoga as a tool for ethical consciousness, community integration, and personal well-being. Based on India's Sant Parampara, it combines yoga, mindfulness, and ethical living. The NSS unit was allotted five dindis in the Bhavani Peth area, Pune. Around 30 students, along with faculty members Dr. Neeta Ahir, Asst. Prof. Pooja Deo, Asst. Prof. Ajinkya Waghmare, Asst. Prof. Saurabh Jadhav, and Asst. Prof. Sandip Borse, participated and conducted yoga programmes, emphasizing health and well-being.

2. Guru Pournima Celebration – 10th July 2025: The college celebrated Guru Pournima with active participation from teaching and non-teaching staff. The programme began with a traditional invocation symbolizing the removal of ignorance through knowledge. NSS volunteer Shubham Patil and his team highlighted the role of a Guru in shaping discipline and ethics. Faculty and staff were felicitated, and reflections were shared on mentorship and institutional values.

3. Independence Day Celebration – 15th August 2025: The day was celebrated with patriotic spirit. The programme began with flag hoisting and the National Anthem. Students and faculty paid tribute to freedom

fighters. Speeches highlighted the importance of freedom, unity, and constitutional values. Students shared their thoughts on nation-building and responsibilities of youth.

4. Anti-Ragging and POCSO Awareness – 24th September 2025: An awareness programme at Indira School educated students about anti-ragging laws and the POCSO Act, focusing on consent, reporting mechanisms, and legal consequences.

5. Participation in “Shrujanrang” – 12th September 2025: Students participated in cultural and literary competitions organized by Appasaheb Jedhe College, including essay writing, poster making, street play, and elocution. Around 20 NSS volunteers participated.

6. Poster Making & Anti-Drug Awareness – 15th October 2025: Students participated in poster-making on “Save Life – Say No to Drugs,” spreading awareness about substance abuse and promoting healthy lifestyles.

7. Traffic Awareness Drive – 15th October 2025: Conducted at Fergusson College Campus, students spread awareness about traffic rules, helmet use, and legal penalties under the Motor Vehicles Act.

8. Organ Donation Awareness – 26th September 2025: Organized with DES College of Physiotherapy, the programme focused on legal, ethical, and medical aspects of organ donation.

9. Anti-Drug Awareness Programme – 21st November 2025: Students were educated about the harmful effects of drug abuse and encouraged to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

10. Constitution Day – 26th November 2025: Celebrated with the theme “Constitution and Me,” students recited the Preamble and reflected on constitutional values.

11. “Shantata Rakha, Punekar Vachat Ahe” Activity: A reading initiative encouraging students to

develop reading habits and appreciate literature.

12. Granth Dindi – 13th December 2025: Organized as part of the Pune Book Festival, promoting reading culture and knowledge sharing.

13. National Youth Day – 12th January 2026: Celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, inspiring youth towards leadership and social responsibility.

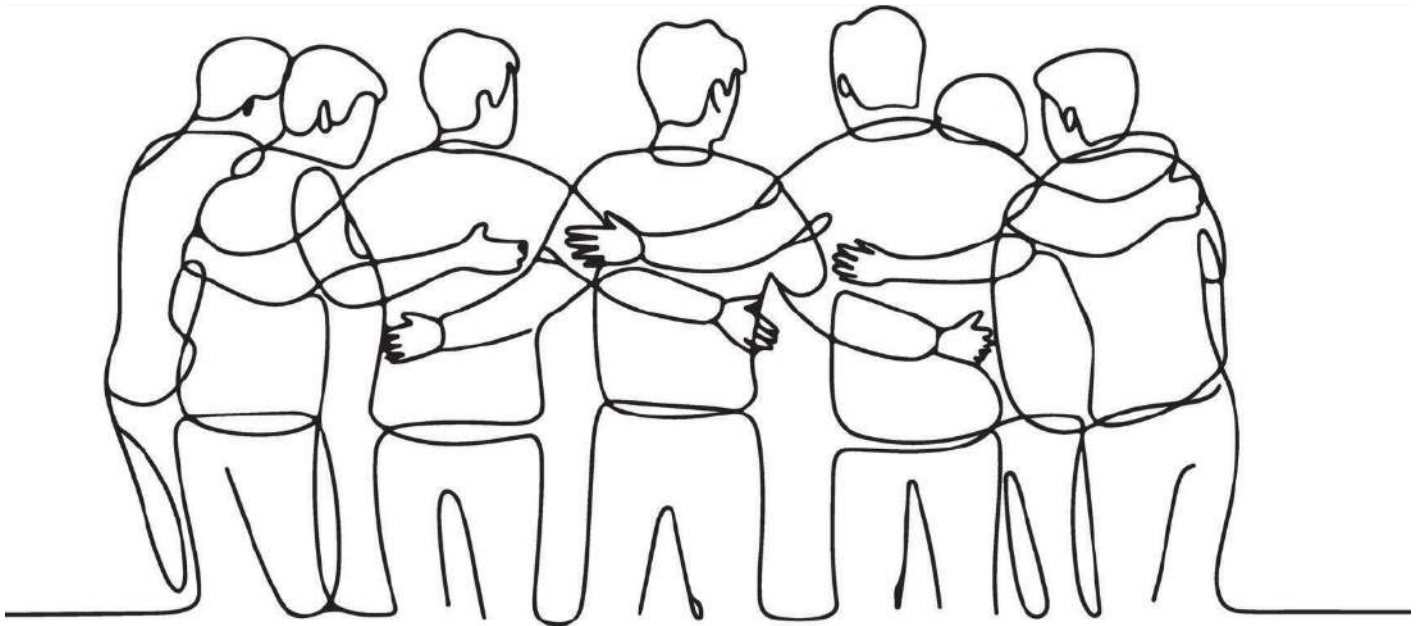
14. Voter Awareness Programme – 12th January 2026: Students were educated about voting rights and responsibilities and encouraged to register as voters

15. Republic Day – 26th January 2026: Celebrated with flag hoisting, speeches, and emphasis on constitutional values.

16. Women's Rights Awareness – 10th March 2026: Conducted at Tapasya Seva Kendra, focusing on legal rights of women, gender equality, and empowerment.

17. 7 Days NSS Camp (2025–26) – A seven-day NSS camp was organized from 17th January to 23rd January 2026 at Kanhur Mesai village by

Savitribai Phule Pune University in association with DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College. Around 25 volunteers participated under the guidance of Adv. Ashok Palande and Principal Dr. Sunita Adhav. The camp was coordinated by Dr. Neeta Ahir and faculty members. Activities included Shramadaan, cleanliness drives, tree plantation, agricultural work, health camps, awareness programmes, and interactive sessions with villagers. Lectures were conducted on topics such as youth in nation-building, environmental protection, legal awareness, and entrepreneurship. Cultural activities and surveys helped students understand rural life. The camp concluded with a valedictory session emphasizing youth participation in nation-building. It provided practical exposure, developed leadership skills, and instilled social responsibility among students. The camp successfully created awareness about social responsibility, environmental protection, legal literacy, and rural development. It encouraged students to actively contribute towards society and nation-building.



PLACEMENT & INTERNSHIP ASSISTANCE CELL REPORT

Faculty Co-Ordinators-

Dr. Anagha Baldota

Asst. Prof. Aditi Kulkarni

Asst. Prof. Chinmay Powar

The Placement & Internship Assistance Cell of DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College serves as a vital institutional mechanism that bridges the gap between academic learning and professional legal practice. Established with the core objective of providing students with structured, supervised, and meaningful exposure to real-world legal environments, the Cell coordinates internship placements across a diverse range of legal institutions, including courts, law firms, corporate legal departments, non-governmental organizations, and government bodies.

In the field of legal education, internships constitute an indispensable component of a student's holistic development. Unlike conventional classroom instruction, field exposure allows students to observe courtroom procedures, engage in legal drafting, assist

senior advocates and legal professionals, and develop an understanding of the nuanced realities of law in practice. Such experiential learning not only reinforces theoretical knowledge but also cultivates professional competence, ethical sensitivity, and practical problem-solving skills that are essential in a legal career.

During the academic year 2025–2026, the Placement & Internship Cell coordinated and facilitated internships for more than 250 students across a wide spectrum of legal establishments, including chambers of senior advocates, law firms specializing in civil, criminal, corporate, IPR, environmental and tax law, legal technology platforms, NGOs, and government legal aid institutions. A few notable internships facilitated are as listed below.

Sr. No.	Name of Student	Authority of Internship
1	Gaurav Pillai	Shetty-Patil & Associates
2	Apeksha L. Dargude	Adv. Vijay J. Kedar
3	Vaishnavi Singh	Adv. G. S. Yavatkar
4	Vibhum K. Tripathi	Rushikesh Thackeray & Associates
5	Palak Agrawal	Rushikesh Thackeray & Associates
6	Vinit V. Naik	Adv. Niranjan U. Mundhe
7	Dev Navin Agarwal	Durge Associates
8	Disha R. Patil	Khurana & Khurana / Katariya
9	Shriya M. Rewatkar	Adv. Saurabh N. More
10	Somesh Bhandari	Nyaykart
11	Arwa Bootwala	Nyaykart
12	Janhavi Patil	Legasis Pvt. Ltd.
13	Fanendra H. Munot	Adv. Kunal Chheda
14	Pratiksha S. Rahinj	Trunal Tonape and Associates
15	Prachi Singh	Siddhant Konde & Associates

Sr. No.	Name of Student	Authority of Internship
16	Gayatri Amol Desai	Sambhajinagar Ploggers
17	Zainub Alam	Adv. Aditya Rangaonkar
18	Vismaya Shivkumar	Kridey Foundation
19	Manideep R. Chilukala	Hamari Pahchan NGO
20	Palak Nahata	Advance Legal Services
21	Anushka S. Kothari	Adv. Nitin Munot & Associates
22	Kashish	Sr. Adv. D.V. Pathy
23	Ishan Sahu	Rahul & Jayshri Associates
24	Radhika A. Gawlikar	DLSA, Pune
25	Dev Bheda	A K Bhambri & Associates
26	Kartiki Phatak	Adv. Rani Kamble-Sonawane
27	Vaishnavi Ibitwar	Jurivine
28	Tejas Bais	Asim Sarode and Associates
29	Aabhimanyu Srivastava	CDSA, Pune
30	Mustafa Qureshi	Adv. Labib Jahagirdar

The remaining internship details are accessible at

<https://drive.google.com/folders/1FqhgbgOY9vaxcSxSHUT17WsXvwp5HnP?usp=sharing>

Internship Experience and Work Exposure provided in 25-26

The internships undertaken by students during the academic year 2025–2026 offered a rich and varied spectrum of legal exposure, spanning multiple domains of substantive and procedural law. Students were placed with advocates, law firms, legal technology platforms, non-governmental organizations, and government legal service bodies, each of which contributed uniquely to their professional development.

Court Proceedings and Trial Observations

A significant number of students had the opportunity to observe live court proceedings and attend hearings across multiple jurisdictions. Students interning in criminal law chambers were present during trial proceedings in matters such as *State of Maharashtra v. Alpesh Patel*, where they observed the conduct of examination and cross-examination, evidentiary arguments, and judicial reasoning. Similarly, those attached to civil law practitioners assisted in hearings for matters including *Santosh Nevale v. Sushma Patil*, gaining valuable insight into the procedural aspects of civil litigation, including preliminary hearings, framing

of issues, and interlocutory applications.

Legal Drafting and Research

Many students engaged extensively in legal drafting under the guidance of their supervising advocates. This encompassed the preparation of complaints, written statements, legal notices, vakalatnamas, affidavits, and interlocutory applications. A particular area of contemporary significance explored by several interns was the transition from the Indian Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure to the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). Students conducted in-depth research on the changes introduced by the new legislation, their practical implications for ongoing and future cases, and drafted comparative analyses for use by their supervising practitioners.

High Court Exposure and Writ Jurisdiction

Several students gained exposure to High Court practice, particularly in writ jurisdiction. Under the supervision of their assigned advocates, interns assisted in the drafting and filing of writ petitions under Articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India, observed oral arguments before the Bombay High Court, and learned the procedural formalities associated with High Court filings. This exposure gave students a comparative understanding of trial court and appellate-level practice.

Specialized Practice Areas

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

Students placed with law firms and specialized chambers received targeted exposure to niche domains of legal practice. Those interning with intellectual property and corporate law firms gained hands-on experience in trademark searches, patent application drafting, and the preparation of due diligence reports. Interns attached to tax litigation practitioners were exposed to income tax appeals, GST-related disputes, and the preparation of written submissions before quasi-judicial tax authorities. Students working with family law practitioners assisted in divorce petition proceedings, maintenance applications, and matters relating to guardianship and custody.

Client Counseling and Legal Aid

Students interning with legal aid institutions, including DLSA Pune and CDSA Pune, participated in client

counseling sessions and legal awareness drives. They assisted in identifying the legal needs of underprivileged clients, explaining procedural rights, and supporting the preparation of applications for legal aid. Those placed with NGOs such as Hamari Pahchan NGO, Kridey Foundation, and Sambhajinagar Ploggers worked at the intersection of law and social development, contributing to community outreach programs and documenting legal issues faced by marginalized populations.

Placement Details

Simultaneously, the cell successfully tracked and documented the professional placements of alumni, reflecting the institution's commitment to career guidance and long-term professional development of its graduates mentioned below –

Sr. No.	Name of the candidate
1	Dattatray Kale- Legal Executive- Kan Biosys Pvt Ltd
2	Sanika Tilekar- Legal Trainee - Kan Biosys Pvt Ltd
3	Adv. Neha Salunkhe - Assistant Professor, School of Legal Studies, SGU, Kolhapur
4	Adv. Simran Pardeshi - Assistant Professor - AISE PUNE (Mercantile Law)
5	Meher Dabrai- In house legal counsel - Inceptive Technologies
6	Kalyani Hulwale - Litigation Firm operating in Nashik, Pune, Mumbai
7	Mugdha Rao - litigation practice in Pune.
8	Geeta Wadekar- Litigation + Content Creator (Geetachya Manatla)
9	Adv Sudhva Sunil Vedpathak - Litigation practice in Pune, Bombay & Kolhapur.
10	Gayatri Jadhav - Assistant Manager - Casagrand Premier Builder Limited.
11	Stuti Oswal - Litigation - Pune and Bombay High Court.
12	Riddhi Kothalikar- Litigation- Bombay High Court.
13	Dr. Nagnath Bansode - Assistant Professor, Shilpkar Law College, Pune
14	Nishad Magar - Senior Executive - Biocon Biologics Limited, Bengaluru.

The cell also has consulted with the companies like *Strat Juris*, Tech Mahindra, *LexAspire*, *IrisInfosec*, VCheck Due Diligence, Allstate, NineteenTwo, and Energy in Motion etc.

The Placement & Internship Cell of DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College has demonstrated positive transformation during the academic year 2025–2026 in fulfilling its dual mandate of facilitating practical legal training and supporting the professional transitions of students and alumni.

As part of its initiatives, a one-day workshop on “Internship Assistance and On-the-Job Training” was organized on 12th July 2025 under the Quality Improvement Programme (QIP) of Savitribai Phule Pune University at the Kundamal Firodia Auditorium, Fergusson College Campus, Pune. The workshop commenced with a formal welcome and the University Anthem. The resource persons for the session were Advocate Kaustubh Moghe and Advocate Pushkar Patil, both experienced legal practitioners. Advocate Kaustubh Moghe delivered a detailed and practical session focusing on professional conduct during

internships, emphasizing persistence, discipline, and realistic expectations, particularly with respect to stipend-related concerns. He also highlighted common mistakes to avoid and guided students on how to approach internships with maturity and commitment. Advocate Pushkar Patil, drawing from his extensive experience in litigation, provided valuable insights into courtroom practice and encouraged students to regularly observe court proceedings as an essential component of legal learning. He emphasized the importance of ethics, discipline, and preparation in professional growth. The session was interactive and well-received by students. The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Asst. Prof. Aditi Kulkarni followed by the National Song. The workshop proved to be highly beneficial in enhancing students' understanding of practical aspects of legal training and professional expectations. The session was attended by more than 100 students.

BUILDING A WINNING CV & STRATEGIC GUIDANCE FOR EMPLOYABILITY

On 21st November 2025, the Cell organized a session on "Building a Winning CV & Strategic Guidance for Employability" in LC III, conducted by Advocate Aniket Thormote. The session focused on developing essential employability skills, particularly in relation to drafting effective CVs tailored to the legal profession. Students were guided on presenting their skills, qualifications, and experiences in a structured and professional manner, along with strategies to improve

their employability and align themselves with industry expectations. The session contributed significantly to improving students' preparedness for internships and placement opportunities. The session was also attended by more than 100 students.

The internship programme, which saw the meaningful participation of huge number of students across diverse legal settings, provided invaluable exposure to the realities of legal practice across civil, criminal, corporate, intellectual property, environmental, and tax law domains. These experiences have equipped students with practical competencies, professional networks, and a nuanced understanding of the law that will serve as enduring foundations for their legal careers.

Looking ahead, the Placement & Internship Cell is committed to expanding its network of internship partners, strengthening engagement with the corporate legal sector, facilitating structured mentorship programmes, and enhancing placement infrastructure. Efforts will also be directed toward securing formal Memoranda of Understanding with law firms, NGOs, and corporate legal departments to provide students with a wider and more structured range of internship opportunities. The Cell remains steadfast in its mission to bridge legal education with professional practice, and to ensure that every student graduates not only as a learned lawyer, but as a capable and confident legal professional.

POSH REPORT

The Internal Committee (IC), mandated by the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 (POSH Act), is a committee within an organization to address complaints of sexual harassment, ensuring a safe and dignified workplace for employees as well as students.

Owing to the vitality of the POSH Act, the college constituted the IC as per the statutory guidelines.

IC COMPOSITON

Sr.No.	Committee Members	Designation
1	Dr. Neeta Ahir	Presiding Officer
2	Asst.Prof.Sumit Tak	Faculty Representative-1 (Male)
3	Dr.Anagha Baldota	Faculty Representative (Female)
4	Shri Shrikant Vinchu	Non-Teaching Representative (Male)
5	Smt. Swapnali Chikane	Non-Teaching Representative (Female)
6	Ms. Janhavi Dhumal	Student Representative (Undergraduate)
7	Ms. Vedangi Kulkarni	Student Representative (Postgraduate)
8	Dr. Kranti Deshmukh	External Member

During A.Y. 2025-26, IC organised following sessions to create awareness of POSH Act amongst the employees & students.

POSH ACT ORIENTATION SESSION FOR I BALLB & I BBALLB

An informative and engaging orientation session on the *Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act, 2013* was conducted for the first-year law students by Dr. Neeta Ahir and Ms. Janhavi Dhumal, on 13.10.2025 at 1:00 pm. 100 students attended the session; It aimed to sensitize students about the significance of creating safe and inclusive workplaces and educational spaces, free from

sexual harassment and gender-based discrimination.

Ms. Janhavi Dhumal began the session by outlining the background and need for the POSH Act, 2013. She highlighted how the Act emerged from the landmark *Vishaka vs. State of Rajasthan* (1997) judgment, which laid the foundation for legal protection against sexual harassment at the workplace. Ms. Janhavi Dhumal, a student coordinator, IC DES SNFLC took the discussion further by sharing practical insights and real-life case studies. She explained how various organizations implement the POSH guidelines and handle complaints in a confidential, fair, and unbiased manner. Ms. Dhumal emphasized the importance of empathy and awareness, urging students especially as future legal professionals to uphold ethical standards and support victims in seeking justice.

Dr. Neeta Ahir, The Presiding Officer, IC DES SNFLC elaborated on the key provisions of the Act, including the definition of “sexual harassment,” the scope of the term “workplace,” and the rights and responsibilities of employers and employees. The detailed explanation of the *Internal Committee (IC)* its constitution, roles, and powers helped students understand the procedural aspects of reporting and redressing complaints. Dr. Ahir also discussed preventive strategies and the importance of regular sensitization programs in maintaining a respectful work culture. Dr. Ahir emphasized that the POSH Act is not only a legal instrument but also a step toward ensuring dignity, equality, and respect for all individuals in professional environments. She also addressed common misconceptions surrounding sexual harassment, clarifying that the POSH Act applies to all genders and includes both formal and informal workplaces. Her interactive approach encouraged students to actively participate, ask questions, and share their perspectives on gender sensitivity and workplace behaviour. The session concluded with a joint reflection by both speakers on the role of law students in promoting gender justice. They encouraged students to not only understand the law but also to embody its principles in their personal and professional lives.

The speakers stressed that awareness is the first step toward change, and future lawyers must contribute to building safer institutional and organizational spaces. Overall, the orientation proved to be highly informative, thought provoking, and relevant for first-year law students. It successfully enhanced their understanding of the POSH Act and its implications in legal and social contexts. Students appreciated the clarity, depth, and real-world applicability of the session, which fostered awareness and a sense of responsibility toward ensuring workplace safety and gender equality. In conclusion, the orientation by Dr. Neeta Ahir and Ms. Janhavi Dhumal took a valuable initiative that not only familiarized almost hundred students with the legal framework of the POSH Act but also inspired them to become advocates for respectful and inclusive environments in the future.

REPORT ON “TRAIN THE TRAINERS” PROGRAM ON POSH ACT

PUKAR 4.0

The institution organized a “Train the Trainers” Program on the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) Act on 09 January 2026 at the Kundanmal Firodia Auditorium from 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. The program was conducted with the objective of strengthening awareness, understanding, and effective implementation of the PoSH Act among faculty members and promoting a safe, inclusive, and gender-sensitive work environment. The program witnessed the participation of more than 50 faculty members, indicating strong institutional commitment toward gender sensitization and compliance with statutory regulations. In addition, 10 student volunteers actively contributed by performing an awareness play focused on the PoSH Act, which added an engaging and experiential dimension to the session. The resource persons for the program were Dr. Aishwarya Yadav and Assistant Professor Pooja Deo, both of whom possess expertise in the domain of gender studies and legal awareness. Dr. Aishwarya Yadav provided an in-depth overview of the PoSH Act, outlining its objectives, scope, key definitions, and the responsibilities of employers and employees. She emphasized the importance of creating awareness at all levels and highlighted the critical role of trained faculty members in cascading PoSH-related knowledge across the institution. Assistant Professor Pooja Deo elaborated on the procedural framework of the PoSH Act, including the constitution and functioning of the Internal Complaints Committee (IC), complaint

redressal mechanisms, inquiry procedures, and confidentiality norms. Through practical illustrations and case-based discussions, she helped participants understand the real-world application of the Act and the importance of sensitivity, fairness, and legal compliance while addressing complaints.

A major highlight of the program was the thematic play performed by student volunteers, which effectively portrayed scenarios related to workplace harassment and demonstrated appropriate reporting and redressal mechanisms under the PoSH Act. The performance successfully sensitized the audience and reinforced the key messages delivered during the expert sessions. The program concluded with an interactive discussion and question-and-answer session, allowing participants to clarify doubts and share insights. Overall, the “Train the Trainers” program was informative and impactful, equipping faculty members with the necessary knowledge and skills to act as PoSH trainers and advocates. The initiative reaffirmed the institution’s commitment to fostering a safe, respectful, and inclusive academic environment.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME ON PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT (POSH)

The DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune, organized an Awareness Programme on Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) on 04 April 2026 at 12:10 PM in the Legal Aid Classroom. The programme was conducted for LL.B. First Year students with the objective of creating awareness about the provisions of the POSH Act and sensitizing students towards issues of sexual harassment within educational institutions and workplaces.

The session was conducted by Assistant Professor Sumit Tak, who provided detailed insights into the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. He explained the meaning, scope, and objectives of the Act, along with various forms of sexual harassment, including physical, verbal, non-verbal, and digital misconduct. He also elaborated on the concept of “workplace” under the Act, emphasizing its applicability to educational institutions like colleges. During the session, the functioning of the Internal Committee (IC) of the college was explained in detail. The procedure for filing complaints, the redressal mechanism, and the importance of maintaining confidentiality during

inquiry proceedings were discussed. The session also highlighted the principles of natural justice followed by the IC, the rights of the aggrieved person, and the duties of the institution in ensuring a safe environment. Preventive measures, awareness strategies, and the consequences of false or malicious complaints were also addressed. The programme was interactive, with students actively participating by asking questions and engaging in discussions. Real-life examples and practical situations were shared to help students understand the

implementation of the law in a better manner. The session also emphasized the role of students in fostering a respectful, inclusive, and safe campus environment. More than 30 students attended the programme, making it a meaningful and impactful initiative. The programme successfully enhanced awareness among students and reinforced the importance of maintaining dignity, equality, and mutual respect within the academic community.



SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP DEPARTMENT REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinators-

Asst. Prof. Pradnya Yadav

Asst. Prof. Pooja Deo

The Seminar and Workshop Department is an integral part of the institution, dedicated to enriching academic engagement and intellectual growth among students. The department regularly organizes international and national seminars, webinars, and guest lectures by inviting eminent speakers from various fields. It also conducts intra-college teacher-student symposiums on diverse topics, helping to strengthen the knowledge base of students. The department serves as a platform for multidisciplinary discussions, covering socio-economic, political, and legal perspectives.

A ONE DAY SEMINAR ON “CHANGING PARADIGMS OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE DELIVERY SYSTEM IN INDIA”

A One Day Seminar on “*Changing Paradigms of Criminal Justice Delivery System in India*” was conducted on 25th September 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at the Amphitheatre, Fergusson College. The seminar witnessed the presence of distinguished personalities from the legal and administrative fields. The programme was graced by Chief Guest Ujjwal Nikam, Member of Parliament and Special Public Prosecutor, Mumbai. The seminar included multiple technical sessions featuring eminent experts such as K.P. Nanadedkar, a retired District Judge; Prof. Dr. Alok Sharma; Prakash Singh, former Director General of the Border Security Force and Padma Shri awardee; and Jayant Umranikar, IPS officer and former Police Commissioner of Pune and Nagpur. The valedictory session was presided over by Shri Jainarayan Patel as Chief Guest, with Pankaj Deshmukh as the Guest of Honour. The seminar provided valuable insights into the evolving criminal justice system in India and created a meaningful platform for academic discussion and exchange of ideas.

The one-day seminar on “*Changing Paradigms of Criminal Justice System in India*” was organized to examine the historical evolution and ongoing transformation of

the country's justice delivery framework. While India possesses a strong constitutional foundation, the criminal justice system has long faced challenges such as delays in trials, case backlogs, overcrowded prisons, inadequate victim protection, and limited integration of technology. In recent years, significant reforms have been introduced to modernize the system. The implementation of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam in 2024 marks a major shift, replacing colonial-era laws such as the Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure, and Indian Evidence Act. These new legislations aim to enhance transparency, efficiency, and a victim-centric approach in the administration of justice.

The seminar brought together academicians, legal experts, law students, and researchers to critically analyze these evolving paradigms. Key discussions focused on systemic issues such as understaffed police forces and judiciary, infrastructural limitations, and the growing need for the integration of forensic science and digital technologies. Emphasis was placed on building a justice system that is not only efficient and accountable but also humane and sensitive to the rights and dignity of victims. Approximately 650 participants attended the seminar, reflecting its wide academic and professional relevance. The seminar concluded with a strong consensus on the urgent need for comprehensive reforms in the criminal justice system. The newly introduced laws were highlighted as transformative measures aimed at ensuring timely justice through strict procedural timelines, improved digital and forensic evidence management, electronic hearings, and stronger protections for vulnerable groups, particularly women and children. Overall, the seminar reinforced the vision of a fair, efficient, and accessible criminal justice system that upholds constitutional values and adapts to contemporary challenges, while encouraging continued dialogue and reform-oriented initiatives.

**A TWO DAY INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR
ON THE THEME – TRANSFORMING
HIGHER EDUCATION THROUGH INDIAN
KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM: A GLOBAL
PERSPECTIVE** (*Themisia 4.0*)

DES's Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College organized A Two Day International Seminar on the theme – Transforming Higher Education through Indian Knowledge System: A Global Perspective on 13.02.2026 & 14.02.2026. The faculty coordinator for the said event was Dr. Anagha Baldota.

As Indian Knowledge System is an emerging arena of multidimensional study, the integration of IKS in Higher Education would be a transformative paradigm shift. With this noble notion, the college invited seven resource persons from different disciplines to cover the broader scope of the theme. The Inaugural Ceremony of the seminar was graced by the Chief Guest, Prof. Dr. Vivek Maheshwari, Vice-Chancellor, Lakulish Yoga University, Ahmedabad & the Guest of Honour, Shri. Avinash Dharmadhikari, Founder & Director, Chanakya Mandal Pariwar, Pune, Adv. Ashok Palande, Vice-Chairman GB & Council, DES, Chairman CDC DES SNFLC, & Dr. Sunita Adhav, Principal, DES SNFLC, Pune.

Dr. Maheshwari, in his opening speech beautifully illustrated the importance of Indianness in Higher education across all the disciplines. He narrated short fables from Jatak Tales, Rigveda he wove his narrative with special emphasis on spiritual values to be inculcated in academics at various levels. His approach towards Indian knowledge system & higher education in India provided a reasonable & realistic reformative direction ahead.

Shri. Avinash Dharmadhikari, being the Guest of Honour, & the resource person for the Technical Session-1, delivered his discourse on 'Historic Foundation of IKS' with specific citations in Vedic scriptures, Buddhist & Jain Philosophies connecting their relevance to current academics. Shri. Dharmadhikari also pivoted a foundation for further possible studies in the said area by providing a novel thought that IKS is not a trend, but an eternal value system that enables the learner to grasp, imbibe & profess the fair & just principles for a quality life. **Technical Session -2**, was delivered by Dr. Vasudev Aital, coordinator of CoE, IKS at DES Pune University. Dr. Aital discussed the foundational concepts of **zero**

(**shunya**) and the decimal system revolutionized global calculation and paved the way for modern algebra and calculus. The scientific prowess of Bharat is also evident in **Ayurveda**, the world's oldest holistic healing system, and the advanced surgical techniques detailed in the *Sushruta Samhita*. Furthermore, he added that ancient metallurgy achieved remarkable feats, such as the corrosion-resistant **Iron Pillar of Delhi**, which displays a mastery of chemistry that predates Western industrial methods by centuries.

Dr. Aital also cited that in the realm of physics and cosmology, the **Vaisheshika school** proposed atomic theories (*Paramanu*) and the laws of motion existed long before the European Renaissance. This rich intellectual legacy serves as a testament to a civilization that prioritized the systematic observation of the natural world and the pursuit of universal truths.

The seminar proceeded with the **Technical Session-3**, after the lunch break wherein Dr. Shreenand Bapat, Registrar, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune, opined about Basic Research Methodology in IKS. Dr. Shreenand Bapat, a renowned scholar emphasized that research methodology in the **Indian Knowledge System (IKS)** is rooted in the rigorous framework of **Pramana Shastra** (the science of evidence). He highlights that ancient Indian research was not merely anecdotal but relied on systematic tools like *Pratyaksha* (perception), *Anumana* (inference), and *Shabda* (authoritative testimony) to establish truth.

Dr. Bapat further added, how traditional texts utilize the **Tantrayukti** — a set of thirty-six methodological devices or “tools of composition” to ensure logical consistency and structural integrity in scientific treatises. His approach bridges the gap between classical Sanskrit scholarship and modern analytical standards, demonstrating that IKS follows a “Sutra-to-Bhashya” (formula to commentary) progression that encourages continuous peer review and refinement. Ultimately, he posits that IKS methodology is inherently multidisciplinary, integrating ethics, logic, and empirical observation to solve contemporary problems.

During **Technical Session-4**, Mr. Pratish Ray Pratish Ray argued that AI ethics must transcend Western “rule-based” frameworks by adopting the IKS principle of **Dharma**, which prioritizes the collective well-being (*Loka-samgraha*) over narrow algorithmic optimization. He advocated for a “Human-Centric AI” rooted in

Yogic mindfulness, ensuring that machine intelligence remains a tool for human elevation rather than a source of cognitive displacement.

By aligning AI development with the Vedic concept of **Rta** (cosmic order), Ray suggested we can create self-regulating systems that naturally respect environmental and social harmony. His approach sought to embed values like empathy and interconnectedness directly into the data structures and decision-making processes of emerging technologies.

On 14.02.2026, the second day of International Seminar began with **Technical session-5** in online mode by Prof. Dr. Yashwant Pathak, *Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs*, University of South Florida (USF). Founding Member, ICCS, on the topic 'Global Perspective of Indigenous Traditions & Culture' wherein he emphasized that indigenous traditions provide a holistic framework for global prosperity by prioritizing harmony between humanity and nature over mere technological advancement. He further added that colonial systems historically dismantled these cultures, making it urgent for modern society to "shift the lens" and empower native communities to preserve their ancient wisdom and sustainable ways of life.

Prof. Dr. Vinita Gupta Chaturvedi, Associate Professor at Delhi College of Arts & Commerce Delhi University, took over for the **Technical Session-6** in online mode. She explored the topic- 'Sri Aurobindo: Modern Seer of Integral Indian Knowledge System' in a lucid & poetic style wherein she emphasized Prof. Dr. Vinita Gupta Chaturvedi emphasized that Sri Aurobindo acted as a "Modern Seer" by synthesizing ancient Vedic wisdom with modern evolutionary thought, proposing that human consciousness is destined to transcend its current limitations.

She highlighted his **Integral Yoga** as a complete system that seeks not to escape the world, but to transform earthly life through the descent of the **Supramental** consciousness. Furthermore, she illustrated how his vision redefines the Indian Knowledge System as a dynamic, living force capable of harmonizing material science with spiritual realization to achieve a "divine life" on enters.

During the **Technical Session-7**, Prof. Dr. Pushpakumar Laxmanan emphasized that integrating IKS into modern jurisprudence is essential for moving from a purely adversarial legal system to a **Dharma-**

centric model focused on restorative justice and social harmony. He highlighted that ancient Indian legal traditions, such as the concepts of *Nyaya* (justice) and *Yuktikalpa* (logical application), offer profound insights into conflict resolution that predate contemporary Western mediation techniques.

In addition, he discussed a reformative perspective where legal education incorporates **Vedic and Smriti-based principles** of equity to ensure that laws are not just technically sound, but ethically grounded in the cultural ethos of Bharat. By bridging the gap between colonial-era statutes and indigenous wisdom, he envisions a legal framework that is more accessible, empathetic, and culturally resonant for the Indian citizenry.

The International Seminar also invited articles based on the theme - **Transforming Higher Education through Indian Knowledge System: A Global Perspective**. The seminar witnessed an intellectual feast of presentation followed by discussion of the research done by authors. The ISBN Book on the theme was unveiled during the inaugural session of the seminar at the hands of the dignitaries.

The paper presentation was organized offline wherein the fellow participants presented their research in variety of domains related to IKS, Law & Higher education. The referees, Dr. Revati Naik, Dr. Shivanjali Bhoite & Dr. Neelam Dighe evaluated the best presenters & they were honored during the valedictory session. Dr. Sourabh Ubale & Dr. Pratik Salgar together won the best paper presentation in faculty section. Khushvel Wade & Saanvi Rane won the best paper presentation in student section.

The Two Day Seminar was concluded by the valedictory ceremony chaired by Dr. Radhakrishnan Pillai, Founder and Director, Chanakya International Institute of Leadership studies (CIILS), University of Mumbai as a Chief Guest & Shri. Bhujang Bobade, Director, Heritage Foundation as a Guest of honour. As a Director, he provided collaborative efforts for the International Seminar. Dr. Pillai enlightened the audience on Chanakyan philosophy applicable in modern education system in his unique style of narration. His speech was followed by the discourse by Shri Bhujang Bobade who displayed the manuscripts authored by Chhtrapati Sambhaji Maharaj & emphasized on the nexus between knowledge system & modern youth. His

discourse was marked by practical knowledge & humor!

The International Seminar concluded with a constructive note of integrating Indian Knowledge System in higher Education in a constructive manner.

SEMINAR ON “EVOLVING ROLE OF INDIA IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE”

The seminar for PG department students was organized in collaboration with the National Commission for Women on “Evolving Role of India in Global Governance and International Trade” on 24th February 2026 at the Kundanmal Firodia Auditorium. The inaugural session, along with Technical Session I, was graced by Gautam Bambawale, Retired Indian Ambassador, as the Chief Guest. Technical Session II was conducted by J. M. Mallikarjunaiah, Dean, Faculty of Law, KLE Technological University, while Technical Session III was delivered by Kamala Dawar, Associate Professor at Queen Mary University, London. The valedictory session was presided over by Delina Khongdup, Hon'ble Member of the National Commission for Women, as the Chief Guest, with Dr. J. M. Mallikarjunaiah as the Guest of Honour.

The Seminar Department of DES Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College organized a seminar for the PG Department students on the theme “Evolving Role of India in Global Governance and International Trade” on 24th February 2026 at the Kundanmal Firodia Auditorium, Fergusson College Campus. The seminar was conducted in collaboration with the National Commission for Women and aimed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of India's emerging position in the changing landscape of global governance and international trade. In the contemporary international order, characterized by rapid technological advancements, geopolitical tensions, and shifting economic alliances, India's transformation from a passive participant to an active contributor in shaping international economic law and governance frameworks was critically examined.

The seminar resulted in significant academic and institutional outcomes. A key highlight was the collaboration with the National Commission for Women, along with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with KLE Society's Law College. The discussions provided valuable insights

into India's growing role in global governance and international economic law. Students developed a deeper understanding of the evolving dynamics of international trade and the impact of global geopolitical developments, particularly the strategic competition between China and the United States, on India's economic and strategic positioning.

सामाजिक परिवर्तनातून राष्ट्रनिर्माण : १०० वर्षांची वाटचाल, 10 मार्च 2026

डी. ई.एस. श्री नवलमल फिरोदिया विधी महाविद्यालयात 'सामाजिक परिवर्तनातून राष्ट्रनिर्माण' विषयावर व्याख्यान; विद्यार्थ्यांचा उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद!!!

डेवकन एज्युकेशन सोसायटीच्या अंतर्गत कार्यरत असलेल्या श्री. नवलमल फिरोदिया विधी महाविद्यालय येथे 'सामाजिक परिवर्तनातून राष्ट्रनिर्माण : १०० वर्षांची वाटचाल' या विषयावर विशेष व्याख्यानावे आयोजन करण्यात आले. या कार्यक्रमात विद्यार्थ्यांचा मोठ्या प्रमाणात उत्स्फूर्त प्रतिसाद लाभला. महाविद्यालयातील विद्यार्थी, प्राध्यापक व विविध क्षेत्रातील मान्यवरांच्या उपस्थितीत हा कार्यक्रम उत्साहपूर्ण वातावरणात पार पडला.

या व्याख्यानासाठी प्रमुख वक्ते म्हणून माजी खासदार डॉ. विनय सहस्त्रबुद्धे आणि माय होम इंडियाचे संस्थापक तसेच भाजपचे माजी राष्ट्रीय सचिव सुनील देवधर उपस्थित होते. कार्यक्रमाचे अध्यक्ष म्हणून माजी खासदार प्रदीप रावत उपस्थित होते. तसेच महाविद्यालयाच्या प्राचार्य डॉ. सुनिता आ. आणि डी.ई.एस. नियामक मंडळ व परिषदेचे उपाध्यक्ष ऍड. अशोक पलांडे यांची प्रमुख उपस्थिती लाभली.

कार्यक्रमाची सुरुवात दीपप्रज्वलन व सरस्वती पूजनाने झाली. त्यानंतर उपस्थित मान्यवरांचे पुष्पगुच्छ देऊन स्वागत करण्यात आले. प्रास्ताविकामध्ये कार्यक्रमाचा उद्देश स्पष्ट करताना सामाजिक परिवर्तनाची प्रक्रिया आणि त्या माध्यमातून घडणारे राष्ट्रनिर्माण यांचे महत्त्व अधोरेखित करण्यात आले. समाजातील विविध घटकांमध्ये समन्वय निर्माण करून राष्ट्र अधिक सक्षम करण्यासाठी सामाजिक परिवर्तन अत्यंत आवश्यक असल्याचे नमूद करण्यात आले.

यावेळी मार्गदर्शन करताना डॉ. विनय सहस्त्रबुद्धे यांनी अत्यंत सोप्या आणि प्रभावी भाषेत संघकार्याचे स्वरूप स्पष्ट केले. “संघ म्हणजे भारत माता की जय” असे सांगत त्यांनी संघ ही सर्वव्यापी संघटना असल्याचे नमूद केले. देशाच्या प्रत्येक भागात तसेच परदेशातही संघाचे कार्य सुरू असून आफ्रिकेसारख्या देशांमध्येही शाखा सुरू झाल्याचे उदाहरण त्यांनी दिले. “सर्वेषाम् अविरोधेन” या विचारातून समाजातील सर्व घटकांना जोडण्याचा प्रयत्न संघ करत

असल्याचे त्यांनी सांगितले. समाजातील विविध स्तरांमध्ये समन्वय साधून राष्ट्रीय एकात्मता निर्माण करणे हे संघकार्याचे मुख्य उद्दिष्ट असल्याचे त्यांनी स्पष्ट केले.

यानंतर सुनील देवधर यांनी मार्गदर्शन करताना भारताचा समृद्ध इतिहास, सामाजिक रचना आणि राष्ट्रीय जीवनातील विविध टप्प्यांचा आढावा घेतला. त्यांनी सांगितले की राष्ट्रनिर्माणासाठी केवळ राजकीय शक्ती पुरेशी नसते; त्यासाठी समाजामध्ये आत्मबोध, सांस्कृतिक जाणीव आणि सामाजिक समरसता यांचीही गरज असते. संघटन शास्त्राचे महत्त्व स्पष्ट करताना त्यांनी सांगितले की संघटन शास्त्र हे कुठल्याही विद्यापीठात औपचारिकपणे शिकवले जात नाही; मात्र संघकार्याचा तो मुख्य आधार आहे. व्यक्ती निर्माण करण्याचे कार्य संघ सातत्याने करत असून व्यक्तीमध्ये अनेक दोष असले तरी त्याला स्वीकारून समाजकार्यासाठी जोडणे ही मोठी आणि संयमाची प्रक्रिया आहे. लोकांमध्ये राहून काम करणे, त्यांच्यात भेदभाव न ठेवणे आणि मैत्रीचे बंध निर्माण करणे हा संघकार्याचा महत्वाचा पैलू असल्याचे त्यांनी सांगितले.

कार्यक्रमाचे अध्यक्ष प्रदीप रावत यांनी आपल्या भाषणात छत्रपती शिवाजी महाराज यांच्या कार्याचा संदर्भ देत नेतोजी पालकरांना पुन्हा स्वधर्मात आणल्याची ऐतिहासिक घटना सांगितली. या उदाहरणातून समाजातील विखुरलेल्या घटकांना पुन्हा एकत्र आणण्याचे कार्य किती महत्वाचे आहे हे स्पष्ट होते, असे त्यांनी नमूद केले. समाजासाठी संन्यस्त जीवन जगण्याचा आदर्श स्वामी

विवेकानंद यांनी दिला असून त्याचप्रमाणे संघाच्या प्रचारक व्यवस्थेमध्येही समाजासाठी समर्पित कार्य दिसून येते, असे त्यांनी सांगितले. तसेच सामाजिक जागृती, आत्मबोध आणि राष्ट्रभक्ती या मूल्यांवर आधारित समाज निर्माण करणे ही आजच्या काळाची गरज असल्याचे त्यांनी अधोरेखित केले.

कार्यक्रमादरम्यान विद्यार्थ्यांनी उत्साहाने सहभाग घेत वक्त्यांना विविध प्रश्न विचारले. या प्रश्नोत्तर सत्रामध्ये राष्ट्रनिर्माणात युवकांची भूमिका, सामाजिक समरसतेचे महत्त्व आणि संघटनात्मक कार्याची गरज या विषयांवर सखोल चर्चा झाली. वक्त्यांनी विद्यार्थ्यांना समाजकार्यात सक्रिय सहभाग घेण्याचे आवाहन करत देशाच्या विकासासाठी सकारात्मक भूमिका बजावण्याचा संदेश दिला.

कार्यक्रमाच्या शेवटी डॉ. ऐश्वर्या यादव यांनी आभार प्रदर्शन करताना “सेवा हे साधन असून त्यामध्येच मोक्षाचे बीज दडलेले आहे” असे सांगत उपस्थित मान्यवरांचे आणि विद्यार्थ्यांचे आभार मानले. या संपूर्ण कार्यक्रमाला विद्यार्थ्यांचा उत्स्फूर्त आणि सकारात्मक प्रतिसाद लाभला. विशेषतः महिला विद्यार्थिनींनी मोठ्या संख्येने सहभाग नोंदवत कार्यक्रमात सक्रिय उपस्थिती दर्शवली. सामाजिक परिवर्तन आणि राष्ट्रनिर्माण या विषयांवर झालेल्या या व्याख्यानामुळे विद्यार्थ्यांना नवीन दृष्टिकोन मिळाला आणि समाजासाठी कार्य करण्याची प्रेरणा मिळाली.

SPORTS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Asst. Prof. Sandip Borse

The Sports Department plays a vital role in promoting holistic development among students by encouraging physical fitness, discipline, teamwork, and leadership. Throughout the academic year 2025 – 2026, the department actively organized and managed a range of intra-college and inter-college sporting events. These initiatives aimed not only at nurturing athletic talent but also at fostering a spirit of unity, resilience, and healthy competition among students. With strong participation and efficient coordination, the department successfully created opportunities for students to engage beyond academics and develop essential life skills through sports.

SNFLC CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

The SNFLC Chess Championship 2025 was held on 29th August 2025 from 11:30 AM onwards at the college premises.

The SNFLC Chess Championship 2025 was conducted on National Sports Day, marking the beginning of the Sports Department's activities for the academic year. The event inauguration was conducted in the late morning in the presence of faculty members and participating students, setting a focused and enthusiastic tone for the competition. Chess, as a game of intellect and strategy, provided students with an opportunity to demonstrate their analytical thinking, patience, and decision-making abilities. The tournament saw active participation from students across various courses and academic years. Each match reflected a high level of concentration and discipline, with participants engaging in thoughtful gameplay and maintaining a strong sense of sportsmanship. The competition was conducted in a structured and fair manner, ensuring equal opportunity for all participants. The matches were closely contested, highlighting the skill and preparation of the players. The event not only encouraged competitive spirit but also promoted mental agility and focus among students.

The valedictory ceremony was held on 26th January 2026, where the winners were felicitated and appreciated for their achievements. The event concluded on a positive

note, reinforcing the importance of intellectual sports within the broader framework of athletic development.

Details of the Event:

Importance of the Event: Promoted intellectual engagement, strategic thinking, and concentration among students.

Number of Participants: Approximately - 20

Sr. No.	Winner	Runner-up
1.	Anshuman (BBA LLB 2 nd)	Ayush Kumar Jena (BA LLB 3 rd)
2.	Diya Jain (BBA LLB 5 th)	Ananya Ojha (BA LLB 4 th)

Outcome of the Event: Enhanced analytical skills and encouraged participation in non-physical sports.

LAWSKETS 2026

LAWSKETS 2026 was held from 2nd February 2026 to 5th February 2026 across multiple venues within the college and sports grounds. The inauguration ceremony was graced by Mayuri Deshmukh as the Chief Guest, while the valedictory function was honoured by IPS Nikhil Pingale as the Chief Guest.

LAWSKETS 2026, the annual inter-college sports fest, was one of the most significant events organized by the Sports Department during the academic year. Conducted over four days, the event witnessed an overwhelming response, with participation from approximately 1000 students representing various colleges. The scale and enthusiasm associated with the event reflected its growing prominence and success.

The inauguration ceremony was held on 2nd February 2026 and was graced by Ms. Mayuri Deshmukh, an accomplished international rock climber. Her presence inspired participants to challenge themselves and approach the competitions with determination and confidence. The event featured a wide range of sports, including table tennis, badminton, cricket, football,

athletics, and other competitions, each drawing significant participation.

One of the defining aspects of LAWSKETS 2026 was the coordination required to conduct multiple sporting events simultaneously across different venues. The successful execution of the fest was made possible by the dedicated efforts of the organizing team, coordinators, and volunteers. Special recognition is due to Sports Head Sanskruta Thakur and Om Pote, along with their team members Nakul Kumbhar and Siddhi Inamdar, whose leadership and commitment ensured the smooth functioning of the event.

The fest created a vibrant atmosphere of competition and camaraderie, allowing students from different institutions to interact, compete, and build connections. The energy and enthusiasm remained consistent throughout the event, making it a memorable experience for all participants.

The valedictory ceremony was held on 5th February 2026 and was graced by IPS Nikhil Pingale. His address emphasized discipline, perseverance, and the importance of sports in personal development. The ceremony concluded with the felicitation of winners and participants.

The event played a significant role in promoting inter-college interaction, encouraging large-scale participation, and fostering a spirit of competitive excellence among students. With approximately 1000 participants, it served as a dynamic platform for showcasing talent and sportsmanship. The successful organization of the event strengthened the institution's reputation and encouraged the development of sports culture on a larger scale.

DUM 2026

DUM 2026 was held from 6th March 2026 to 9th March 2026, with the valedictory function conducted on 13th March 2026. The event took place across the college premises and outdoor grounds.

DUM 2026, the annual intra-college sports event, was organized to encourage participation among students and to strengthen unity within the college. Conducted

over the period of four days, the event included both indoor and outdoor sports, allowing students to engage in a variety of competitions.

The event began with indoor games held within the college premises, followed by outdoor sports such as cricket, badminton, and tug of war. The participation was notably high, reflecting the enthusiasm and interest of students in sports activities. The atmosphere throughout the event was energetic and engaging, with students actively supporting and competing with one another.

A key highlight of DUM 2026 was the strong competition between batches. The BBA LL.B and 3rd Year BA LL.B batches performed exceptionally well, securing the highest number of wins and creating a closely contested competition. Despite the intensity, the event maintained a spirit of fairness and sportsmanship.

The inauguration ceremony was conducted at the badminton court and was presided over by Dr. Sunita Adhav ma'am, whose presence motivated students to participate actively. The valedictory ceremony and prize distribution were held on 13th March 2026 in the presence of Adv. Ashok Palande sir and Dr. Sunita Adhav ma'am. The winners and runners-up were felicitated, marking a successful conclusion to the event.

The event played an important role in encouraging intra-college participation, fostering teamwork, and promoting a sense of unity among students. With approximately 500 participants, it provided a platform for active engagement and healthy competition, where BBA LL.B and 3rd Year BA LL.B emerged with the highest number of wins. The event strengthened student involvement, enhanced leadership qualities, and promoted sportsmanship among participants.

Alongside the successful organization of internal and inter-college events, students of the institution also brought recognition and pride to the college through their active participation in various external sports competitions. Their performances across multiple disciplines reflected not only their individual talent but also the strong sporting culture encouraged by the institution.

DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune

Name of the Student	Year	Details of the Competition	Achievement
Sanskruta Thakur	5th BA LL.B	West Zone Inter University Table Tennis (Women) Tournament 2025–26 at Veer Narmad South Gujarat University, Surat; Ashwamedh Kreed Mahotsav; MIT Summit	Gold; Silver; Silver
Aditi Sonawne	5th BA LL.B	All India Fencing Championship (Jammu); Khelo India University Games (Rajasthan); All India Fencing Competition (Amritsar); Qualified for upcoming Khelo India University Games	Top 8 Rank; Top 8 Rank
Suryashree Dhondarkar	3rd BA LL.B	COEP Zest 2025 (Shot Put, Discus); A.K.K. New Law Academy Pinnacle 2025 (Tug of War); Modern Law College Vidhirang 2025 (Shot Put, Tug of War); Christ University Lavasa ChrisPo 2025 (Basketball); AFMC Silhouettes 2025 (Shot Put); Pune City Zonal Athletics Meet 2025 (Shot Put); Symbiosis School of Economics 2026 (Basketball); Modern Law College Vidhirang 2026 (Shot Put)	Gold, Gold; Silver; Gold, Silver; Silver; Gold; Bronze; Gold; Gold
Vaidehi Sarode	4th BA LL.B	63rd National Championships, Vishakhapatnam	Winner
Bharat Choudhari	1st BA LL.B	Volleyball – Pinnacle, Azam Campus	Runner Up
Swaraj Shinde	4th BBA LL.B	Taekwondo: Asian Championship Selection Trials 2026; 41st National Senior Championship Hyderabad 2025; 35th Maharashtra State Championship Latur 2025; 8th Open Senior Championship Hyderabad 2025	5th Position; Silver; Gold; Gold
Advay Deodhar	4th BA LL.B	Basketball – Vidhirang Inter-collegiate (Modern Law College)	Runner Up
Mansi Devidas Raut	2nd BA LL.B	Athletics (400m & 4x400 relay) – Pinnacle, A.K.K. New Law College	Winner
Aeddula Manohar Reddy	2nd LL.B	IPL Auction – SMYBHAV 2026, Symbiosis Law School	Winner
Lakshya Wagh	1st BA LL.B	Badminton – Vidhirang, Modern Law College	Runner Up
Tanmay Magar	4th BA LL.B	Pinnacle – A.K.K. New Law College	Runner Up
Nirdesh Yadav	1st LL.B	Volleyball – Pinnacle 2026, Azam Campus Pune	Runner Up
Kushagra Narang	3rd BA LL.B	Football – Kreedangan 2026, ILS	Runner Up
Boosa Yeshwanth	3rd BA LL.B	Basketball – Vidhirang	Runner Up

These achievements across various sports highlight the consistent efforts of students to excel beyond the institutional level. Their participation in diverse competitions not only enhanced their exposure but also contributed significantly to the reputation

of the college. It stands as a testament to the effectiveness of the Sports Department in nurturing talent and encouraging students to pursue excellence in sports at regional, state, and national levels.

SPPU STARTUP TALK SERIES – CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

Faculty Co-Coordinator –
Dr. Anagha Baldota

The session, titled *“From Idea to Investment: Legal Architecture of Start-ups and Incubation in India,”* aimed to provide students with practical insights into the legal and structural aspects of start-ups in India. The programme featured two expert talks, with Talk 1 delivered by Adv. HB Keshava from Arica Tech LLP and Talk 2 by Adv. Uttakarsh Mattikop from Baskaran Associates.

The session witnessed active participation from 117 students and 6 faculty members. The talks focused on key aspects such as the legal framework governing start-ups, incorporation processes, regulatory compliance, funding mechanisms, and incubation support systems in India. Students gained valuable understanding of how ideas evolve into successful ventures, the importance of legal structuring, and the role of intellectual property and investment agreements. The interaction also highlighted real-world challenges faced by entrepreneurs and the significance of legal due diligence in start-up growth. Overall, the session enhanced students' awareness of the start-up ecosystem and equipped them with essential knowledge required for entrepreneurial and legal practice in emerging business environments.

Session 1: The “Zero to One” Journey was conducted by Adv. Keshava and focused on building a strong foundation for aspiring entrepreneurs. The session highlighted the essential fundamentals that every founder must understand before starting a venture. It provided insights into DPIIT recognition and relevant government policies, guiding students on how to obtain official start-up recognition. The speaker also explained the critical decision of entity selection, comparing Private Limited Companies and LLPs to help students make informed choices. Emphasis was placed on intellectual property strategy, particularly on safeguarding innovative ideas. Further, the session covered the importance of key legal documents such as founders' agreements and non-disclosure agreements (NDAs). The discussion was made more engaging through a live case study dialogue, offering practical

exposure to real-world start-up challenges and legal considerations.

Session 2: “Scaling & the Money Trail” was conducted by Adv. Uttakarsh Mattikop and focused on the financial and legal aspects of growing a start-up. The session helped students understand the language and expectations of investors and venture capitalists, providing clarity on how funding ecosystems operate. It emphasized the importance of due diligence, explaining what investors typically evaluate before making investment decisions. The speaker also decoded complex funding documents such as term sheets and shareholders' agreements (SHA), making them easier to understand. Key insights were shared on exit strategies, including mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings, and long-term sustainability of start-ups. The session further highlighted the importance of preventive legal structuring to avoid disputes in real-world scenarios. It concluded with a discussion on career pathways in the start-up ecosystem, followed by an open and interactive dialogue with participants.

• Interaction & Q&A highlights

Ishita Choudhary from IIBBALLB raised a query regarding possible risks & remedies in the startup adventure, which was addressed by Adv. HB Keshava. He mentioned that he had to struggle a lot for raising funds for startup & then to maintain it functioning during covid 19, he had to sell his favourite bike which was a kind of lesson for the students as to how they should plan finances while running a business.

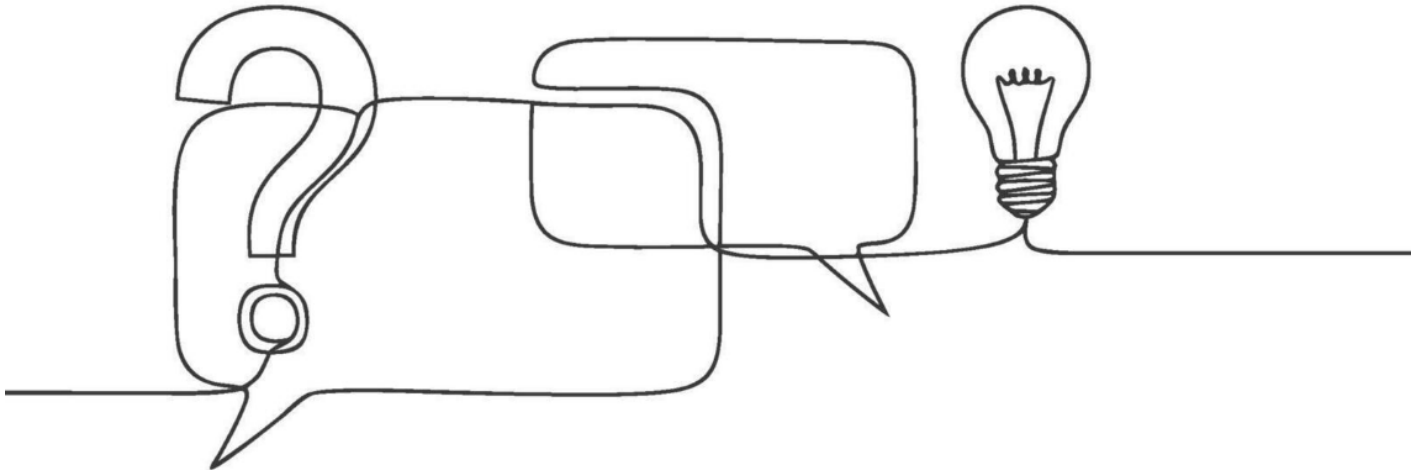
1. Kartik Bhapkar inquired about documentation process at various stages during the business. Adv. Mattikop guided about the deeds like contracts & agreements, founder's deed, employer-employee documentation, partnership deed, company laws & possible legal disputes & appropriate jurisdiction in case of any discrepancy.
2. The sessions were interactive & the resource

persons tried to resolve the doubts of students from various classes. The doubts were mainly based upon the documentation, funding, incubation facility & strategic management etc.

- **Exposure to start-up / innovation ecosystem**

Adv. HB Keshava, in Session-1, shared that the Covid 19 pandemic encouraged him to begin with a start-up providing variety of services like legal help, documentations, astrology, tarot card reading, cyber crime resolutions etc. He also shared how knowledge of multiple skills may lead to founding of start-up; however maintaining multiple units at a time & simultaneously progressing qualitatively & financially are the real challenges.

Adv. Uttakarsha Muttikop stressed upon the same factor & guided the students about the financial management & recycling the resources as per the demand of the situation. He further added that start-ups are not merely business models but reflections of resilience, innovation & adaptability. He encouraged students to view AI not as a threat but a transformative tool that enhances productivity & legal efficiency. His storytelling approach, blending law, technology & lived experiences deeply resonated with the audience. The sessions concluded with thought provoking questions from students regarding start-up sustainability & regulatory compliances.



STUDENTS' DEVELOPMENT CELL REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Dr. Priya Chode

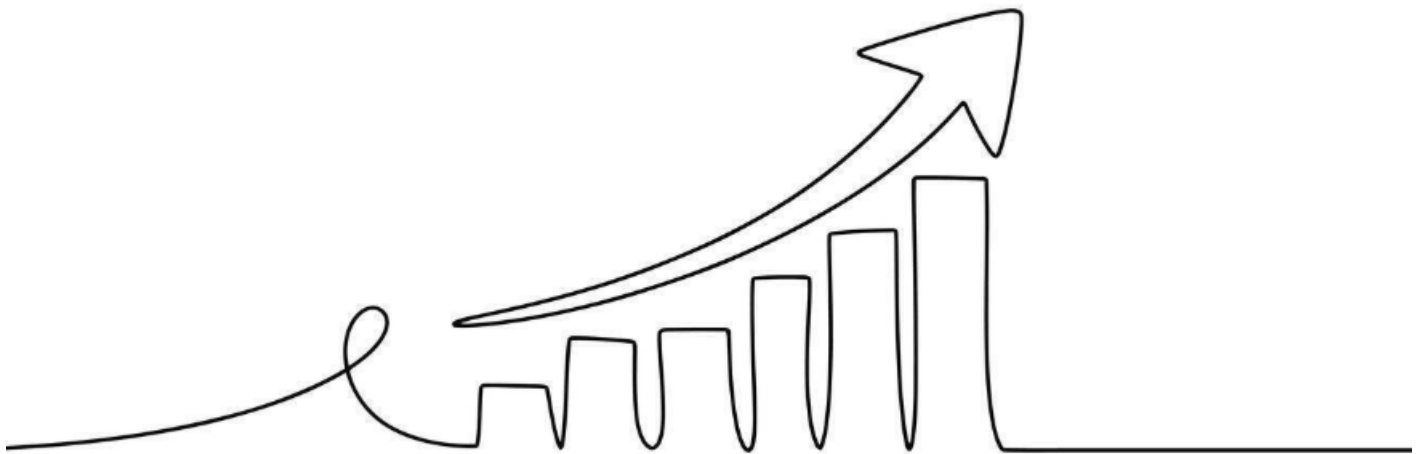
The *Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil Earn and Learn Scheme* was conducted from August 2025 to February 2026 at DES' Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune.

One of the primary activity of the Student's Development Cell is, *Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil Earn and Learn Scheme*. This scheme is implemented by the under the aegis of Board of Students' Development of Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune (BSD SPPU). Objective of this scheme is to provide financial assistance to the hardworking, meritorious students in the institute having financial constraints. Students working under the scheme are provided with the remuneration of Rs. 55/- per hour for their work. Students are permitted to work for maximum of 3 hours per day as per the guidelines of BSD SPPU. Generally, students are allotted official work in administrative office or in library. This also help the administrative staff to seek timely assistance in relation to data entry, filing, scanning, book stalking *etc.*

During this academic year, the following students availed the benefit of the *Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil Earn and Learn Scheme* at the institute: Sumeet Ovhal, Aditya Adhav, Riya Bais, and Arati Bagal from II BBA LL.B., along with Shalini Mavachi and Priyanka Gadkar from III BA LL.B.

According to students' feedback, working under the scheme helps them in varied ways like to meet mess Charges, Traveling expenses, examination Fees and many more.

Karmaveer Bhaurao Patil Earn and Learn Scheme is an initiative undertaken by the university and colleges for providing financial assistance to needy students. It inculcates a sense of responsibility, respect towards all types of work, time management along with financial assistance to the students. Thus, the scheme is successfully implemented in the college by Students' Development officer.



VEDHAS E-LAW JOURNAL REPORT

Faculty Co-ordinator-
Dr. Anagha Baldota

Vedhas e-Law Journal is a virtual platform open for legal fraternity to voice the opinions about legal world which is the reflection of Socio-Political & Economic developments across the globe. Since its inception, Vedhas has published two issues online & these issues are available on the Vedhas website - vedhaslawjournal.com

Vedhas e-law journal is a fortnightly journal. Hence there are two issues in every month, except for the

summer & winter break of the academic years. Each fortnightly issue consists of five articles. Thus, twenty issues & hundred articles were published in A.Y. 2025-26, available at <https://vedhaslawjournal.com/volume-5-year-2026/>. Vedhas e-law journal also acknowledges the E-Content contribution of the faculty as well as the student researchers. The articles published from June 2025 to April 2026, followed by the details of E-content, are as mentioned below –

Volume 5 - Year 2025-26

Issue 1- June 15, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Beyond Borders, Within The Law: A Comprehensive Legal Analysis Of The Foreign Marriage Act, 1969	Aditi Shah
4.	Bridging Sovereignty And Universality: Rethinking The Relationship Between International Law And Municipal Law	Sanskruta Thakur
5.	Compensating The Invisible Pillars: A Legal And Socio-Economic Analysis Of The Employees' Compensation Act, 1923 In Contemporary India	Akshat Bhat
6.	Sacred Bonds And Legal Duties: Re- Examining Hindu Adoption And Maintenance Through Constitutional, Statutory, And Comparative Lenses	Anvay Bhide
7	Veiled Voices And Silent Hands: A Juristic Odyssey Through The Contract Of Agency	Ayush Jena

Issue 2- June 30, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Motherhood And The Constitution: A New Chapter After Vishakha And Aruna Shanbaug	Aniket Mishra
4.	From Liberty To Equality: A Comprehensive Legal Analysis Of First And Second Generation Human Rights	Advay Deodhar
5.	The Concept Of Obligation In Jurisprudence: Foundations, Dimensions, And Contemporary Challenges	Sharvari Konde
6.	Guardians Of The Sacred Trust: A Comprehensive Legal Discourse On Wakf Law In India	Tejas Bais
7.	Discharge Of A Contract: Navigating The Legal And Socio-Economic Dimensions Of Contractual Termination	Bhavika Mittal

Issue 3- July 15, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Conflict Between Judiciary, Executive And The Legislative In India	Swaraj Thorat
4.	Manu Sharma v. State (NCT Of Delhi)	Ayushi Ram
5.	Judicial Activism In India In 2024	Rahat Pardeshi
6.	The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023: Assessing Its Effect On Police And Procedural Reforms	Bhaves Mishra
7.	Integrating Legal Frameworks Into The Indian Fashion Industry: Unaddressed Challenges In A Rapidly Evolving Sector	Shruti Srivastava

Issue 4- July 31, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Step Forward Or Sidestep? Gender Rights In The New Indian Criminal Laws	Tejasvi Gour
4.	Article Review: Preparing For A New Data Protection Regime	Tejaswini Phadtare
5.	Case Study: Narmada Bachao Andolan v. Union Of India And Ors. (2000)	Anushka Singh
6.	Unveiling Darkness: Analyzing Custodial Torture, Deaths And Violation Of Human Rights By Policing Power In India	Krishna Madan
7.	Legal Awareness As Social Power: Why India Needs More Than Just Law Schools	Sae Rote

Issue 5- August 15, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Rule Craft For The Rapid Economy:Creating A Balanced Legal Framework For India's Gig Ecosystem	Koena Ganguly
4.	Marital Rape And Child Rights In India: A Case For Complete Legal Reform	Raghunandini Singh
5.	Water, War, And Treaties: India's Suspension Of The Indus Pact In A Legal Context	Krish Jha
6.	Municipal Solid Waste Management Rules: Then And Now	Palak Nahata
7.	The Impact Of Artificial Intelligence On Human Rights: Balancing Innovation With Accountability	Suman Kumar

Issue 6- August 31, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	From Taxpayer To Suspect: Fiscal Enforcement Or Digital Invasion? The Constitutional Limits Of The Income Tax Bill, 2025	Sace Rote
4.	The Erosion Of Federalism: Is India Becoming More Centralized?	Tejas Choudhary
5.	Navigating The Intersection Of Sex Work, Feminist Theory And Law In India	Gurumeher Gurudatta
6.	The Strategic Use Of Democratic Rhetoric In U.S. Foreign Policy: Balancing Ideals And Interests	Saayli Vaishampayan
7.	Privacy, Surveillance And The Income Tax Bill, 2025	Sanvi Agarwal

Issue 7- September 15, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Decoding The Legal Status And Rights Of Gig Workers In India	Shubhangi Pandey
4.	Case Comment: Urmila Dixit V. Sunil Sharan Dixit & Ors. (2025)	Suman Kumar
5.	A Forensic Analysis Of Jurisprudence In The Public Eye: An Examination Of The Media- Law Nexus In Landmark Judgments	Ananya Paliwal
6.	Indian Jurisprudence In Indian Epics And Ancient Texts	Siddhant Bhoir
7.	House Of Secrets: The Burari Deaths – Media Adaptation Of The 2018 Burari (Chundawat) Family Deaths	Jaywardhan Mohite

Issue 8- September 30, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Marriage & Private Property: A Historical Analysis For Understanding Our Present And Building A Better Future	Oss Nihalani
4.	Media Adaptation Of Real-Life Case – “Boys Don’t Cry”: The Murder Of Brandon Teena (1993)	Khushi Gaikwad
5.	Kautilya’s Arthashastra: An Ancient Legal Thought And Foundation Of Indian Jurisprudence	Jaya Vijaya
6.	ANI Media Pvt. Ltd. v. OpenAI Inc. & Anr.	Shreya Goswami
7.	Understanding Brief History Of Law In India	Siddhesh Tiwari

Issue 9- October 15, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Print Media Exposure To Law And Justice Through Landmark Judgments	Animish Gosavi
4.	The Isro Espionage Case: S. Nambi Narayanan v. State Of Kerala & Others (1994)	Jaya Vijaya
5.	The Fourth Estate In The Courtroom: Examining Media’s Influence On Law And Justice	Muskan Soni
6.	Review Of “Indian Predator: Murder In A Courtroom” – Lynching Of Bharat Kalicharan Yadav In Nagpur Courtroom	Vidhi Trivedi
7.	Role Of Legal Language In Judicial Decisions: Analysis Of The Anglo- American Metallurgical Coal Case And K.K. Verma Case	Darshana Gandhi

Issue 10- October 31, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Uniform Civil Code: Striking A Balance Between Equality And Diversity	Himanya Upadhyay
4.	A Hit Or A Miss? A Critical Analysis Of India’s One Nation, One Election Debate	Anushka Singh
5.	Case Comment On Navtej Singh Johar & Ors. v. Union Of India Thr. Secretary Ministry Of Law And Justice (2018)	Raghunandini Singh
6.	Behind The Bars Of Reform: Transforming The Indian Prison System	Siddhi Khare
7.	Deepfakes, Consent & Evidence – The Coming Crisis In Indian Criminal Trials	Srushti Kadak

Issue 11- December 15, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Sexual Harassment of Women at The Workplace	Shubhangi Pandey & Hiya Saxena
4.	Violence Against Women: A Social Evil; Its Causes, Consequences and Psychological Ramifications	Swara Kolhe
5.	Codifying Control or Ensuring Transparency?	Rishi Kr. Singh & Ujjawal Raj
6.	Parliamentary Vs. Presidential Systems: Assessing the Executive Branch's Role And Accountability	Shristi
7.	Ethical Dilemmas & Governance of AI Art	Maithili Naik

Issue 12- December 31, 2025

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Reclassifying Acid Attacks As Attempt To Murder: An Analytical Study Of The Supreme Court Of India's Recent Approach And Its Implications For Criminal And Disability Law	Saish Navandar
4.	Climate Change Litigation In India: From Environmental Protection To Climate Justice	Sanvi Agarwal
5.	Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Under 135: Compliance And Impact	Dev Bheda
6.	Case Comment – Lalita Kumari V. Government Of Uttar Pradesh (2014)	Shristi
7.	Burgeoning Blockchain Technology In Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms: A Legal Stance	Ujjwal Kumar & Aditi Gupta

Issue 13- January 15, 2026

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Bridging The Gap: Between Copyright And Access To Knowledge In Indian Education	Disha Chauhan
4.	The Role Of Freedom Of Speech On The Internet	Namrata Maurya
5.	Transparency As A Social Right: The Role Of RTI In Strengthening Democracy	Piyush Anand
6.	Oil, Drones, And Dictators: Unpacking America's Venezuelan Blitzkrieg	Aditi Gupta
7.	Protection Of Students From Bullying In Schools	Himanya Upadhyay

Issue 14- January 31, 2026

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Reservation, Equity, and the Constitutional Future of Indian Higher Education	Ayush Kumar Jena
4.	Impact of Mandatory Inclusion of Women Directors under Section 149(1) of the Companies Act, 2013 on Corporate Governance in India	Anushka Umre
5.	Doctrine Of Ultra Vires and Its Relevance Today	Deep Kasat
6.	Exceptions under Indian Law – Judicial Uncertainties and Interdisciplinary Insights	Tejal Deshpande
7.	Doctrine of ultra vires and its relevance today	Mugdha Navin Joshi

Issue 15- February 15, 2026

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Algorithmic policing and the rule of law: navigating the legal and ethical paradoxes of predictive crime technology	Tejal deshpande
4.	Clearing the Canopy: A Comparative Jurisprudential Analysis of Air Quality Laws and Urban Pollution Mitigation	Udit Gupta
5.	Digital Agora or Gated Community? The Jurisprudential Dilemma of Social Media Regulation and the Legal Boundaries of Free Speech	Shreeraj Shinde
6.	The Jurisprudence of Survival: A Critical Analysis of Wildlife Protection Laws and Biodiversity Conservation in the Anthropocene	Ritika Singh
7.	The shift from adversarialism to amicability: a critical analysis of divorce mediation in India – legal advantages and challenges	Ajay kale

Issue 16- February 28, 2026

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Custody without chains – the judicial grey zone of digital arrest	Aditi Gupta
4.	The Algorithmic Workspace: Navigating the Legal Challenges of Telecommuting and Remote Work in the Post-Pandemic Era	Bipul Mayank
5.	The Constitutional Tightrope: Reconciling Religious Freedom and the Right to Same-Sex Marriage in the Indian Republic	Barkat Ali Mujawar
6.	The Digital Albatross: Reconciling the Right to Be Forgotten with the Freedom of Expression in the Algorithmic Age	Shashank Gaikwad
7.	The POCSO Act and the Criminalisation of Adolescent Relationships: A Legal Appraisal	Aswin Krishnan

Issue 17- March 15, 2026

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	From Allegations to Courtrooms: The Harish Rana Case	Abhishek Anand
4.	Contemporary Frontiers of Law: Emerging Issues in Governance, Rights, and Regulation	Ujjawal Raj
5.	Law at The Crossroads: Navigating Contemporary Challenges in a Changing Society	Kartik Kadukar
6.	Legal remedies to the breach of fiduciary duty in the securities industry	Nirdesh Yadav
7	Blockchain vs. Corporate Transparency: Opportunities, Challenges, and the Future of Corporate Governance	Ananya Ojha

Issue 18- March 31, 2026

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Catalytic factors responsible for the current global war: a comprehensive analysis	Achyuta Naik
4.	Legal validity of the transgender persons (protection of rights) amendment bill, 2026: a constitutional analysis	Swapnil Patil
5.	Legality and constitutional morality of live-in relationships in india: a critical analysis with case studies	Pooja Deshmukh
6.	The global and national economic impact of the israel iran united states conflict: a contemporary legal and economic analysis with special reference to india	Tanmay Joshi
7	The Indian Perspective on Marital Rape: Past, Present, and Future	Kedar Thakur

Issue 19- April 15, 2026

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author
1.	Cover Page	Vedhaslawjournal
2.	Table of Content	Vedhaslawjournal
3.	Algorithmic Governance and The Right To Life: Expanding Article 21 Jurisprudence in India.pdf	Aditi Gupta
4.	Deepfakes, Consent & Evidence — The Coming Crisis in Indian Criminal Trials	Srushti Kadak
5.	Governor's Remission Powers: Understanding The Madras High Court Ruling	Aabha Narhar Deshpande
6.	Judicial Interpretation of the Constitution Amid Changing Governments	Akshra Mishra
7	Power Without Voice: The Illusion of Women's Political Power in India	Siddhi Khare

E-Content on Vedhas Website

Sr.No.	Name of the topic	Author	FULL ACCESS
1.	Non-Discrimination and Fairness in AI	Asst.Prof. Sumit Tak	https://vedhaslawjournal.com/e-content/
2.	Brief History of Law in India	Dr. Anagha Baldota	
3.	The First World Conference on Environment	Asst. Prof. Prithviraj Chavan	
4.	AI & Right to Health	Asst.Prof. Sumit Tak	
5.	The Smart Consumer in India	Ayush Kumar Jena	

Team Vedhas remains committed to quality enhancement projects of content generation in virtual mode, as the reach is wider & easier considering

accessibility of the students so far. Media has always played a crucial role in shifting the paradigm; the purpose, especially for Vedhas is renaissance & reformation!



'VIDHIPATH 3.0'- A STREET PLAY COMPETITION

Faculty Co-Ordinator -
Dr. Janhavi Ghodke

The activity titled '*VIDHIPATH 3.0*' – a *Street Play Competition* was conducted on 10th January 2026 at Deccan Education Society's Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune. The event was judged by Shri Samrat Kadam, Shri Suresh Pawar, and Smt. Rucha Kulkarni-Shinde.

VIDHIPATH 3.0 is an intercollegiate street play competition organized with the objective of creating social and legal awareness through powerful theatrical expression. The event served as a vibrant platform for students to voice social issues, challenge societal norms, and engage the audience through impactful performances rooted in law, justice, and social responsibility. Our esteemed Chief Guest Shri. Avinash Mokashi graced the Inaugural Ceremony, whose presence added great value and encouragement to the participants. His insightful words motivated the students and emphasized the importance of street theatre as a medium for social change and awareness. We were honoured to have a distinguished panel of Judges, Shri. Samrat Kadam, Shri. Suresh Pawar, Smt. Rucha Kulkarni-Shinde, professionals from the fields of theatre, law, and social work. The judges carefully evaluated each performance based on content, execution, audience impact, creativity, and overall presentation. Their constructive feedback provided valuable learning and guidance to the participating teams.

After thorough evaluation, the winners were announced:

Winning Team - Yashwantrao Chavan Law College demonstrated outstanding performance with strong content, impactful execution, and exceptional audience engagement.

Runner-Up Team - Ness Wadia College of Commerce, Pune impressed the judges with their creativity, clarity of message, and disciplined performance.

Second Runner-Up - DGB Dayanand Law College, Solapur was awarded for innovation, powerful acting, or relevance of the theme.

Special mention was given to two teams St. Mira's College of girls, Pune and ILS Law College Pune for their exceptional performance and innovative approach

Esteemed chief guest Shri. Praveen Dixit graced valedictory ceremony, whose valuable guidance motivated all the participants. Fourteen teams participated from Solapur, Panvel, Pune etc. They dealt through various themes like:

1. Social Justice and Governance
2. Environment and Sustainability
3. Unity in Diversity
4. Gender Equality
5. Health care in distress etc.

Adv. Ashok Palande, Chairman, College Development Committee of the College, appreciated all the participating teams for their efforts, commitment, and passion for theatre and social awareness. '*VIDHIPATH 3.0*' successfully achieved its aim of encouraging students to use art as a voice for justice and societal reform, making the event both meaningful and memorable under the profound guidance of Dr. Sunita Adhav, Principal of the College. Feedbacks received from participating teams have acknowledged success of team efforts of faculty coordinator Dr Janhavi Ghodke and student coordinators Sakshi Naiknavare and Aditya Kotwal.

WOMEN'S' STUDY CELL, “*PARIPOORTI*” REPORT

Faculty Co-Ordinator-
Dr. Priya Chopde

Women's Study Cell namely, “PARIPOORTI” was established at DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College in the year 2019 with a view to appraise the need for developing structured means for protecting the rights of women. It is hoped that, this will help to ensure Women Empowerment in our society. The cell undertakes various activities in the area of women's rights, gender sensitization and women empowerment. The Cell, always remains alert to the social advancements and its impact on rights of women. Following are the details of activities undertaken by the Cell in present academic year.

AWARENESS PROGRAM

The Awareness Program was conducted on 9th March 2026 at Wadarwadi, Pune, in connection with the occasion of Women's Day celebrated on 8th March 2026. The activity was carried out by student volunteers from LL.M. 1st Year, including Aditya Gadave, Bhargavi Kulkarni, Bhavana Badlapure, Ishika Das, and Manasi Mohite, who actively participated in spreading awareness and engaging with the community.

On the occasion of International Women's Day, 2026 one-day awareness and survey programme was conducted by the Women's Study Cell of DES' Shri. Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune at Wadarwadi, Pune on 9th March, 2026. The programme was organized under the guidance of Dr. Priya Chopde, Faculty Co-ordinator of Women's Study Cell with the primary aim of spreading awareness among the local community regarding important legal provisions and welfare schemes designed for the protection and empowerment of women and children. In contemporary society, although various laws and government initiatives exist to safeguard the rights of vulnerable groups, especially women, a significant gap remains between the existence of such provisions and the level of awareness among the general public. This gap often leads to underutilization of legal remedies and welfare benefits. To address these issue, the Women's Study Cell took the initiative to bridge this gap by directly interacting with people at the

grassroots level and educating them about their rights and entitlements.

The programme specifically focused on spreading awareness about the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013 and the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. In addition to legal awareness about these laws, information regarding the 'Ladki Bahin Yojana' and various other Government Healthcare facilities available for women and children was also disseminated. The objective was not only to provide theoretical knowledge but also to ensure that individuals understood how to access these benefits and seek help in times of need. The programme combined awareness activities along with a field survey in order to assess the actual level of awareness among the community and to understand the challenges faced by women in accessing legal and social support systems.

Informational pamphlets were prepared to support verbal communication, and a structured questionnaire was designed to collect responses from the community. The volunteers were divided into small groups to ensure systematic coverage of the area and effective interaction with the residents of Wadarwadi.

On the day of the programme, the volunteers conducted door-to-door visits and engaged in face-to-face interactions with the residents. The approach adopted was participatory and interactive, which helped in building trust and encouraging people to share their views and experiences. The volunteers explained the provisions of the **Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012** by highlighting the importance of safeguarding children from sexual abuse and emphasizing the strict legal consequences for offenders. They also stressed the need for parents and guardians to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious behaviour or incidents. The concept of child-friendly legal procedures was explained in order to reduce fear and hesitation among the people regarding legal processes.

The awareness regarding the **Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013** was also an important component of the programme. The volunteers explained what constitutes sexual harassment and informed women about their rights in the workplace. They discussed the mechanism of filing complaints and the role of Internal Complaints Committees in addressing grievances. Special attention was given to women working in the informal sector, as they are often unaware of such legal protections. The volunteers made efforts to explain that every woman has the right to a safe and secure working environment, regardless of the nature of her employment.

The programme also addressed the Issue of domestic violence by explaining the provisions of the **Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005**. The volunteers clarified that domestic violence is not limited to physical abuse but also includes emotional, verbal, and economic abuse. Women were informed about their right to protection, residence, and legal assistance. The importance of speaking up against abuse and seeking help was emphasized, although it was observed that many women were hesitant to discuss such issues openly due to social stigma and fear of repercussions. Legal awareness, the volunteers provided information about the **Ladki Bahin Yojana**, which is a welfare scheme aimed at supporting women. The residents were informed about the eligibility criteria, benefits, and application process of the scheme. The volunteers also highlighted the importance of government healthcare facilities, including maternal health services, child vaccination programmes, and access to treatment at government hospitals. The aim was to ensure that women and children in the community are able to benefit from the services provided by the government.

The main outcome of the programme was the distribution of contact details of grievance redressal mechanisms. The volunteers provided information about women helpline numbers, child helpline services, police emergency contacts, and local support organizations. This step ensured that the awareness created during the programme was supported by practical resources that individuals could use in times of need. The availability of such contact information was appreciated by the residents, as it provided them with a sense of security and support.

SURVEY OF RELEVANT LAWS AND SCHEMES



The activity titled "*Survey of Relevant Laws and Schemes*" was conducted on 9th March 2026 at Wadarwadi, Pune, on the occasion of Women's Day celebrated on 8th March 2026. The programme was carried out by student volunteers from LL.M. 1st Year, namely Aditya Gadave, Bhargavi Kulkarni, Bhavana Badlapure, Ishika Das, and Manasi Mohite.

The activity involved conducting a field-based survey to assess the awareness and accessibility of various legal provisions and government schemes related to women's rights and welfare. The volunteers interacted with members of the local community, collected responses, and identified gaps in awareness regarding laws and schemes designed for protection and empowerment. The initiative aimed to bridge this gap by sensitizing the community, promoting legal awareness, and encouraging beneficiaries to make effective use of available legal and governmental support systems.

The survey was also conducted by student volunteers during the awareness programme. The survey revealed that the level of awareness among the people was relatively low. Many individuals were not aware of the provisions of the POCSO Act, 2012. Awareness regarding the POSH Act, 2023 found to be limited, especially among women working in unorganized sectors. While some respondents had a basic understanding of Domestic Violence Act, 2005. There was a noticeable reluctance to report such incidents due to social and cultural factors. Awareness about the Ladki Bahin Yojana and Government Healthcare Facilities was found to be partial, indicating the need for more effective dissemination of information.

While conducting survey several challenges were faced by the volunteers during their interactions with the community. Many individuals were hesitant to discuss sensitive topics such as sexual harassment and domestic violence. Language barriers posed minor difficulties in communication in some cases. Additionally, there was a lack of trust in legal institutions among certain sections of the population, which made it challenging to convince them about the effectiveness of legal remedies. Despite of this, the volunteers made sincere efforts to communicate effectively and ensure that the message of awareness reached as many people as possible.

The impact of the programme was positive and encouraging. It helped in increasing awareness about legal rights and Government schemes among the

residents of Wadarwadi. The interactive nature of the programme encouraged people to ask questions and seek clarification, which contributed to their better understanding. Many individuals expressed their willingness to share the information with others in their community, thereby extending the reach of the programme. The initiative also empowered women by making them aware of their rights and the support systems available to them.

The role of student volunteers was crucial in the success of the activity. Their active participation,

dedication, and effective communication skills played a significant role in achieving the objectives of the programme. The experience also provided them with an opportunity to develop a sense of social responsibility and to understand the practical challenges involved in implementing legal awareness programmes at the grassroots level. The activity was successfully conducted under the guidance of Dr. Priya Chopde, Co-ordinator of Women's Study Cell. Dr. Sunita Adhav, Principal of the institute extended support and encouragement for both the activities of the Cell.





The Thinker's Corner

04

RIGHT TO DIE: ADDRESSING LEGAL AND ETHICAL BATTLE

Dr. Priya Chopde,
Faculty, DES SNFLC, Pune

Right to life is an inalienable, inherent and primary human rights of all the human beings. Natural law jurists like John Locke, Hobbs advocated that, right to life liberty and property are the natural, inalienable rights of all individuals. Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948 recognizes these rights vide Article 3. Under the Constitution of India, Right to Life and Personal Liberty is recognized under Article 21¹ as a Fundamental Right. It is considered as the most basic right of all individuals.

Over the period of time, while ascertaining the meaning and scope of text of Article 21, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India have recognized several unremunerated rights as constituting a part and parcel of Right to life, which are not expressly mentioned under the text of the Constitution of India. According to the court, right to life means not merely to live with animal existence but it is something more than that.² It necessarily covers right to live with human dignity.³ Over the passage of time, there have been several arguments for incorporating 'right to die' within the expanse of right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. There are few instances wherein the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has interpreted 'right to die with dignity' falling within the ambit of right to life under Article 21.⁴ However, there exists arguments and counterarguments about recognizing as Fundamental Right of an individual. As, taking birth is a natural process, death should also occur naturally. It should not be within the hands of any human being to decide about exercising his right to die.

At the same time, it is acknowledged that, all human beings should exercise right to die with dignity as like right to live with dignity. However, all human beings in the society does not enjoin similar situations or conditions of life including his/her social, economic status, educational background, health conditions, mental wellbeing and many more.

Keeping this fact in mind, it is submitted that, forcing anyone for living life or not allowing anyone to end his/her life merely because one should wait for a natural death to occur both may lead to injustice. In some cases, like a patient in irreversible coma having no one in the family to look after the patient or no financial abundance to bear the expenses of medical aid could be cited as a best example for this. In such cases, enforcing obligations on the State to ensure protection to the rights of individuals will also become in vain or it could be made an obligation on the State to ensure medical care and treatment of such patients. Thus, there arises a dilemma due to legal mandate on one side and ethical concerns on the other in case of exercising right to die by any individual as a fundamental right.

Recently, we witnessed an unfortunate incidence of death of Harish Rana, who had been conferred with right to die by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.⁵ Before this, in 2018 the issue of living will was in discussion due to the judicial verdict in Common Cause v. Union of India.⁶ In 2011, a writ petition⁷ was filed for demand of euthanasia for a patient namely Aruna Shanbag who was in coma for last 36 years.

1 Article 21 of the Constitution of India, 1950 Reads as, "No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to the procedure established by law."

2 Kharak Singh v. The State of U.P., AIR 1963 SC 1295.

3 Maneka Gandhi v. Union of India, SCC

4 P. Rathinam v. Union of India, (1994) 3 SCC 394.

5 Harish Rana vs Union Of India & Ors, (March, 2026).

6 (2018) 5 SCC 1.

7 Aruna Ramachandra Shanbaug v. Union of India, (2011) 4 SCC 454.

In all such cases, judicial stand is varying due to involvement of contrasting legal and ethical concerns revolving round the very fundamental rights of individuals; right to life and right to die. In this context, let us try to understand the interdependence of different facets of law and morality involved in such cases. While looking at the situations involved in the cases like Harish Rana, Aruna Shanbag, few questions will definitely click to one's mind. Such as; is it appropriate from the perspective of morality that, right to die be recognized as a human right? Does our ethics permit us to let any living person undergo a situation of experiencing death pains every now and then without providing necessary medical treatment? Also more than this, who should take a decision about choice of life and death of a person? While finding answers to these questions, one will come across dilemma between law and morals or ethics. Through a present article, we will try to understand legal and ethical intricacies behind the same.

In fact, recognizing right to die as a human right is a very complicated area and is being discussed and debated from a long time. Earlier jurists of natural law theory were of the opinion that, right to die is not morally good while utilitarian jurists, who were the proponents of individual liberty considered this right to be included with in the scope of individual liberty and freedom. Presently, legal systems all over the world including India are now arriving at some viva media to arrive at a balanced situation of such conflicting philosophies. Recent decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India is the best example of the same, which acknowledged the notion of passive euthanasia for recognizing right to die of an individual. Passive Euthanasia is the process to end the life of a seriously ill patient so as to relieve him from sufferings. It is a processes of regulated and assisted termination of life of a patient having no hopes of recovery by withholding treatment. In such cases, doctors refrain from using life saving devices necessary to keep the patient alive but provides palliative care so as to ensure dying with dignity. It can more appropriately be called as a merciful killing of a terminally ill patient to relieve him from intractable pain or an individual in a state of irreversible coma without providing lifesaving medical aids as required otherwise. In such cases, reliance is placed on omission rather than action as in active euthanasia, wherein actively drugs are injected to an individual for ending his/her life.

Now the important thing to be taken into consideration in such cases is the authority who will take a decision to exercise right to die. When we say that, an individual has a right to life, it is the very individual who will exercise that right and can make conscious and informed choices about mode of exercise of that right as per his/her own will. On the contrary, decision in respect to right to die in the cases of terminally ill patients is not taken by the individual himself/ herself. Rather such an individual is not in a position to take a conscious decision for himself and most of the times, a decision to exercise right to die by any such individual is taken on his behalf by someone else. May be parents, next friend, a team of doctors, a panel of judges *etc.* as the individual is not in a position to take a conscious decision. In such cases of decision making, possibility of existence of conflict of interests in relation to inheriting property of a patient, gaining economic benefits or in kind, personal rivalry and many more could not be overruled. Also, it is unethical to take decision to end life of other individual. In fact, it can fall within the scope of culpable homicide as per the strict application of legal provisions. These are all ethical concerns but legal parameters are applied in its technical perspectives to ensure dignified death of such patients. In a way it shows law overcomes morals or ethics.

Now, if we try to analyze this dilemma between law and ethics, Passive euthanasia seems to be a via media to tackle the situation. Because, in case of terminally ill patients and in coma, it is their parents or next friend who are suffering simultaneously along with the patients. It is financial, emotional, physical and social struggle the patient's relatives are undergoing. Thus, after having in-depth discussion will all stakeholders involved like patient's relatives. Teams of doctors, nurses *etc.*, the judges can take a decision about terminating the life of such patients with utmost dignity. Morally speaking, it is contradictory to ethics but law considers it as legal.

Conclusion:

I order to conclude, it can be submitted that, theoretically, right to die is an essential component of right to life as also right of self-determination. In practical sense, right to die involves multiple facets like social, economic, emotional, legal and ethical perspectives. No doubt, acknowledging passive euthanasia by judiciary a via media is found out to balance all these facets but it is appropriate to cover this issue through legislative wisdom. It is therefore imperative that comprehensive legislative framework is evolved in order to concretize a person's right to die with dignity by balancing legal and ethical practicalities.

STRUGGLE AND STILLNESS IN AN AGE OF CONFLICT: AN EXPANSIVE INQUIRY

Dr. Anagha Baldota
Faculty, DES SNFLC, Pune

In the contemporary epoch, characterized by the jarring dissonance of visible wars and the quiet erosion of invisible tensions, the concept of “struggle” has migrated from the localized geography of the trenches into the very marrow of human existence. It is no longer a state defined merely by the clashing of steel or the exchange of fire; it has become a pervasive atmospheric condition. It permeates nations and neighbourhoods & boardrooms, the cold logic of global markets, and the heat of the individual heart. To speak of struggle today is to address a phenomenon that is simultaneously tectonic and microscopic a global crisis and an intimate burden.

To navigate this landscape, one must dismantle the binary of “war and peace” and instead, view struggle through a prism of multidimensionality: external and internal, structural and personal, destructive and transformative. We are tasked with understanding how human systems, be they political, economic, or psychological absorb, reflect, and ultimately transmute this turbulence.

From the vantage point of Indian philosophy, this inquiry acquires a profound resonance. Here, life is not a static destination but a dynamic play of forces where balance is a verb, not a noun. Conflict is not merely a disaster to be averted; it is a text to be interpreted. Struggle is not just an endurance test; it is a project, with a disciplined path toward insight. In this light, stillness is not the hollow absence of activity, but the vibrant presence of awareness amidst the storm.

At its visceral level, struggle manifests as the “Visible Battlefield.” These armed confrontations rewrite maps and displace millions. However, the modern battlefield has evolved into a multi-layered architecture where physical violence is often the final symptom of much deeper systemic frictions. In any modern geopolitical clash take, for instance, the shifting dynamics in Eastern

Europe or the South China Sea the struggle is never singular. It is a triad of forces, might be as below-

1. **The Strategic Battle:** The quest for territorial integrity and security.
2. **The Economic Battle:** The weaponization of trade routes, energy supplies, and microchips.
3. **The Moral Battle:** A frantic competition for the “narrative,” where legitimacy is fought for in the court of global public opinion.

The Interconnected Web

In a globalized world, the “butterfly effect” is no longer a metaphor; it is a logistical reality. A blockade in a single maritime strait or a regional drought triggered by climate-induced instability sends ripples that manifest as inflation in distant supermarkets and political unrest in unrelated capitals. Struggle, therefore, is a web. Every pull on a single thread creates a tension that vibrates across the entire structure of human civilization.

Peace, in this geopolitical theatre, is often misunderstood. It is frequently treated as a ‘signed paper’ a treaty or a ceasefire. Yet, such peace is often merely a provisional stillness, a fragile pause in a larger continuum of tension. True peace requires an architecture that addresses the underlying structural inequalities that make conflict profitable or inevitable.

While the soldier stands at the physical front, the modern professional stands at the economic front. The struggle within corporate and market systems is one of survival through adaptation. In an age of volatility, the “boardroom” has become a site of intense philosophical and operational conflict.

The Fractured Supply Chain

Modern industry relies on the “Just-in-Time” model, a system designed for a peaceful, predictable world. When conflict erupts, this efficiency becomes a liability.

The struggle here is the tension between **Efficiency and Resilience**. Leaders are forced to choose between the lowest cost and the highest security. For example, the global scramble for semiconductors highlighted how a localized tension could paralyze the global automotive and technology sectors, forcing a radical rethinking of industrial sovereignty.

The Quiet Struggle of the Individual

Within the macro-shifts lies the micro-struggle of the worker. The rise of remote work and the “gig economy” has introduced a peculiar form of isolation. While it offers a veneer of freedom, it often strips away the communal identity that once grounded labor. The struggle for the modern employee is to find purpose and “stillness” in a digital landscape that demands 24/7 availability. Here, the boundary between the “office” and the “sanctuary” has collapsed, leading to a mental health crisis that is, in itself, a form of internal warfare. The primary role of governance is to provide a “predictable environment.” However, in an age of conflict, the margin for error for public institutions narrows to a razor’s edge. Governments must now manage what is known as “Poly-crisis” the simultaneous occurrence of health, economic, and security emergencies.

The Fragility of Trust

The struggle of modern governance is fundamentally a struggle for **Legitimacy**. When a state fails to provide basic stability be it through failing infrastructure or skyrocketing living costs the societal “peace” begins to fray. We see this in the resurgence of populism and civil unrest across both developed and developing nations.

Public systems like transportation, healthcare, and energy grids are the nervous system of a nation. When they function, they create a form of “Societal Stillness” a background hum of reliability that allows citizens to plan for the future. When they fail, the resulting struggle is not just logistical; it is existential, eroding the social contract that binds a people together.

Education is perhaps the most critical arena for long-term peace-building, yet it is currently a site of profound struggle. It is here that the next generation is equipped with the tools to either perpetuate conflict or transcend it.

The Crisis of Meaning

In an era of AI and rapid technological disruption, the traditional “pathway” of education (Learn → Work

→ Retire) is breaking down. Students are struggling with a sense of obsolescence before they even enter the workforce. The pedagogical challenge is no longer just the transmission of facts, but the cultivation of **Discernment**.

In regions of active conflict, the struggle is even more fundamental: the right to learn at all. When schools are closed or curricula are weaponized for propaganda, the “stillness” required for reflection is replaced by the “noise” of indoctrination. True education requires a degree of intellectual solitude a space to sit with an idea, to question it, and to internalize it. In our hyper-connected, hyperpolarized world, protecting this space for reflection is a revolutionary act.

Nowhere is the human cost of struggle more visible than in healthcare. Whether it is the trauma of a war zone or the burnout of an overstretched metropolitan hospital, healthcare workers exist at the intersection of human fragility and systemic failure.

The Stillness of Compassion

In the midst of a crisis take the global response to a pandemic or the triage units in a besieged city the struggle is defined by scarcity: scarcity of time, medicine, and emotional bandwidth. Professionals are forced into “moral injury,” where the requirements of their job clash with their ethical desire to save everyone.

Yet, it is precisely here that we find the most moving examples of stillness. A nurse holding the hand of a dying patient, a surgeon performing a life-saving operation amidst the sound of sirens these are moments of “Profound Stillness.” They represent the triumph of the individual spirit over the chaos of the system. They remind us that empathy is not a luxury of peace, but a necessity of struggle.

The industrial world is the “engine room” of the age of conflict. The struggle here is one of **Transformation**. As we move from carbon-heavy industries to green energy and from manual labor to automation, millions of workers find themselves in a state of flux.

The Tension of Progress

Consider the transition of a coal-mining town to a renewable energy hub. While the environmental “peace” is enhanced, the “struggle” for the displaced worker is immense. This illustrates that “progress” is often a conflictual process. Industry must navigate the tension between the cold demands of productivity and

the warm requirements of human dignity. The challenge is to ensure that the “Stillness” of a green future is not built on the “Struggle” of an abandoned workforce.

Conflict often retreats from the borders and settles in the mind, manifesting as cultural polarization. In the digital age, the “Visible Battlefield” is the social media feed, where identities are sharpened into weapons.

The Indian Model of Pluralism

From an Indian perspective, the resolution to this struggle is found in the concept of **Unity in Diversity**. The Indian social fabric, though often strained, is built on the recognition that one can hold multiple identities linguistic, religious, and regional simultaneously.

The struggle in society today is the urge to “flatten” identity into a single, loyalist camp. Stillness, in a social sense, is the ability to listen to a dissenting voice without feeling that one’s own existence is threatened. It is the cultivation of a “Cultural Solitude” where one is secure enough in their own heritage to be hospitable to the heritage of the “Other.”

Ultimately, all external struggles are reflections of the inner world. The most expansive inquiry into battle must eventually turn inward. In our modern age, we are rarely “alone” but we are frequently “lonely.” We have lost the art of constructive solitude.

The Alchemy of Awareness

In many Indian philosophical traditions, such as *Vedanta* or *Yoga*, the goal is not to escape the world’s struggles but to change the vantage point from which we view them.

- **Struggle** is the churning of the ocean.
- **Stillness** is the steady axis of the mountain around which the churning happens.

Solitude is often feared because it forces us to confront our own internal conflicts, our regrets, our anxieties, and our mortality. However, if we can endure the initial discomfort of solitude, it transforms into stillness. This stillness is a state of “High-Frequency Awareness.” It is not passive; it is the “stillness” of a spinning top, so fast that it appears motionless. From this inner equilibrium, action becomes more effective because it is no longer a knee-jerk reaction to external stimuli, but a conscious response.

To integrate these dimensions is to realize that peace and struggle are not two ends of a spectrum, but two strands of a single braid.

The quintessential example of this integration is the *Bhagavad Gita*, set on a literal battlefield. Arjuna’s struggle is not just with his enemies, but also with his conscience. Krishna does not offer him a way out of the fight, but a way *through* it. He teaches that stillness is found in *Nishkama Karma*, i.e. selfless action performed without attachment to the outcome, yet with total dedication to the duty.

In our age, this means:

- The **Diplomat** seeks peace while acknowledging the reality of power.
- The **CEO** seeks profit while acknowledging the reality of ethics.
- The **Individual** seeks ambition while acknowledging the reality of the soul.

Living Fully Within the Paradox

The “Age of Conflict” does not introduce struggle to the human condition; it merely strips away our illusions of permanent stability. It reveals that the “architecture of conflict” is built into the very nature of a changing universe.

To live fully in such an age is to accept this complexity without surrendering to despair. It is to participate in the “Visible Battlefields” for justice, for climate, for economic equity while continually returning to the “Inner Sanctuary” of stillness to restore one’s perspective.

We must recognize that solitude and society are not opposing forces. We go into solitude to find the strength to be in society; we go into society to test the depth of our solitude. Struggle, then, is not an obstacle to be removed, but a medium through which we grow. Within the heart of the most intense conflict lies the possibility of a profound, evolving peace not as a distant, quiet valley we reach at the end of life, but as the very rhythm with which we walk through the fire. By acknowledging this, we do not escape the age of conflict. We learn to inhabit it with a “Steadfast Intelligence” (stoic), turning the noise of battle into the music of purposeful existence.

WAR AND PEACE AT THE CROSSROADS: A GLOBAL CHALLENGE FOR HUMANITY

Prithviraj Chavan
Faculty, DES SNFLC, Pune

Abstract

War and peace stand as the most enduring paradox of human civilisation. Despite centuries of philosophical reflection, legal architecture, and institutional innovation dedicated to the preservation of peace, armed conflict continues to ravage societies, displace populations, and destabilise the global order. This article examines the contemporary landscape of war and peace as a defining challenge for humanity. It traces the theoretical foundations of conflict and peace, interrogates the structural failings of the existing international security system, and analyses the intersection of war with poverty, climate change, nuclear proliferation, and humanitarian crises. Drawing on political theory, international law, and empirical peace research, the article argues that achieving sustainable peace requires moving beyond the mere cessation of hostilities towards a positive peace grounded in justice, development, and inclusive governance. The article concludes with a set of reform imperatives for the international community.

Keywords: war, peace, international security, armed conflict, United Nations, humanitarian intervention, nuclear proliferation, positive peace, global governance, human security.

I. Introduction

From the wars of antiquity recorded by Thucydides¹ to the drone strikes and hybrid conflicts of the twenty-first century, war has accompanied humanity at every stage

of its development. It has toppled empires, redrawn borders, extinguished cultures, and claimed hundreds of millions of lives. Yet humanity has never ceased striving for its opposite. The creation of the United Nations in 1945 and the prohibition on the unilateral use of force enshrined in its Charter² represented perhaps the most ambitious collective effort in history to place law and institution between nations and the abyss of war. Eighty years on, the question of whether that effort has succeeded or can succeed has never been more urgent. The statistics of contemporary conflict are sobering. The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute recorded 56 active armed conflicts in 2022³ the highest number since the Cold War ended. UNHCR reported that over 108 million people were forcibly displaced at the end of that year,⁴ a figure that strips away any comfortable notion that war is a pathology of the past. Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the continuing devastation of Yemen, the protracted crisis in the Sahel, and the catastrophe in Gaza remind a supposedly enlightened international community that it has not yet found the formula for durable peace.

This article examines competing theoretical frameworks for understanding the causes and persistence of war, analyses the architecture and failures of the international peace and security system, explores

1 Thucydides, History of the Peloponnesian War, trans. Rex Warner (Penguin Classics, 1972), Book I, Chapter 1. Thucydides' account of the Peloponnesian War remains a foundational text for understanding the origins of armed conflict and the failure of diplomacy in antiquity.

2 United Nations, Charter of the United Nations (1945), Article 2(4): 'All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.' This prohibition is widely regarded as the cornerstone of the post-World War II international legal order.

3 Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), SIPRI Yearbook 2023: Armaments, Disarmament and International Security (Oxford University Press, 2023), p. 11. SIPRI recorded 56 active armed conflicts in 2022, the highest number since the end of the Cold War.

4 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Global Trends: Forced Displacement in 2022 (UNHCR, Geneva, 2023), p. 2. The report documented over 108 million forcibly displaced persons worldwide at the end of 2022, a figure described as a 'sobering record.'

the nexus between armed conflict and allied global crises poverty, climate change, and nuclear proliferation, interrogates the concept of peace itself, distinguishing negative from positive peace and advances a set of reconstructive proposals.

II. Understanding War: Competing Theoretical Frameworks

No single theory adequately accounts for the causes of war. The realist tradition, most powerfully articulated by Clausewitz⁵ and elaborated in contemporary form by Mearsheimer,⁶ holds that war is an instrument of statecraft, employed when states calculate that the benefits of violence exceed its costs. On this view, the international system's anarchic structure the absence of a supreme authority capable of enforcing norms between sovereign states makes conflict not an aberration but a structural tendency. Great powers, driven by insecurity and the imperative of survival, are condemned to compete in ways that periodically produce war.

The liberal tradition offers a more optimistic diagnosis. Rooted in Kantian philosophy,⁷ liberals argue that republican governance, economic interdependence, and international institutions collectively dampen the propensity for war. The empirical democratic peace thesis, elaborated by Doyle,⁸ lends some support to this view: liberal democracies have indeed rarely fought one another. Yet the thesis leaves unanswered why democracies engage so readily in war with non-democracies and why democratic transitions can

themselves be destabilising periods of heightened conflict risk.

Mary Kaldor's account of 'new wars'⁹ adds a further dimension: the post-Cold War period has seen the rise of conflicts driven not by ideological competition between states but by identity politics, resource predation, and criminal networks. These new wars defy conventional military logic and resist resolution through the instruments of traditional diplomacy. They are fought within states as much as between them, and their victims are overwhelmingly civilian. Understanding contemporary conflict therefore requires theoretical pluralism an integration of structural, institutional, ideational, and economic explanations.

III. The International Peace Architecture: Promise and Failure

The United Nations system represents the most elaborate attempt in human history to institutionalise peace. The Security Council, vested with primary responsibility for international peace and security under the Charter, possesses formidable legal powers: it can impose sanctions, authorise peacekeeping operations, and under Chapter VII mandate the use of force. Yet its effectiveness has been chronically compromised by the veto power of the five permanent members, whose geopolitical rivalries have repeatedly paralysed the Council in precisely those crises where action was most urgently needed.

5 Carl von Clausewitz, *On War*, trans. Michael Howard and Peter Paret (Princeton University Press, 1984), Book I, Chapter 1, p. 87: 'War is merely the continuation of policy by other means.' This dictum, articulated in the early nineteenth century, remains the dominant realist framing of armed conflict in international relations theory.

6 John Mearsheimer, *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics* (W.W. Norton & Company, updated edition, 2014), p. 2. Mearsheimer argues that the anarchic structure of the international system compels great powers to compete for dominance, making conflict a near-permanent feature of world politics.

7 Immanuel Kant, *Perpetual Peace: A Philosophical Sketch* (1795), trans. H.B. Nisbet, in Hans Reiss (ed.), *Kant: Political Writings* (Cambridge University Press, 1991), p. 93. Kant's vision of a federation of free republics maintaining perpetual peace through shared republican governance laid the theoretical groundwork for liberal internationalism and, ultimately, the United Nations system.

8 Michael W. Doyle, 'Kant, Liberal Legacies, and Foreign Affairs' (1983) 12(3) *Philosophy and Public Affairs* 205. Doyle's empirical study of the 'democratic peace' thesis advanced Kant's theoretical proposition by demonstrating that liberal democracies have historically avoided war with one another, though they remain willing to engage non-democracies in armed conflict.

9 Mary Kaldor, *New and Old Wars: Organized Violence in a Global Era* (3rd edition, Polity Press, 2012), p. 1. Kaldor argues that post-Cold War conflicts constitute a qualitatively new form of organised violence, characterised by the blurring of distinctions between war, organised crime, and large-scale human rights violations, and driven by identity politics rather than ideological or geopolitical goals.

The tension between sovereignty and humanitarian intervention has been one of the defining fault lines of post-Cold War international relations. Kofi Annan famously challenged the international community to reconcile the sovereignty of states with the sovereignty of individuals,¹⁰ a challenge that produced the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) doctrine in 2001.¹¹ R2P represented a genuine normative advance: for the first time, the international community formally acknowledged that sovereignty entails responsibility, not merely rights, and that mass atrocities can justify collective intervention. Yet the doctrine's implementation has been selective and contested. Its invocation in Libya in 2011 leading to a NATO campaign that extended far beyond civilian protection produced a backlash that has made subsequent invocations deeply controversial and has emboldened states to resist any encroachment on the sovereignty shield.

The United Nations General Assembly's emergency resolution on the Russian invasion of Ukraine¹² adopted by an overwhelming majority demonstrated that the broader international community retains a commitment to the Charter's prohibition on aggressive war. Yet the resolution's moral authority was unmatched by enforcement capacity: the Security Council remained deadlocked and Ukraine could be defended only

through the ad hoc coalescence of willing states rather than through collective security mechanisms. This gap between normative aspiration and institutional capacity is perhaps the defining structural weakness of the contemporary international order.¹³

IV. War at the Intersection: Poverty, Climate, and Nuclear Danger

Armed conflict does not occur in isolation. It is simultaneously a cause and consequence of the three great structural challenges of the twenty-first century: entrenched poverty, accelerating climate change, and the continuing danger of nuclear catastrophe. The humanitarian consequences of contemporary war are staggering. In 2023, OCHA estimated that 339 million people required humanitarian assistance¹⁴ a figure driven overwhelmingly by the interaction of conflict with food insecurity, displacement, and the collapse of health systems. Paul Collier's research on the 'conflict trap'¹⁵ demonstrates that conflict and poverty form a mutually reinforcing cycle: poor countries are more vulnerable to civil war, and civil war locks countries into poverty. Breaking this cycle requires integrated responses that address economic grievance alongside political accommodation and security.

Climate change is emerging as a significant threat multiplier in conflict-prone regions.

10 Kofi Annan, 'Two Concepts of Sovereignty' *The Economist*, 18 September 1999. Annan's article articulated the tension between state sovereignty and humanitarian intervention, arguing that both the individual and the state are sovereign in their respective domains and that egregious human rights violations can justify international action.

11 International Commission on Intervention and State Sovereignty (ICISS), *The Responsibility to Protect* (International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, 2001). The R2P doctrine holds that sovereignty is not a shield for atrocity crimes and that the international community bears a responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity.

12 United Nations General Assembly Resolution ES-11/1 (2 March 2022), 'Aggression against Ukraine,' adopted by 141 votes to 5, with 35 abstentions. The resolution demanded the immediate cessation of the Russian Federation's military operations in Ukraine and the withdrawal of all Russian military forces.

13 Henry Kissinger, *World Order* (Penguin Press, 2014), p. 371. Kissinger argues that the contemporary international order faces a unique challenge in that no single state or coalition possesses the combination of legitimacy and power necessary to sustain a stable global order, producing a vacuum in which conflicts proliferate.

14 Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), *Global Humanitarian Overview 2023* (United Nations, 2023), p. 4. OCHA estimated that 339 million people required humanitarian assistance in 2023, driven primarily by armed conflict, climate disasters, and economic instability.

15 Paul Collier, *The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries Are Failing and What Can Be Done About It* (Oxford University Press, 2007), p. 27. Collier identifies the 'conflict trap' as one of four key traps holding the poorest nations back, demonstrating that countries emerging from civil war face a roughly 50 per cent probability of returning to conflict within a decade.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has warned that rising temperatures, intensifying droughts, and increasing competition over scarce water and agricultural resources are projected to heighten conflict risks substantially.¹⁶ Across the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, and South and Southeast Asia, communities already stressed by governance failures and inequality face the additional burden of climate-induced resource scarcity. The Global Peace Index consistently reflects a deteriorating trend in global peacefulness,¹⁷ a trend that cannot be reversed without addressing the environmental drivers of instability. The nuclear dimension of global insecurity demands separate and urgent attention.

The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons¹⁸ has prevented the worst predictions of mid-twentieth-century proliferation pessimists from being realised, but it has also enabled nuclear-weapon states to avoid fulfilling their disarmament obligations under Article VI. The contemporary deterioration of arms control architecture including the collapse of the INF Treaty and uncertainty over the future of New START combined with nuclear posturing in the context of the Ukraine war and heightened tensions in East Asia, has brought the world closer to the nuclear threshold than at any point since the Cuban Missile Crisis. A world in which nuclear deterrence fails is a world without a second chance.

V. Rethinking Peace: From Negative to Positive

Johan Galtung's foundational distinction between negative peace the mere absence of direct violence and positive peace the presence of social justice and structural conditions that prevent violence¹⁹ has profoundly shaped how peace researchers and practitioners conceptualise their task. A ceasefire that silences guns without addressing the grievances that prompted them is, on this view, not peace but a pause in conflict. The history of post-conflict societies bears this out: countries emerging from war face a roughly 50 per cent probability of relapse within a decade,²⁰ precisely because negative peace the end of fighting has not been accompanied by positive peace the resolution of the underlying structural tensions.

The concept of human security, introduced by the UNDP's landmark 1994 Human Development Report,²¹ operationalises the vision of positive peace at the individual level. By shifting the referent of security from the state to the person, and by encompassing economic security, food security, health security, and environmental security alongside freedom from physical violence, the human security framework insists that a person who lives without fear of violence but also without access to adequate food, healthcare, or political participation is not truly secure. This expansive conception of security provides the analytical framework for understanding why military victory alone cannot deliver lasting peace.

16 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), *Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability — Summary for Policymakers* (Cambridge University Press, 2022), p. 9. The IPCC warned that climate-related security risks, including conflict over scarce water and agricultural resources, are projected to intensify significantly under higher warming scenarios.

17 Institute for Economics and Peace, *Global Peace Index 2023* (IEP, Sydney, 2023), p. 2. The GPI measures the relative peacefulness of nations across 23 indicators encompassing societal safety, ongoing conflict, and militarisation. The 2023 report found that global peacefulness deteriorated for the twelfth time in fifteen years.

18 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), 1 July 1968, 729 UNTS 161. The NPT remains the centrepiece of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime. Article VI obligates nuclear-weapon states to pursue negotiations in good faith towards complete nuclear disarmament, an obligation critics argue has been chronically unfulfilled.

19 Johan Galtung, 'Violence, Peace, and Peace Research' (1969) 6(3) *Journal of Peace Research* 167. Galtung introduced the influential distinction between 'negative peace' (the mere absence of direct violence) and 'positive peace' (the presence of social justice, equity, and structural conditions that prevent violence). This framework has fundamentally shaped peace studies as an academic discipline.

20

21 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), *Human Development Report 1994: New Dimensions of Human Security* (Oxford University Press, 1994). The 1994 HDR pioneered the concept of 'human security,' shifting the referent of security from the state to the individual and encompassing economic, food, health, environmental, personal, community, and political dimensions of security.

Gender justice is indispensable to any credible conception of positive peace. Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security²² established the international normative framework for women's equal participation in peace processes and post-conflict reconstruction. Evidence consistently demonstrates that peace agreements are more durable when women are meaningfully involved in their negotiation. Yet the implementation of Resolution 1325 and its successor resolutions remain deeply inadequate: women represent a minority of negotiators in formal peace processes, and the specific protection needs of women and girls in conflict including protection from sexual violence as a weapon of war continue to be addressed as an afterthought rather than a priority.

Amartya Sen's capabilities approach²³ provides the deepest theoretical grounding for positive peace. Sen argues that development understood as the expansion of substantive human freedoms is both the primary end of political life and the principal means of achieving it. On this view, durable peace is not a precondition for development; it is inseparable from it. Societies in which people enjoy political freedom, economic security, social opportunities, and protective guarantees are societies with both the capacity and the incentive to resolve disputes peacefully. Conversely, societies marked by deprivation, exclusion, and injustice will always contain the seeds of violent conflict.

VI. Reform Imperatives for a Peaceful World Order

The foregoing analysis points to a set of concrete reform imperatives. First, the United Nations Security Council must be reformed to reflect the realities of twenty-first-century power and to reduce the paralyzing effect of great-power vetoes in mass atrocity situations. While comprehensive Charter amendment faces formidable political obstacles, intermediate measures such as a voluntary code of conduct on veto use in cases of genocide and crimes against humanity could meaningfully enhance the Council's capacity to act in the most egregious cases.

²² United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security. The resolution was the first to formally recognise the disproportionate impact of armed conflict on women and girls and to call for the full and equal participation of women in peace processes, peacekeeping, and post-conflict reconstruction.

²³ Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom* (Oxford University Press, 1999), p. 8. Sen's capabilities approach to development provides a theoretical foundation for the argument that durable peace requires not merely the cessation of violence but the expansion of substantive freedoms — political, economic, and social — that allow individuals to live lives they have reason to value.

Second, investment in conflict prevention must be dramatically scaled up. The evidence is unambiguous: prevention is far less costly in human, economic, and political terms than conflict response. This requires sustained funding for early warning systems, mediation capacity, and the structural development programmes that address the root causes of conflict before they ignite. The United Nations Peacebuilding Commission, established in 2005, has the mandate but not the resources or political backing to fulfil this role effectively.

Third, the nuclear arms control architecture must be rebuilt and extended. The resumption of strategic dialogue between the United States and Russia, and the expansion of arms control frameworks to include China, India, and Pakistan, are urgent necessities rather than optional diplomatic courtesies. The humanitarian consequences of any nuclear exchange even a limited regional one would be catastrophic and global in their reach. Preventing such an exchange must rank as the highest priority of international diplomacy.

Fourth, the international community must integrate climate security into its peace and security frameworks. The Security Council's repeated failure to adopt climate-security resolutions reflects a political will deficit that will exact an enormous price in future conflicts. Climate adaptation funding, particularly for the most vulnerable countries, is not merely a development priority — it is a peace and security imperative.

Fifth, and most fundamentally, the international community must commit to positive peace as its governing objective. This means taking seriously the obligations of international human rights law, advancing economic justice within and between nations, and ensuring that the benefits of global economic integration are more equitably distributed. A world in which extreme poverty persists alongside extreme wealth, in which climate change disproportionately burdens those least responsible for it, and in which the voices of the most affected communities are systematically excluded from the decisions that shape their lives, is a world that will continue to generate the grievances from which conflict springs.

VII. Conclusion

War and peace remain at the crossroads because humanity has not yet made a definitive collective choice between them. The institutional machinery for peace exists; the normative framework is in place; the evidence for what works is available. What is lacking is the sustained political will to invest in peace with the same energy and resources that states invest in the preparation for war. The twenty-first century has placed new instruments of destruction in the hands of both states and non-state actors' cyber capabilities, autonomous weapons, hypersonic missiles even as the traditional tools of diplomacy and international law strain to keep pace. The window for effective action

on nuclear proliferation and climate-related conflict drivers is narrowing. The human cost of continuing inaction is paid not by policymakers in the capitals of great powers but by civilians in the cities and villages of the world's most conflict-affected societies. Achieving peace is not a utopian aspiration. It is a practical and moral necessity the condition without which no other human achievement is secure, and no other human potential can be fully realised. The challenge of war and peace is, ultimately, the challenge of whether humanity is willing to govern itself by reason and law rather than by force. The answer to that question will determine not merely the character of the twenty-first century, but the prospects for a human civilisation worthy of the name.



युद्धजन्य परिस्थितीत प्रेमाचा दुष्काळ : अमेरिका-इराण संघर्ष, सामाजिक मानसिकता आणि प्रेम शिकवण्याची गरज

संदिप बोरसे,
समाजशास्त्र अभ्यासक,
श्री. नवलमल फिरोदिया लॉ कॉलेज, पुणे

आजच्या जागतिक वास्तवात आपण एका अशा टप्प्यावर उभे आहोत, जिथे युद्ध ही केवळ राजकीय किंवा लष्करी घटना राहिलेली नाही, तर ती मानवी जीवनाच्या प्रत्येक स्तराला स्पर्श करणारी आणि समाजाच्या मूलभूत रचनेलाही हादरवणारी प्रक्रिया बनली आहे. विशेषतः 2026 मधील अमेरिका-इराण संघर्ष हा या बदलत्या जगाचा एक महत्त्वपूर्ण संदर्भ ठरतो. या संघर्षामुळे केवळ भौतिक विनाश झाला नाही, तर मानवी भावना, नातेसंबंध आणि सामाजिक मानसिकता यांनाही खोलवर जखमा झाल्या. युद्धामुळे शहरं उद्ध्वस्त होतात, अर्थव्यवस्था ढासळते, लोक विस्थापित होतात परंतु या सर्वांपेक्षा अधिक गंभीर नुकसान होते ते म्हणजे मानवी मनातील प्रेम, सहानुभूती आणि विश्वासाचा न्हास. म्हणूनच “युद्धजन्य परिस्थितीत प्रेमाचा दुष्काळ” हा केवळ भावनिक मुद्दा नसून एक गंभीर सामाजिक आणि मानसिक संकट म्हणून समोर येतो.

अमेरिका-इराण संघर्षाच्या पार्श्वभूमीवर आपण पाहतो की युद्धाची सुरुवात राजकीय मतभेदांपासून होते, परंतु त्याचे परिणाम सामान्य नागरिकांच्या जीवनावर सर्वाधिक होतात. सततचे हवाई हल्ले, क्षेपणास्त्रांचे स्फोट, संचारबंदी, वीज व इंटरनेट खंडित होणे, अन्न-पाण्याची टंचाई या सर्व गोष्टींमुळे लोकांच्या जीवनात अस्थिरता आणि भीती निर्माण होते. अशा परिस्थितीत माणूस “survival mode” मध्ये जातो, जिथे त्याचे सर्व लक्ष केवळ जगण्यावर केंद्रित होते. परिणामी, प्रेम, जिन्हाळा आणि सहानुभूती या भावना माने पडतात. लोक भावनिकदृष्ट्या स्वतःला बंद करून घेतात, कारण त्यांना पुन्हा गमावण्याची भीती वाटते. हीच प्रक्रिया हळूहळू समाजात “प्रेमाचा दुष्काळ” निर्माण करते.

युद्धाचा सर्वात मोठा परिणाम सामाजिक मानसिकतेवर होतो. अमेरिका-इराण संघर्षामुळे लोकांच्या मनात भीती, संशय आणि अविश्वास या भावना प्रबळ झाल्या आहेत. समाजात “आपण विरुद्ध ते” अशी विभागणी निर्माण होते. लोक एकमेकांकडे माणूस म्हणून न पाहता “शत्रू” म्हणून पाहू लागतात. ही मानसिकता केवळ युद्धग्रस्त भागापुरती मर्यादित राहत नाही, तर ती जागतिक पातळीवर पसरते. माध्यमे, राजकीय भाष्य आणि राष्ट्रवादी विचारसरणी यामुळे ही विभागणी अधिक तीव्र होते. परिणामी, सहानुभूती कमी होते आणि समाज अधिक कठोर, आक्रमक आणि असंवेदनशील बनतो. अशा परिस्थितीत प्रेम ही भावना दुर्बलतेचे प्रतीक वाटू लागते आणि लोक तिला जाणीवपूर्वक दडपून टाकतात.

युद्धामुळे “मानवीकरणाचा अभाव” (dehumanization) ही प्रक्रिया वाढते. जेव्हा लोक सतत हिंसा अनुभवतात, तेव्हा ते दुसऱ्यांच्या

वेदनांकडे दुर्लक्ष करू लागतात. अमेरिका-इराण संघर्षातही हे दिसून येते की नागरिकांच्या दुःखापेक्षा युद्धातील “रणनीतिक यश” अधिक महत्वाचे ठरते. यामुळे समाजात संवेदनशून्यता वाढते. लोक दुसऱ्यांच्या दुःखाशी जोडले जात नाहीत, आणि हळूहळू प्रेमाची जागा तिरस्कार आणि उदासीनता घेतात. हीच मानसिकता पुढे जाऊन सामाजिक विघटनाला कारणीभूत ठरते.

कुटुंब आणि नातेसंबंधांवर युद्धाचा परिणाम अत्यंत खोलवर होतो. हजारे कुटुंबे तुटतात, प्रियजनांचा मृत्यू होतो, आणि अनेक कुटुंबे विस्थापित होतात. अशा परिस्थितीत नात्यांमध्ये भावनिक दुरावा निर्माण होतो. लोक स्वतःच्या भावनांना दडपून ठेवतात, कारण त्यांना पुन्हा गमावण्याची भीती वाटते. परिणामी, प्रेम व्यक्त करण्याची क्षमता कमी होते आणि नात्यांमध्ये रिक्तता निर्माण होते. ही रिक्तता समाजातही दिसून येते, जिथे लोक एकमेकांपासून दूर जातात आणि संवाद कमी होतो.

युद्धाचा सर्वाधिक परिणाम मुलांवर होतो, आणि याच ठिकाणी सामाजिक मानसिकतेतील बदल अधिक गंभीर ठरतो. युद्धाच्या छायेत वाढणारी मुले हिंसा, भीती आणि असुरक्षिततेचा अनुभव घेतात. त्यांच्यासाठी प्रेम, विश्वास आणि सुरक्षितता या संकल्पना दुर्बल होतात. अशा वातावरणात वाढलेली पिढी मोठी झाल्यावर समाजात आक्रमकता, असहिष्णुता आणि अविश्वास वाढवते. त्यामुळे समाजाची सामूहिक मानसिकता अधिक कठोर बनते आणि प्रेमाचा दुष्काळ पुढील पिढ्यांपर्यंत पोहोचतो.

याच पार्श्वभूमीवर एक अत्यंत महत्वाचा प्रश्न उभा राहतो या परिस्थितीत समाजाला पुन्हा प्रेम कसे शिकवायचे? युद्धाने निर्माण केलेल्या या भावनिक आणि सामाजिक पोकळीला भरून काढण्यासाठी “प्रेमाचे शिक्षण” (teaching of love) ही आजची सर्वात मोठी गरज आहे. कारण प्रेम ही केवळ वैयक्तिक भावना नसून ती एक सामाजिक कौशल्य (social skill) आहे, जी शिकवता येते, विकसित करता येते आणि समाजात रुजवता येते.

प्रेम शिकवण्याची प्रक्रिया शिक्षण व्यवस्थेपासून सुरू झाली पाहिजे. शाळांमध्ये केवळ माहिती देण्यावर भर न देता विद्यार्थ्यांना सहानुभूती, विविधतेचा आदर, शांतता आणि सहजीवन यांचे शिक्षण दिले पाहिजे. “peace education” आणि “value education” यांना अभ्यासक्रमाचा महत्वाचा भाग बनवले पाहिजे. विद्यार्थ्यांना दुसऱ्यांच्या भावना समजून घेणे, संवाद साधणे आणि संघर्ष सोडवणे या कौशल्यांची शिकवण दिली पाहिजे. कारण जर पुढील पिढीला प्रेम आणि सहानुभूती शिकवली नाही, तर युद्धाचा दुष्परिणाम कायम राहील.

कुटुंब हे प्रेम शिकवण्याचे पहिले आणि सर्वात महत्वाचे स्थान आहे. पालकांनी मुलांना केवळ शिस्त किंवा यशाचे धडे न देता, सहानुभूती, समजूतदारपणा आणि आदर यांची शिकवण दिली पाहिजे. संवाद हा कुटुंबातील नातेसंबंधांचा आधार असला पाहिजे. मुलांना त्यांच्या भावना व्यक्त करण्याची मोकळीक दिली पाहिजे. कारण ज्या कुटुंबात प्रेम आणि संवाद असतो, तेथूनच संवेदनशील आणि जबाबदार नागरिक घडतात.

समाज आणि माध्यमांचीही या प्रक्रियेत महत्वाची भूमिका आहे. माध्यमांनी युद्धाचे glorification करण्याऐवजी मानवी दृष्टिकोन मांडला पाहिजे. समाजाने द्वेषाऐवजी संवाद आणि सहकार्याला प्रोत्साहन दिले पाहिजे. विविध धर्म, जात आणि संस्कृती यांच्यातील संवाद वाढवला पाहिजे. कारण प्रेम ही केवळ वैयक्तिक भावना नसून ती एक सामाजिक मूल्य आहे, जी समाजाला एकत्र ठेवते.

जागतिक पातळीवरही प्रेम आणि शांततेची मूल्ये रुजवणे आवश्यक आहे. राष्ट्रांनी युद्धाऐवजी संवादाचा मार्ग स्वीकारला पाहिजे.

आंतरराष्ट्रीय संस्थांनी शांततेसाठी प्रयत्न केले पाहिजेत. कारण युद्ध थांबवणे ही केवळ राजकीय गरज नाही, तर ती मानवी गरज आहे. जर आपण युद्ध थांबवले नाही, तर प्रेमाचा दुष्काळ अधिक तीव्र होईल आणि समाज अधिक असंवेदनशील बनेल.

शेवटी, अमेरिका-इराण संघर्ष आपल्याला एक महत्वाचा धडा शिकवतो युद्ध आपल्याला केवळ विनाश देते, तर प्रेम आपल्याला जीवन देते. त्यामुळे आजच्या या युद्धजन्य परिस्थितीत प्रेम शिकवणे ही केवळ एक नैतिक जबाबदारी नसून ती एक सामाजिक गरज आहे. कारण शेवटी, युद्ध माणसांना तोडते, पण प्रेमच त्यांना पुन्हा जोडते. जर आपण भविष्यातील समाज अधिक मानवी, अधिक संवेदनशील आणि अधिक शांततामय बनवायचा असेल, तर आपल्याला आजच प्रेम शिकवायला सुरुवात करावी लागेल. अन्यथा, युद्धाच्या छायेत वाढणारा हा “प्रेमाचा दुष्काळ” मानवतेसाठी सर्वात मोठे संकट ठरेल.



INSTITUTIONAL LONGEVITY VS. GEOPOLITICAL REALITY: THE UN AT 80

Sumit Tak
Faculty, DES SNFLC, Pune

In 1945, as the world emerged from the devastation of the Second World War, the creation of the United Nations (UN) represented a bold and hopeful experiment. It was designed not merely as another international organization, but as a permanent forum where nations could resolve disputes peacefully and collectively safeguard global security. Eighty years later, the UN still stands an enduring symbol of cooperation in an often divided world. Yet, its longevity also invites a more difficult question: has the institution kept pace with the geopolitical realities of the 21st century? The survival of the UN over eight decades is, in itself, remarkable. Few global institutions have maintained such continuity in the face of shifting political landscapes, ideological conflicts, and technological transformations. From the Cold War era to the present multipolar world, the UN has adapted, expanded, and evolved in many ways. Its membership has grown from 51 countries in 1945 to nearly universal representation today. It has developed a vast network of specialized agencies, peacekeeping missions, and humanitarian programs. In many respects, the UN has become an indispensable part of the global governance architecture.

However, institutional longevity does not automatically translate into effectiveness. The world of 1945, in which the UN was conceived, was fundamentally different from today's geopolitical environment. The post-war order was dominated by a handful of powerful states, and the UN's structure reflected that reality. The Security Council, with its five permanent members and veto power, was designed to ensure that major powers remained engaged in maintaining peace. At the time, this arrangement was seen as a pragmatic compromise. Today, however, this very structure is often viewed as a source of dysfunction. The concentration of power in the hands of a few countries has led to repeated deadlocks, particularly when the interests of permanent members clash. In an increasingly multipolar world

where emerging powers demand a greater voice the legitimacy of this arrangement is frequently questioned. Countries from Asia, Africa, and Latin America argue that the current system does not adequately represent contemporary global realities. This tension between institutional design and geopolitical change is at the heart of the UN's challenges. The organization was built to manage conflicts between states, yet many of today's conflicts are internal, involving civil wars, insurgencies, and non-state actors. These situations are far more complex and often fall outside the traditional frameworks of international law. As a result, the UN's mechanisms particularly peacekeeping operations are stretched to their limits.

At the same time, geopolitical rivalries have re-emerged in new forms. The relative stability of the post-Cold War period has given way to renewed competition among major powers. Strategic interests, economic competition, and ideological differences often shape international responses to crises. In such an environment, achieving consensus within the UN becomes increasingly difficult. The institution's ability to act decisively is often constrained by the very divisions it seeks to manage. Yet, it would be misleading to view the UN solely through the lens of its limitations. Its longevity also reflects its resilience and continued relevance. The UN has played a critical role in preventing large-scale global conflict, providing humanitarian assistance, and promoting international cooperation on issues ranging from climate change to public health. It has created norms and frameworks that guide state behaviour, even when compliance is imperfect. One of the UN's most significant contributions has been its role as a platform for dialogue. In a fragmented world, the ability to bring nations together even those with deeply opposing views is invaluable. The UN offers a space where diplomacy can take place, where tensions can be managed, and where collective responses can be

negotiated. This function, though often overlooked, is central to maintaining a degree of global stability. The UN has expanded its understanding of peace and security. It no longer focuses solely on preventing armed conflict but also addresses the underlying causes of instability. Issues such as poverty, inequality, human rights violations, and climate change are now recognized as integral to global peace. Initiatives like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) reflect this broader vision, emphasizing that lasting peace requires sustainable and inclusive development.

However, the gap between ambition and implementation remains a persistent challenge. While the UN sets global agendas and standards, their realization depends on the political will and resources of member states. In many cases, commitments made at the international level are not fully translated into action at the national level. This disconnect weakens the effectiveness of the institution and raises questions about accountability. Reform has long been a recurring theme in discussions about the UN's future. Proposals to expand the Security Council, limit the use of the veto, and enhance the representation of developing countries have been debated for decades. While there is broad agreement on the need for change, consensus on how to achieve it remains elusive. The very countries that hold the power to implement reforms are often reluctant to alter a system that benefits them. This highlights a deeper reality: the UN is not an independent actor but a reflection of its member states. Its strengths and weaknesses mirror the collective priorities and divisions of the international community. Expecting the UN to transcend these dynamics may be unrealistic. Instead, its effectiveness must be understood in the context of the

broader geopolitical environment.

As the UN marks its 80th anniversary, it stands at a critical juncture. The challenges it faces are more complex and interconnected than ever before. From emerging technologies and cyber threats to climate-induced conflicts and global health crises, the scope of its responsibilities continues to expand. At the same time, geopolitical tensions threaten to undermine the spirit of cooperation that underpins its existence. The way forward requires both institutional adaptation and renewed political commitment. The

UN must become more responsive, inclusive, and capable of addressing contemporary challenges. At the same time, member states must recognize that collective problems require collective solutions. The alternative fragmentation and unilateralism risks exacerbating global instability. In reflecting on the UN at 80, it is important to balance realism with hope. The institution is far from perfect, but

it remains one of the few mechanisms through which the international community can work together. Its longevity is not just a sign of endurance but also a reminder of the enduring need for cooperation in a divided world. The tension between institutional longevity and geopolitical reality is not something that can be fully resolved. It is an ongoing process of adjustment, negotiation, and compromise. The UN's future will depend not only on its ability to reform but also on the willingness of nations to invest in the idea of a shared global order. Eighty years ago, the UN was created to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. That mission remains as relevant today as it was then. The question is whether the world, in all its complexity and division, is still prepared to support the institution that was built to achieve it.



80 YEARS OF THE UN: WHY WE STILL CAN'T STOP WAR

Saurabh Jadhav
Faculty, DES SNFLC, Pune

When the United Nations was created in 1945, the world was exhausted. The scars of the Second World War were still fresh millions dead, cities destroyed, and humanity shaken to its core. The UN was born out of a simple but powerful hope: that such devastation should never happen again. It promised a future where nations would talk instead of fight, where disputes would be settled through dialogue, not destruction. Eighty years later, that hope still exists but so do wars. From ongoing regional conflicts to sudden outbreaks of violence, the world continues to struggle with the same question: if we have an institution dedicated to peace, why are we still unable to prevent war? Part of the answer lies in how the UN itself is structured. At the heart of its decision-making is the Security Council, where five powerful countries—the United States, Russia, China, the United Kingdom, and France—hold permanent seats and the power to veto decisions. This was designed to keep major powers engaged and prevent another global war. But in practice, it often creates deadlock. When these countries disagree and they frequently do, the UN is unable to act decisively. Conflicts continue, not because solutions are impossible, but because agreement is. But the problem goes deeper than structure. The UN does not exist above countries; it depends on them. Every nation that is part of the UN also protects its own interests first. This is the reality of international politics. Unlike a national government, the UN cannot enforce laws in the same way. It cannot compel powerful nations to follow its resolutions if they choose not to. When countries act unilaterally or ignore international norms, the UN can do little more than condemn or negotiate. Another reason war persists is that warfare itself has changed. Today, many conflicts are not fought between countries but within them. Civil wars, insurgencies, and conflicts involving non-state actors such as terrorist groups are far more complex than traditional wars. These actors often do not follow international law, making it difficult for the UN to intervene effectively.

Peacekeeping missions, once seen as a solution, now operate in dangerous and uncertain conditions where peace does not truly exist.

The global balance of power has also shifted. When the UN was formed, a few dominant countries largely shaped global decisions. Today, the world is more multipolar. Emerging powers are asserting themselves, and different regions have their own priorities and perspectives. While this diversity can be a strength, it also makes consensus harder. Reaching agreement among so many competing interests is a slow and often frustrating process. We also cannot ignore the role of economics. Conflicts are not always just about ideology or territory; they are often tied to resources, trade, and power. The global arms industry continues to thrive, and economic rivalries can fuel tensions between nations. In many cases, the very countries expected to promote peace are also deeply involved in the systems that sustain conflict. And yet, it would be unfair to say that the UN has failed. For all its limitations, the UN has helped prevent another world war. That alone is no small achievement. It has played a role in resolving disputes, supporting peace agreements, and providing humanitarian aid to millions. Its peacekeeping missions, though imperfect, have brought stability to several regions. The UN has also created a platform where countries can come together, speak, and negotiate even when they strongly disagree. Perhaps the real issue is not that the UN has failed, but that we expect it to do what it was never fully empowered to do. The UN reflects the world as it is, not as we wish it to be. It cannot rise above the political realities of its member states. If countries are divided, the UN will be divided. If nations prioritize power over peace, the UN will struggle to uphold its ideals. So where does that leave us?

If the goal is to reduce war, the answer does not lie only in reforming the UN though reform is certainly needed. There have been growing calls to make the

Security Council more representative, to limit the use of the veto, and to strengthen international law. These changes could make the UN more effective, but they require the very countries that benefit from the current system to agree to change it a difficult task. At a deeper level, preventing war means addressing its root causes. Poverty, inequality, political instability, and even climate change can all contribute to conflict. The UN has recognized this through initiatives like the Sustainable Development Goals, which aim to create a more just and stable world. Peace is not just the absence of war it is the presence of fairness, opportunity, and dignity. There is also a growing understanding that peace is not something that can be imposed from above. It must be built from within societies. Civil society groups, local communities, and ordinary individuals all have a role to play. Promoting dialogue, tolerance, and understanding

at the grassroots level can be just as important as high-level diplomacy.

As the UN marks its 80th anniversary, it stands at a crossroads. It remains one of humanity's most important institutions, yet it faces criticism, challenges, and growing expectations. The question is not just whether the UN can change, but whether the world is willing to change with it. In the end, the persistence of war is not only a failure of institutions it is a reflection of human choices. The UN can provide a platform, a voice, and a framework for peace, but it cannot force nations to act against their will. Eighty years ago, the world chose cooperation over chaos and created the United Nations. Today, the challenge is not just to preserve that vision, but to renew it. Because the real question is not why we still can't stop war but whether we are ready to truly choose peace.



THE SHADOW WAR AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD

Chinmay Powar
Faculty, DES SNFLC, Pune

Forget the deserts of the Middle East or the contested reefs of the South China Sea. The next great arena for global power is a vast, white expanse at the top of the world. The Arctic is melting at nearly four times the global average, and as the ice recedes, it is breaking the surface on a new Cold War. However, unlike the 20th-century standoff defined by nuclear brinkmanship and iron curtains, this conflict is being shaped by bathymetric maps, seabed drills, and a scramble for legal sovereignty.

The rulebook for avoiding a catastrophic clash in the high north might not come from a 19th-century history book or traditional maritime doctrine. Instead, it might come from the law written for the stars. This is the chilling, yet hopeful, argument from experts like

The Players and the Prize: A \$30 Trillion Gamble

The Arctic is no longer an impassable wasteland protected by a permanent shield of frost. It is a treasure chest, and the world's major powers are reaching for their keys with increasing urgency. To understand the stakes, one must look at the specific geopolitical manoeuvres currently unfolding on the ice.

Russia: The Polar Hegemon Russia is playing for keeps. Moscow views the Arctic as its strategic backyard and its economic future. It has reopened over 50 Soviet-era military bases, including airfields and search-and-rescue centers, stretching from the Kola Peninsula to the Bering Strait. Russia maintains a fleet of over 40 icebreakers—several of which are nuclear-powered—dwarfing the capabilities of any other nation. Beyond military posturing, Moscow has laid an ambitious claim to 1.2 million square kilometers of the Arctic seabed, asserting that the **Lomonosov Ridge** is an extension of its continental shelf. If granted, this would give Russia exclusive rights to the vast resources at the North Pole itself.

China: The “Near-Arctic” Disruptor China, though its nearest coastline is 900 miles away from the Arctic Circle, has declared itself a “Near-Arctic State.”

This self-appointed title reflects Beijing's long-term “Polar Silk Road” initiative. China has invested billions into Arctic research, infrastructure, and mining projects across Greenland, Canada, and Russia. By financing Russian Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) projects like Yamal, China is securing its energy future while ensuring it has a seat at the table when Arctic governance is discussed.

The West: Scrambling to Pivot The United States, Canada, and Nordic NATO members are in a period of rapid catching-up. The U.S. has recently reactivated its 11th Airborne Division in Alaska and is finally investing in new “Polar Security Cutters” (icebreakers) after decades of neglect. Canada continues to assert its sovereignty over the Northwest Passage, which it considers internal waters—a claim challenged not just by Russia, but by its own ally, the United States.

The prize driving this friction is immense. Estimates suggest the Arctic contains:

- **90 billion barrels of oil** (13% of the world's undiscovered reserves).
- **1,669 trillion cubic feet of natural gas** (30% of undiscovered gas).
- **\$1 trillion worth of critical minerals**, including gold, platinum, and rare earth elements essential for the green energy transition.
- **The Northern Sea Route (NSR):** A maritime artery that could cut shipping time from Asia to Europe by up to 40% compared to the Suez Canal route.

The Problem with Old Rules: The UNCLOS Trap

Right now, this high-stakes game is governed by the **United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)**. While UNCLOS is a robust framework for the open ocean, it inadvertently fuels a race for sovereignty in the Arctic.

Under UNCLOS, coastal states have an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 200 nautical miles. However, they can claim rights to the seabed further out if they can prove their continental shelf extends beyond that limit. This has turned Arctic diplomacy into a “battle of the scientists,” where nations spend millions on deep-sea mapping to justify land grabs. It is a system built on national ownership and “flag-planting.” In a fragile environment, this is a recipe for a “tragedy of the commons,” where individual nations exploit resources to the detriment of the global climate and regional stability.

An Unexpected Rulebook from 1967: The Outer Space Model

What if we have been looking at this all wrong? What if the solution isn't to draw more lines on a map, but to adopt a philosophy that erases them? This is where space law offers a revolutionary alternative.

In 1967, at the height of the original Cold War and the Space Race, the world's superpowers negotiated the **Outer Space Treaty (OST)**. They realized that if the U.S. and the USSR began carving up the Moon into colonies, a nuclear war was inevitable. To prevent this, they declared that the cosmos was the “**province of all mankind.**” The OST rests on three pillars that Asst. Prof. Powar argues are perfectly applicable to the Arctic:

1. **Non-Appropriation:** Article II of the OST states that outer space is not subject to national appropriation by claim of sovereignty. If applied to the central Arctic Ocean (the area beyond current EEZs), this would immediately halt the destabilizing race to “own” the North Pole.
2. **Peaceful Purposes:** The treaty bans the placement of weapons of mass destruction in orbit and mandates that celestial bodies be used exclusively for peaceful purposes. Applying this to the Arctic would mean a hard “demilitarization zone” rather than the current remilitarization.
3. **The Benefit of All:** Activities must be carried out for the benefit and in the interests of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development.

The Antarctic Precedent: It's Not a Fantasy

Critics often argue that the “Global Commons” approach is idealistic. However, we already have a

working proof of concept on Earth: **The Antarctic Treaty System (ATS)**.

Signed in 1959, the ATS is a direct sibling to the philosophy of space law. It froze all territorial claims (including those by the UK, Chile, and Argentina), banned military activity, and dedicated the entire continent to peace and science. For over 60 years, despite the Cold War and various global tensions, Antarctica has remained a pristine zone of international collaboration.

If we can successfully manage an entire continent through a “no-ownership” model, why can't we do the same for the waters of the High Arctic?

India's Strategic Role: The Polar-Space Bridge

India, while not an Arctic coastal state, is positioning itself as a crucial stakeholder. New Delhi's interest is not merely academic; it is driven by the “**Third Pole**”—the Himalayan glaciers. The melting of the Arctic significantly impacts the Indian Monsoon and global sea levels, making Arctic stability a matter of Indian national security.

India's greatest contribution to this “Space-Arctic” framework is its technological prowess. The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** provides world-class satellite-based Earth observation data.

Tool/Satellite	Function in Arctic Monitoring
RISAT Series	Radar imaging that sees through Arctic clouds and darkness to monitor ice thickness.
Oceansat	Monitors sea surface temperatures and chlorophyll, vital for Arctic ecosystem health.
NISAR (NASA-ISRO)	Will provide unprecedented data on ice sheet collapses and crustal deformation.

As an Observer in the Arctic Council and a Consultative Party to the Antarctic Treaty (with its **Himadri** station in the Arctic and **Bharati/Maitri** in the south), India is a natural advocate for the “Global Commons” model. India's diplomatic “Middle Path” allows it to mediate between the Arctic Five (the coastal states) and the rest

of the world, arguing that the Arctic's climate-regulating functions are too important to be left to the whims of a few nations.

The Final Frontier is Here

The race for the Arctic is a defining challenge of our time. It pits our short-term thirst for \$30 trillion in resources against the long-term need for environmental stability and international peace.

If we follow the old rules of 19th-century realism and national competition, we risk a future of “Ice-Cold” conflict and ecological ruin. However, if we are bold enough to look to the stars for inspiration, we find a blueprint for shared prosperity. The law we wrote to govern the “final frontier” of space offers us the tools to save the final frontier on Earth.

The shadow war is already being fought on the ice. The question is whether we have the wisdom to write a peace treaty for it, using the words we once reserved for the heavens.

References/Sources

Primary Legal Frameworks & Treaties

- **The Outer Space Treaty (1967):** [United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs \(UNOOSA\)](#) – The foundational text establishing space as the “province of all mankind.”
- **UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS):** [Full Treaty Text via United Nations](#) – The current legal regime governing maritime boundaries and seabed claims.
- **The Antarctic Treaty (1959):** [Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty](#) – The real-world model for demilitarizing and internationalizing a polar continent.

Geopolitical Claims & Resource Data

- **Russia's Lomonosov Ridge Claim:** [United Nations Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf \(CLCS\)](#) – Official 2023 recommendations regarding Russia's extended continental shelf submission.
- **China's Polar Silk Road:** [China's Arctic Policy White Paper \(2018\)](#) – Beijing's formal strategy declaring itself a “Near-Arctic State.”
- **Arctic Resource Estimates:** [U.S. Geological Survey \(USGS\)](#) – The authoritative assessment of undiscovered oil and gas north of the Arctic Circle.

India's Strategic Position

- **India's Arctic Policy (2022):** [Ministry of Earth Sciences \(GoI\)](#) – “India and the Arctic: Building a Partnership for Sustainable Development.”
- **ISRO's Polar Monitoring:** [NISAR Mission \(NASA-ISRO\)](#) – Details on the upcoming satellite mission critical for monitoring polar ice deformation and climate change.

Expert Analysis & Commentary

- **Space Law vs. Arctic Governance:** [The Arctic Institute](#) – Analysis on how international legal vacuums are being filled by emerging powers.
- **Comparing OST and Antarctic Systems:** [Smithsonian Institution Research](#) – A scholarly comparison of how these two “global commons” treaties were modeled on one another.



WAR AND PEACE: THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE AT UN @80

डॉ. राजश्री पराग देशपांडे
Faculty, DES SNFLC, Pune

आजच्या जागतिक परिस्थितीकडे पाहिले असता “युद्ध आणि शांतता” हा विषय केवळ राजकीय किंवा ऐतिहासिक संदर्भापुरता मर्यादित राहिलेला नाही, तर तो मानवी अस्तित्वाशी निगडित मर्यादित राहिलेला नाही, तर तो मानवी अस्तित्वाशी निगडित महत्त्व अधोरेखित केले आहे. असावेला अत्यंत गंभीर प्रश्न बनला आहे. संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघाच्या यांनी अहिंसा, करुणा आणि मध्यम मार्ग यांद्वारे शांततेचा मार्ग स्थापनेला ८० वर्षे पूर्ण होत असताना, या संस्थेच्या कार्याचा आणि दाखविला—“न हि वैरेन वैरानि...” या त्यांच्या विचारातून द्वेषाला प्रभावाचा पुनर्विचार करण्याची ही अत्यंत योग्य वेळ आहे. प्रेमानेच उत्तर द्यावे, हा संदेश दिला आहे.

द्वितीय महायुद्धानंतर १९४५ साली (संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघ) स्थापन झाला. यामागे एकच ध्येय होते—जगात शांतता प्रस्थापित करणे आणि भविष्यातील युद्धाना आळा घालणे. तथापि, गेल्या काही दशकांमध्ये जगाने अनेक संघर्ष, युद्धे आणि तणाव अनुभवले आहेत. युक्रेन-रशिया संघर्ष, मध्यपूर्वेतील अस्थिरता, दहशतवाद आणि सायबर युद्धासारख्या नव्या स्वरूपातील आव्हानांनी जागतिक शांततेसमोर गंभीर प्रश्न निर्माण केले आहेत.

या पार्श्वभूमीवर “जागतिक शांतता” या संकल्पनेचे आकलन विविध विचारवंतांनी वेगवेगळ्या पद्धतीने केले आहे. यांच्या मते, शांतता म्हणजे केवळ हिंसेचा अभाव नव्हे, तर सत्य, अहिंसा आणि न्याय यांवर आधारित जीवनपद्धती आहे.

यांनी “स्थायी शांतता” ही संकल्पना मांडत लोकशाही व्यवस्था, आंतरराष्ट्रीय कायदे आणि राष्ट्रांमधील सहकार्य यावर भर दिला.

यांनी स्पष्ट केले की, “खरी शांतता म्हणजे तणावाचा अभाव नव्हे, तर न्यायाची उपस्थिती आहे.”

यांनी “Positive Peace” आणि “Negative Peace” या संकल्पना मांडून शांततेचा अधिक व्यापक अर्थ स्पष्ट केला.

यांच्या मते, शांतता ही अंतर्मनातील स्थैर्य आणि करुणेवर आधारलेली असते.

जागतिक शांततेचा विचार करताना भारतीय प्राचीन ज्ञानपरंपरा आणि तत्वज्ञान यांचे योगदान अत्यंत महत्वाचे ठरते. भारतीय संस्कृतीत “वसुधैव कुटुंबकम्” ही संकल्पना मांडली गेली आहे, जी संपूर्ण जगाला एक कुटुंब मानण्याचा व्यापक दृष्टिकोन देते.

मध्ये “ॐ द्यौः शान्तिः, अन्तरिक्षं शान्तिः...” या शांती मंत्रातून विश्वातील प्रत्येक घटकात शांतता नांदावी, अशी सार्वत्रिक प्रार्थना



यांनी जागतिक बंधुतेचा आणि सर्वधर्मसमभाववाचा संदेश देत सहअस्तित्वाचे महत्त्व अधोरेखित केले.

संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघाने विविध शांतता मोहिमा, मानवी हक्कांचे रक्षण आणि आंतरराष्ट्रीय सहकार्याच्या माध्यमातून अनेक सकारात्मक उपक्रम राबवले आहेत. तरीही, महासत्तांच्या राजकारणामुळे आणि सुरक्षा परिषदेतील व्हेटो अधिकारामुळे निर्णय प्रक्रियेत अडथळे निर्माण होतात, ही वस्तुस्थिती नाकारता येत नाही.

आजच्या युगात “युद्ध” हे केवळ शस्त्रसज्ज संघर्षापुरते मर्यादित राहिलेले नाही. माहितीचे युद्ध, आर्थिक निर्बंध, जैविक संकटे आणि पर्यावरणीय समस्या या आधुनिक युद्धाचे नवे पैलू बनले आहेत. त्यामुळे “शांतता” ही संकल्पना अधिक व्यापक झाली असून ती सामाजिक न्याय, आर्थिक समता आणि पर्यावरणीय संतुलन यांवर आधारित असणे आवश्यक आहे.

शांततेसाठी शिक्षण, संवाद आणि सांस्कृतिक समन्वय यांची भूमिका अत्यंत महत्वाची आहे. व्यक्ती, समाज आणि राष्ट्र या सर्व स्तरांवर शांततेची मूल्ये रुजविणे गरजेचे आहे.

संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघाच्या ८० वर्षांच्या प्रवासात अनेक यश आणि अपयश अनुभवास आले आहेत; परंतु भविष्यातील आव्हानांना तोंड देण्यासाठी अधिक सक्षम, पारदर्शक आणि प्रभावी यंत्रणा उभारणे ही काळाची गरज आहे. जागतिक शांतता ही केवळ एका संस्थेची जबाबदारी नसून, ती प्रत्येक राष्ट्र आणि प्रत्येक नागरिकाची सामूहिक जबाबदारी आहे.

अखेरीस, “War and Peace” हा विषय केवळ विचार करण्यापुरता मर्यादित न ठेवता कृतीत उतरविणे आवश्यक आहे. शांततेचा मार्ग स्वीकारणे हीच खरी मानवतेची ओळख ठरते.

संघ शताब्दी - पंच परिवर्तनाद्वारे - सामाजिक परिवर्तन

संकलन - ओंकार खोल्लम, वरिष्ठ लिपिक, DESSNFLC

हजारो वर्षांपासून सिंधू नदीच्या काठावर हिंदू संस्कृती समृद्ध होऊन नांदत होती. या संस्कृतीचे वैशिष्ट्य म्हणजे यामध्ये विविध प्रकारच्या कला, विविध विषयांचे सखोल ज्ञान आणि विविध संशोधनांचा समावेश होता. तक्षशिला आणि नालंदासारखी विद्यापीठे व ज्ञानकेंद्रे देखील यामध्ये समाविष्ट होती. या भारतवर्षामध्ये वेदांचे अध्ययन व अध्यापन केले जात असे. विपुल प्रमाणात संपत्ती, विविध प्रकारची रत्ने, उंची वस्त्रे आणि अतरे यांचा येथे मोठ्या प्रमाणावर व्यापार होत असे.

परंतु या संस्कृतीवर अनेक परकीयांनी आक्रमणे केली. असे असूनही, पुढील पिढ्यांनी या संस्कृतीच्या रुढी व परंपरा जपल्यामुळे ही संस्कृती आक्रमणे होऊनही नष्ट झाली नाही आणि ती कधी होणारही नाही.

मुघल साम्राज्याने या देशावर राज्य केले, त्यानंतर छत्रपती शिवाजी महाराजांनी स्वराज्याची स्थापना केली आणि अखंड हिंदुस्तानाला एक स्वतंत्र राजा मिळाला. पुढे मराठा साम्राज्याचा विस्तार झाला. पण पुन्हा एकदा हा समाज आत्मविस्मृतीत गेल्याने इंग्रजांचे आक्रमण झाले व त्यांनी सुमारे १७० वर्षे राज्य केले.

परंतु या संस्कृतीच्या रुढी व परंपरांचे जतन पुढे येणाऱ्या अनेक पिढ्यांद्वारे होत राहिल्याने हा हिंदू समाज पुन्हा एकदा स्वजाणीव व स्वधर्म ओळखून जागा झाला. १८५७ च्या स्वातंत्र्यसंग्रामाद्वारे स्वतंत्र होण्याची जाणीव सर्वांमध्ये निर्माण झाली. या स्वातंत्र्यसंग्रामात अनेक क्रांतिकारकांनी, देशभक्तांनी, भारतमातेच्या सुपुत्रांनी आणि माता-भगिनींनी आपले योगदान दिले आणि शेवटी भारत देश स्वतंत्र झाला.

स्वातंत्र्यसंग्रामाच्या काळात, १८८९ साली एका मध्यमवर्गीय कुटुंबात एक बालक जन्माला आले. या मुलाचे शालेय व महाविद्यालयीन शिक्षण होत असताना, या तरुणाच्या मनात सतत भारतमाता आणि स्वातंत्र्य हेच विचार घोळत होते. पुढे त्याचे वैद्यकीय शिक्षण देखील पूर्ण झाले. पण या तरुणाच्या मनात वैद्यकीय नोकरी करण्यापेक्षा वेगळेच विचार सुरू झाले.

विसाव्या शतकाची सुरुवात झाली होती. याच दरम्यान, भारताचा स्वातंत्र्यलढा नवनवीन आव्हाने स्वीकारून पुढे जात होता. याच काळात अनेक समाजसुधारकांनी समाजप्रबोधनाचे कार्य सुरू केले होते. लोकमान्य टिळक, गोपाळ गणेश आगरकर, विष्णुशास्त्री चिपळूणकर, महादेव बल्लाल जोशी आणि वामन शिवराम आपटे यांनी राष्ट्रीय शिक्षण देणाऱ्या “डेवकन एज्युकेशन सोसायटी” या

संस्थेची स्थापना करून शाळा व महाविद्यालये सुरू केली. अशा समाजप्रबोधनाच्या काळात, वैद्यकीय शिक्षण घेणाऱ्या या तरुणाच्या मनात वैचारिक क्रांतीची ज्योत पेटली. त्यांनी मनाशी ठाम निश्चय केला की, ‘होय, हे हिंदू राष्ट्र आहे आणि या राष्ट्राच्या संवर्धनासाठी वैचारिक अधिष्ठान व राष्ट्रीयतेचा संस्कार असणारा समाज घडवायचा आहे, व्यक्तिनिर्माणातून राष्ट्रनिर्माण करायचे आहे. तो तरुण म्हणजेच डॉ. केशव बळीराम हेडगेवार ! त्यांनी काही तरुण मंडळींना एकत्र आणून १९२७ साली नागपूर येथे ‘राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघाची’ स्थापना केली.

१९२७ साली संघाची स्थापना झाल्यानंतर नागपूर येथे संघाची पहिली शाखा सुरू झाली. या शाखेत सर्व वयोगटातील मुले एकत्र येऊन खेळ, व्यायाम, जोर-बैठका यांसारखे शारीरिक कसरतीचे कार्यक्रम, तसेच विविध विषयांवरील चर्चा असा एकत्रित कार्यक्रम रोज करत असत. या शाखेच्या माध्यमातून पुढे अनेक कार्यकर्ते घडत गेले. त्यानंतर अनेकांनी संघाचे काम पूर्णविरत करून संघाच्या शाखांचा भारतभर विस्तार केला आणि आपले आयुष्य भारतमातेच्या चरणी समर्पित केले.

या संघसमर्पित कार्यकर्त्यांचे जीवनचरित्र आपल्याला सदैव प्रेरणा देते.

संघाच्या १०० वर्षांच्या वाटचालीमध्ये कालानुरूप अनेक बदल झाले. अगदी गणवेशापासून ते बैठकीच्या स्वरूपापर्यंत विविध बदल घडले. असे असले तरी, समाजाला संघटित करण्याचे संघाचे मूळ काम तसेच राहिले. त्याचे सोपे सूत्र म्हणजे संघाची ‘१ तासाची शाखा’. या शाखेत आजही व्यायाम, योगासने आणि विविध खेळ घेतले जातात.

बौद्धिक वर्ग, चिंतन केले जाते आणि भारतमातेची प्रार्थना म्हटली जाते, असा दररोजचा नित्यक्रम असतो. अशा या शाखेतून आज राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ व संघप्रेरित अनेक संस्था आणि संघटनांचा असा विशाल वटवृक्ष तयार झाला आहे.

संघाने या शंभर वर्षांच्या प्रवासात विविध सेवाकार्ये सुरू केली. या सेवाकार्यांच्या माध्यमातून शिक्षण, पर्यावरण, आरोग्य, सहकार, विधी (अधिवक्ता) अशा विविध क्षेत्रांत संघाने कार्यकर्ते दिले आहेत आणि ते यशस्वीपणे कार्यरत आहेत.

‘व्यक्तिनिर्माणातून राष्ट्रनिर्माण’ आणि त्या आधारे राष्ट्रोन्नती, हे

एक तत्व संघाने १०० वर्षे पूर्ण होत आली तरी सोडले नाही. याच आधारे संघशताब्दीच्या निमित्ताने 'पंचपरिवर्तन' व त्याद्वारे 'सामाजिक परिवर्तन' करून राष्ट्रोन्नती साधायचे, असे अखिल भारतीय स्तरावर संघाने ठरवले आहे. पंचपरिवर्तनाच्या माध्यमातून समाजाला सकारात्मक बदलासाठी प्रेरित करणे महत्वाचे आहे. भारतीयत्व किंवा हिंदुत्व हा केवळ एक विचार नसून ती एक जीवनशैली आहे. याच माध्यमातून समाजात गुणवत्तेचा विस्तार व्हावा, या उद्देशाने समाजातील सज्जन शक्तीला एकत्र करणे आणि या विधायक शक्तीचा राष्ट्रहितासाठी उपयोग करणे आवश्यक आहे.

पंच परिवर्तनाचे पाच प्रमुख योजना -

१. समरसता गतिविधी :

भारतीय समाजात स्वातंत्र्यपूर्व काळापासून अस्पृश्यता, जातिभेद, उत्तनीचता असे विविध प्रकार होते; परंतु काही स्वार्थी लोकांनी धर्माच्या आधारे हा समाज विखंडित केला. त्यामुळेच संघाने 'सामाजिक समरसता' या महत्वाच्या विषयावर काम सुरू केले. विविध धर्म, पंथ, भाषा, जाती-बिरादरी यांचा आदर करणे, सर्व श्रेणींमध्ये समृद्ध मित्रपरिवार तयार करणे, सर्वांच्याच सामाजिक कार्यक्रमांत सहभागी होणे, सर्व संप्रदायांच्या तीर्थक्षेत्रांना भेटी देणे व अभिवादन करणे, इ. छोट्या-छोट्या कृतींमधून 'समरसता गतिविधी' च्या माध्यमातून संघाने कार्य सुरू केले आहे.

सामाजिक दरी कमी करण्यासाठी या गतिविधीचा उपयोग होत असून एक समरस समाज उभा राहत आहे.

२. कुटुंब प्रबोधन :

एकत्र कुटुंबव्यवस्था हा भारतीय समाजव्यवस्थेचा कणा कुटुंबातील अनेक सदस्य एकाच छताखाली राहतात, त्यातून त्यांचा स्वविकास आणि विविध क्षमतांचा विकास होतो. त्यांना अनौपचारिक शिक्षण मिळते आणि यातूनच मानवाचा व्यक्तिमत्त्व विकास होतो.

परंतु, या आधुनिक युगात कुटुंबव्यवस्थेमध्ये अनेक आव्हाने निर्माण झाली आहेत. विभक्त परिवारामुळे ज्ञान, संस्कार आणि परंपरा यांचा अभाव दिसून येत आहे. पाश्चात्य संस्कृतीचे उदात्तीकरण होत आहे. हे सर्व हिंदू समाजासाठी धोकादायक आहे, हे लक्षात घेऊन संघाचे कार्यकर्ते 'कुटुंब प्रबोधन' हा विषय घेऊन समाजात काम करत आहेत. भाषा, भूषा, भ्रमण, भोजन, भजन आणि भवन या मुद्द्यांच्या आधारे प्रबोधन सुरू आहे. कुटुंबाने दिवसातून एकदा एकत्र भोजन करणे, एकत्रित प्रार्थना करणे, वर्षातून किमान एकदा कुटुंबासह भ्रमण (सहल) करणे, आपल्या मातृभाषेचा व वेशभूषेचा अभिमान बाळगणे, यांसारख्या छोट्या कृतींमधून सक्षम व संस्कारयुक्त कुटुंबव्यवस्था निर्माण करण्याचे काम संघ कार्यकर्ते करत आहेत.

३. पर्यावरण संरक्षण गतिविधी :

सध्या जागतिक पातळीवर पर्यावरण संवर्धन आणि त्यासाठी विविध उपाययोजना करण्याचे काम सुरू आहे. आपल्या संस्कृतीमध्ये पर्यावरणाला महत्वाचे स्थान आहे. या आधुनिक युगात विविध कारणांमुळे पर्यावरणाचा न्हास होत असून, त्याचा मानवी जीवनावर,

वातावरणावर, ऋतुचक्रावर आणि नैसर्गिक साधनसंपत्तीवर गंभीर परिणाम जाणवू लागला आहे. हे सर्व लक्षात घेऊन रा. स्व. संघाने प्रबोधन व जनजागृतीच्या माध्यमातून 'पर्यावरण संरक्षण गतिविधी' सुरू केली आहे.

व्यक्तिगत पातळीवर जनजागृती करण्यासाठी वेगवेगळे उपक्रम आयोजित केले जातात. कापडी पिशवीचा वापर, प्लास्टिकला पर्याय म्हणून स्टीलच्या वस्तूंचा वापर, ई-कचरा संकलन, पाण्याचा कमीत कमी वापर, वृक्षारोपण व संवर्धन, 'रेन वॉटर हार्वेस्टिंग' करिता प्रबोधन अशा छोट्या उपक्रमांमधून जनजागृतीचे काम सुरू आहे.

४. नागरी कर्तव्य - नागरी शिष्टाचार :

आपल्या देशाच्या संविधानाने सर्वांना भरपूर अधिकार दिले आहेत आणि त्यामुळे समाजात सुशासन आणि प्रशासन चालवणे सोयीचे झाले आहे. त्याचप्रमाणे संविधानाने आपल्याला काही जबाबदाऱ्याही दिल्या आहेत. त्याला आपण 'नागरी कर्तव्ये' म्हणतो.

या नागरी कर्तव्यांचे पालन सहजतेने व्हावे, तसेच सर्वसाधारण नागरी हक्कांच्या व कर्तव्यांच्या बाबतीत समाजात प्रबोधन व्हावे आणि त्याचे कृतीयुक्त आचरण व्हावे, याकरिता दिशादर्शन देण्याचे काम संघ कार्यकर्ते करत आहेत.

५. स्वजागरण :

मूल जन्माला आल्यानंतर त्या कुटुंबात जी बोलीभाषा किंवा मातृभाषा बोलली जाते, त्या भाषेचे आकलन त्या मुलाला अधिक झाल्याने त्याचा स्वविकास होत असतो आणि मग त्यातून एक कर्तव्यनिष्ठ नागरिक तयार होतो.

'स्व' म्हणजे 'मी'. 'मी कोण? माझ्या जगण्याचे उद्दिष्ट काय?' असा सुरू झालेला प्रवास मी, माझे कुटुंब, समाज आणि राष्ट्र या क्रमाने होत जातो. त्यामुळेच 'स्व'ची जाणीव व्हावी, तसेच स्वतःची मातृभाषा, संस्कार, संस्कृती आणि राष्ट्रीयता यांना जपण्यासाठी स्वजागरण आवश्यक आहे. याच 'स्व'च्या जाणिवेसाठी 'प्राथमिक शिक्षण हे मातृभाषेतून असावे' यासंबंधी संघाने पुढाकार घेतला आहे. स्वजाणिवेतून स्वतःचा विकास करत समाजाचा विकास करण्यासाठी संघ कार्यकर्ते क्रियाशील आहेत.

अशा प्रकारे राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघाने 'संघशताब्दी'च्या निमित्ताने 'समरसता, कुटुंब प्रबोधन, पर्यावरण संरक्षण, नागरी शिष्टाचार व स्वजागरण' या पंचसूत्रीच्या आधारे पंचपरिवर्तनाद्वारे सामाजिक परिवर्तन घडवून आणण्यासाठी मोठ्या प्रमाणावर कार्य सुरू केले आहे.

व्यक्तिगत चारित्र्य व राष्ट्रीयतेचा संस्कार यातून समर्पित कार्यकर्ते निर्माण करणे आणि या कार्यकर्त्यांच्या आधारे पंचपरिवर्तनाद्वारे सामाजिक परिवर्तन घडवून समर्थ राष्ट्राची निर्मिती करणे, हेच ध्येय आहे आणि या आधारे राष्ट्राचा विकास करणे, यासाठी राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ १०० वर्षे सातत्याने कार्य करत आहे. हे कार्य अखंडपणे आणि निस्वार्थ भावनेने सुरू आहे."

WAR CRIMES AND INTERNATIONAL LAW: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS IN THE AGE OF MODERN CONFLICTS.



Amey Bhunne, 3rd Year B.A.LL.B

Introduction

War has always tested the limits of morality and legality. In response to the devastating consequences of armed conflicts particularly after World War II the international community developed a legal framework to regulate warfare and protect human dignity. This framework, known as **International Humanitarian Law (IHL)**, seeks not to prevent war entirely but to **limit its effects**.

At the heart of IHL lies the prohibition of war crimes serious violations of laws governing armed conflict. Despite the existence of robust legal instruments such as the Geneva Conventions and the Rome Statute, the 21st century has witnessed persistent and widespread violations, raising serious concerns about the effectiveness of international law.

Understanding War Crimes: Legal Meaning and Scope

War crimes are defined as grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed during armed conflict. These crimes attract individual criminal responsibility, meaning even heads of state can be prosecuted.

Core Categories of War Crimes

Under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), war crimes include:

- Targeting civilians and civilian infrastructure
- Wilful killing and torture
- Taking hostages
- Sexual violence and rape as tools of war
- Recruitment of child soldiers

- Starvation as a method of warfare

Modern interpretations also recognize emerging forms such as:

- Cyber warfare targeting civilian systems
- Autonomous weapons misuse
- Environmental destruction during conflict

Evolution of International Humanitarian Law

The development of war crimes law can be traced through key historical milestones:

- **Geneva Conventions (1949):** Established protections for civilians, prisoners of war, and the wounded
- **Nuremberg and Tokyo Trials (post-WWII):** Introduced individual accountability for international crimes
- **Rome Statute (1998):** Created the International Criminal Court (ICC)

A central principle is “**complementarity**,” meaning national courts have priority, and international courts intervene only when states fail to act.

Institutions Enforcing War Crimes

- **Law International Criminal Court (ICC)**
 1. Tries individuals for war crimes, genocide, and crimes against humanity
 2. Can issue arrest warrants and conduct trials
- **International Court of Justice (ICJ)**

Deals with disputes between states
Addresses issues like genocide and state responsibility
- **Ad Hoc and Hybrid Tribunals**

Examples: Yugoslavia Tribunal (ICTY), Rwanda Tribunal (ICTR), Kosovo Specialist Chambers

Landmark Case Laws on War Crimes

1. Prosecutor v. Thomas Lubanga Dyilo (2012)¹

- First ICC conviction
 - Established that recruitment of child soldiers is a war crime
2. Prosecutor v. Ahmad Al Faqi Al Mahdi (2016)²
- First case recognizing destruction of cultural heritage as a war crime
3. Prosecutor v. Bosco Ntaganda (2019)³
- Expanded liability for sexual violence and command responsibility
4. Prosecutor v. Ali Kushayb (2025)⁴
- Convicted on 27 counts including murder and persecution
 - Significant for recognizing gender-based persecution as a crime against humanity
5. The Gambia v. Myanmar (ICJ, ongoing)⁵
- Focuses on genocide against Rohingya Muslims
 - Strengthens the concept of state accountability
6. South Africa v. Israel (ICJ, ongoing)⁶
- Concerns allegations of genocide in Gaza
 - ICJ issued provisional measures to protect civilians

Recent Developments in War Crimes (2025–2026)

1. Gaza Conflict and ICC Action

The Gaza conflict remains one of the most legally scrutinized wars in recent history:

- The ICC has issued arrest warrants against leaders from both sides, including Israeli and Hamas officials
- UN investigations found evidence of war crimes by both parties, including targeting civilians and hostage-taking
- Allegations include use of starvation, indiscriminate bombings, and sexual violence

Despite this, enforcement remains difficult due to geopolitical resistance and lack of cooperation.

1. Lebanon and Regional Escalation

Recent escalation in the Middle East has intensified legal scrutiny:

- UN officials warned that airstrikes on civilian areas in Lebanon may constitute war crimes

- Entire residential buildings were destroyed, causing mass displacement and civilian casualties.

This highlights the challenge of proportionality and distinction core principles of IHL.

2. Sudan (Darfur) Crisis

Sudan represents one of the gravest ongoing humanitarian crises:

- The ICC confirmed evidence of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur, including killings and sexual violence.
- UN investigations suggest “hallmarks of genocide” in regions like El Fasher
- Reports indicate systematic targeting of ethnic groups and use of rape as a weapon

These developments show continuity between past Darfur genocide cases and present atrocities.

1. Global Breakdown of Humanitarian Norms

A 2026 international study revealed alarming trends:

- Over 100,000 civilians killed annually in conflicts
- Widespread violations including torture, rape, and attacks on civilians
- International humanitarian law described as reaching a “critical breaking point”

This reflects a growing gap between legal norms and actual state behavior.

2. Crisis Within International Justice System

The credibility of enforcement institutions is also under strain:

- The ICC faces political pressure, sanctions, and internal controversies
- Leadership challenges and lack of cooperation weaken its authority

Legal Principles in War Crimes Law

International humanitarian law is built upon foundational principles that regulate the conduct of hostilities and ensure accountability. These principles are essential in determining whether an act during armed conflict constitutes a war crime.

1. Principle of Distinction

The principle of distinction is the cornerstone of international humanitarian law. It obligates parties to a conflict to **differentiate at all times between civilians**

and combatants, as well as between civilian objects and military objectives.

Civilians are granted absolute protection from direct attacks unless and for such time as they take direct part in hostilities. Similarly, civilian infrastructure such as hospitals, schools, and homes cannot be targeted unless they are being used for military purposes.

This principle was reinforced in cases before the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), particularly in *Prosecutor v. Tadić*,⁷ where indiscriminate attacks on civilians were held to constitute war crimes.

2. Principle of Proportionality

Closely linked to distinction, the principle of proportionality prohibits attacks in which the expected civilian harm would be excessive in relation to the anticipated concrete and direct military advantage.

This principle acknowledges that incidental civilian harm may occur in war but places a legal limit on it. Commanders must assess:

- The military importance of the target
- The potential civilian casualties
- Whether the harm is justified or excessive

The proportionality principle has been examined in cases such as *Prosecutor v. Kupreškić* ⁸ (ICTY), where the tribunal emphasized that disproportionate attacks violate international law even if a legitimate military target exists.

3. Principle of Military Necessity

The principle of military necessity permits the use of force only to the extent necessary to achieve a legitimate military objective and not for purposes of revenge, punishment, or destruction for its own sake.

This principle does not justify violations of humanitarian law; rather, it operates within its boundaries. For example:

- Destroying a bridge used for military supply may be lawful
- Destroying an entire civilian town without strategic necessity is unlawful

The Nuremberg Trials after World War II firmly rejected the misuse of “military necessity” as a defence for atrocities, establishing that necessity cannot excuse

war crimes.

4. Principle of Command Responsibility

The doctrine of command responsibility holds military and political leaders criminally liable for war crimes committed by their subordinates, if they:

- Knew or should have known about the crimes, and
- Failed to prevent them or punish the perpetrators

This principle ensures accountability at the highest levels of authority and prevents leaders from escaping liability by blaming lower-ranking personnel. It was significantly developed in *Prosecutor v. Yamashita (1945)* ⁹, where a Japanese general was held responsible for atrocities committed by troops under his command. The principle has since been applied in numerous international cases, including those before the ICTY and ICC.

Challenges in Enforcement

1. **Political Resistance:** Major powers often refuse ICC jurisdiction, limiting global enforcement.
2. **Lack of Universal Participation:** Countries like the U.S., China, and Russia are not ICC members.
3. **Delayed Justice:** Cases often take years or decades, reducing deterrence.
4. **Technological Warfare:** Drones, AI, and cyber operations complicate legal accountability.
5. **Selective Justice:** Criticism persists that international law is applied unevenly.

Future of War Crimes Law

Despite challenges, there are signs of progress:

- Expansion of universal jurisdiction laws in domestic courts
- Development of treaties on crimes against humanity
- Proposals for tribunals addressing aggression (e.g., Ukraine conflict)
- Increasing use of digital evidence (satellite, AI-based analysis)

Conclusion

War crimes law represents humanity's effort to impose order on chaos. However, recent conflicts from Gaza

to Sudan demonstrate that legal frameworks alone are insufficient without political will. The growing scale of violations suggests that international law is at a crossroads.

For the future, strengthening enforcement mechanisms, ensuring impartial justice, and adapting to modern warfare technologies will be crucial. Without these reforms, the promise of “never again” risks becoming an empty ideal.

REFERENCES

- <https://www.internationalcrimesdatabase.org/Case/3321/Al-Mahdi-Case-/>
- <https://www.icc-cpi.int/victims/ntaganda-case>
- <https://www.icc-cpi.int/news/trial-judgment-abd-al-rahman-case-6-october-2025-practical-information>
- <https://www.icj-cij.org/case/178>
- <https://www.icj-cij.org/case/192>
- <https://www.internationalcrimesdatabase.org/Case/79>
- <https://www.icty.org/x/cases/kupreskic/tjug/en/>
- <https://www.icc-cpi.int/sites/default/files/CaseInformationSheets/LubangaEng.pdf>



THE UN AT 80: IS IT STILL RELEVANT?



Avani Sushbodh Afre, B.A.LL.B 3RD Year

1. Idea Behind the Institution

The League of Nations was created after the First World War with a purpose, to give countries a forum for resolving disputes without going to war. It had no real enforcement mechanism and collapsed when major powers simply ignored it. Japan invaded Manchuria in 1931, Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1935, and the League could do nothing about either. By 1939 it was irrelevant.

When the UN Charter was signed in 1945, its drafters knew that history. The opening words committed member states to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war, and this time the system was designed with more teeth. The Security Council would act collectively whenever peace was threatened, backed by troops that member states were obligated to provide. War was no longer a legitimate instrument of foreign policy but something to be collectively prevented.

Today the UN is a large institution with several distinct functions. Its aid organizations, like the World Food Programme, UNICEF, and the WHO, oversee massive relief efforts worldwide. It upholds global legal standards, provides a stage where every nation has a voice. In many areas, it operates decently. Yet on the core mission of halting wars, it has faltered. To understand why the UN struggles to keep the peace, we need to look at three basic problems that have existed since it first started.

2. The Veto Problem

The veto was not an unwitting decision, it was intentionally written into the Charter by the negotiating powers during the drafting process. When the Charter was being negotiated, the five major Allied powers insisted that no binding resolution could pass without their consent. The logic was straightforward: powerful states would only join a collective security system if that system could not be used against their core interests.

The concession was considered necessary to get them into the room.

Eight decades later, the record shows what that concession has cost. Russia and the Soviet Union have used the veto 129 times. The United States has used it 89 times. Together the five permanent members have blocked more resolutions than the Security Council has ever passed on matters of enforcement. In 2024, permanent members cast eight vetoes on seven draft resolutions, the highest annual count since 1986.

The veto has produced concrete failures, not merely theoretical ones. When Russia invaded Ukraine in 2022, it vetoed the first substantive condemnation resolution within days. The Security Council held hundreds of subsequent meetings on Ukraine. None produced binding enforcement action. In Gaza, four successive ceasefire resolutions were blocked by the United States before one finally passed, 171 days into the conflict and after over ten thousand people had been killed. In both cases, a permanent member either committed the aggression or shielded the party committing it. The Council, the institution specifically designed to respond to situations like these, was effectively disabled by the same rule meant to hold it together.

Proposals to reform the veto have been debated for years without result. France and Mexico have pushed a voluntary pledge asking permanent members to refrain from using the veto in cases of mass atrocities, but to date, only France and the United Kingdom have signed it. Russia, China and the United States have not.

3. The Missing Army

The veto is not the only limitation built into the Security Council's design. A second structural problem sits alongside it, less frequently discussed but no less significant: the Council has no independent means of enforcing its own decisions. Agreement among the permanent members solves only part of the problem. Even when the Security Council reaches a consensus, it has no independent means of enforcing its decisions, and this gap in the Charter's design has shaped every enforcement effort the Council has attempted.

Article 43 of the Charter required member states to conclude agreements making armed forces available to the Security Council so it would have reliable military capacity behind its decisions. These agreements were to be negotiated as soon as possible after the Charter entered into force. They were never concluded. Cold War tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union broke down negotiations in 1947. The two powers could not agree on the size, composition or command structure of the proposed force. Once those talks failed, no subsequent effort succeeded, and Article 43 has remained a dead letter ever since.

What this means in practice is that every UN peacekeeping operation depends entirely on voluntary contributions from member states. There is no standing force, no standby capacity the Secretary-General can activate without going back to member governments each time. When major powers disagree, those contributions are often withheld. The Council can authorise action, but whether that action materialises depends on political negotiations that have nothing to do with the merits of the situation.

4. Outdated Table

The five permanent members were chosen because they won the Second World War. Africa, with over 1.4 billion people, has no permanent seat, despite the fact that in 2023 more than 38 percent of all Security Council meetings and more than half of all formal resolutions that year concerned African situations. Brazil, India, Germany and Japan have been seeking permanent seats since the early 1990s. In November 2025 they issued a joint statement warning that confidence in the UN is shaken and that reform is necessary for the entire multilateral system. Charter reform requires ratification by all five permanent members, meaning each P5 country holds a veto over any change that would reduce its own influence. The countries that most need to agree to reform are the same ones who benefit most from things staying as they are.

5. On The Ground

It is worth being clear about what the UN can and does do, because the picture is not entirely one of

failure. While the Security Council stalls, the UN's humanitarian agencies keep working. In Gaza, Sudan and Ukraine, it is UN agencies that are coordinating food deliveries, running field hospitals and tracking the movement of displaced populations. The World Food Programme reached over 160 million people in 2023. UNICEF provides vaccines, clean water and child protection services in virtually every active conflict zone in the world. The WHO monitors disease outbreaks in areas where no functioning health system remains.

Beyond immediate relief, the UN also does the slower work of post-conflict documentation. Its human rights bodies collect testimony, record war crimes and build the evidentiary record that future accountability mechanisms depend on. The International Criminal Court, though separate from the UN, draws heavily on this documentation. None of this stops a war while it is happening. But it matters for what comes after, and it represents a form of institutional memory that would take decades to rebuild if the UN ceased to exist. The humanitarian side of the organisation is, in many conflicts, the only international presence that remains when political will runs out.

6. Conclusion

Taken together, these three problems explain why the UN cannot stop the wars it was built to prevent. The veto disables the Council when it is most needed. The absence of a standing force means that even when agreement exists, the Council has no reliable means of acting on it. And the composition of the permanent membership means that formal authority rests with states whose interests do not reflect those of most of the world.

On the specific question of whether the UN can stop wars, the answer it keeps giving is no, and the reasons for that are structural. The 80th anniversary is an occasion to state that plainly

THE ARCHITECTURE OF INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT: CAN INTERNATIONAL LAW RESTRAIN POWER



Kapil Jodh, LLB 1ST YEAR

"The law does not seek to make war 'nice'; it seeks to ensure that when the smoke clears, there is still a civilization left to return to". – Adapted From ICRC Philosophy

The Ambitious Attempt to Civilize War

International law from its very origin has strived to bring semblance of order to an inherently chaotic world. It operates on the optimistic premise that nation-states will adhere to shared rules and maintain global peace. Today's geopolitical landscape is shifting from the relative stability of a unipolar world to the friction of a multi-polar one. The battlefield is no longer a distant field; it has moved into urban centers, digital networks, and aerial corridors. As non-state actors challenge the authority of nations, even the permanent members of the UN Security Council (UNSC) stand accused of violating the very Charter they once drafted to prevent another world war.

The UN Charter and the Power of the Veto

The end of WW II ushered need for a common understanding on the concept of Peace that implies 'avoidance of war'. The United Nations Charter of 1945 is the fundamental constitutional provision of the modern international legal framework. Born from the ashes of two world wars and the catastrophic failure of the League of Nations, it was designed with an ambition to save future generations from the bane of war. The enabling provision being Article 2(4) that strictly prohibits members from using force against the territorial integrity of another state.

The Charter however, contains a built-in contradiction. While Chapter VII gives the Security Council the power to stop aggression, the five permanent members, the US,

the UK, France, Russia and China hold a veto power on resolutions of the UNSC which give them unrestricted authority to control the UN functions. This structural feature was intended to ensure diplomatic stability, but it has become the Council's deepest flaw. Especially, whenever a P5 member is the aggressor, the system of enforcement essentially goes into a paralysis, leaving the world to watch from the sidelines.

It is under such glaring paradox the UN is expected to function and enforce the global legal order designed to 'Prevent' Wars. The Geneva Academy for IHL and Human Rights has noted 80 to 120 concurrent conflicts globally upon which the UN has little or no power to stop.

Notwithstanding, the UN continues to function through a dedicated Legal frame work consisting of UNSC, ICJ and the IHL. This framework essentially rests on three pillars governing the lifecycle of an Armed Conflict. These are, Jus ad Bellum (the right to go to war), Jus in Bello (conduct during war), and the emerging Jus Post Bellum (justice after war). Bridging the gap between these written laws and their chaotic, modern application is the defining challenge of our era.

Jus ad Bellum: Right to War

Jus ad Bellum is a principle that governs a nation's legal justification for starting a war. While the UN Charter allows only two narrow exceptions to its ban on force: Article 51 (Self-Defence) and by UNSC Authorization, the crisis today is that the states have become experts at stretching these definitions until the original law is barely recognizable. Several modern doctrines have pushed these boundaries to the breaking point:-

- a. Anticipatory Self-Defense: Nations now claim the right to strike before an attack is even "imminent," often using force against purely speculative future threats.
- b. The Responsibility to Protect (R2P – 2005)
: While intended to stop genocide, the lack

of a clear definition for “state failure” allows powerful nations to intervene under the guise of humanitarianism to pursue their own interests.

This “functional paralysis” was glaringly evident during the 2003 invasion of Iraq and the 2022 invasion of Ukraine. In both cases, powerful P5 members bypassed the Council by citing expansive versions of “self-defense.” Whether it was the claim of hidden WMDs in Iraq or NATO’s expansion near Russia, these justifications showed that when a superpower decides to move, the UN’s legal machinery often stalls. This same deadlock prevents action in humanitarian disasters like the collapse of Venezuela, where global powers simply cannot agree on a path forward.

The 2026 Venezuela Crisis: Sovereignty vs. Enforcement

The tension between international law and national interest was recently tested in January 2026, when US forces captured Nicolás Maduro. The United States framed the mission as a law-enforcement operation targeting drug trafficking, but the international community remains deeply divided. Critics argue that drug charges do not constitute an “armed attack” that would justify violating another nation’s sovereignty. Because the US does not recognize Maduro as a legitimate leader, they argue he lacks head-of-state immunity. This case serves as a live reminder that “legality” in international law is often a matter of who is holding the gavel.

Jus in Bello: The Struggle for Proportionality

Once hostilities begin, the law shifts to Jus in Bello, or International Humanitarian Law (IHL). This law applies to ever belligerent, the aggressor and the defender alike. It doesn’t matter who started the war; once it starts, everyone is bound by the principles of Distinction (between soldiers and civilian), Proportionality (In use of lethality), and Military Necessity (To achieve the objective).

Proportionality is the most difficult of these to enforce. It isn’t a mathematical formula; it’s a value judgment made by a commander in the heat of a chaotic moment. This subjectivity is becoming even more dangerous with the rise of Artificial Intelligence. If an algorithm initiates a lethal strike on a civilian target, our current laws have no clear way to fix accountability. We

are entering an era where software may make the life-or-death decisions that the Geneva Conventions once reserved for human conscience.

Gaza: A Legal System Under Stress

The ongoing conflict in Gaza puts IHL under acute pressure. The October 7, 2023, attacks by Hamas involving deliberate massacre of civilians constitute grave breaches of IHL that are not in legal dispute. Israel’s military response However, has raised equally difficult questions. While Israel argues that Hamas’s use of civilian infrastructure as “human shields” shifts the legal burden, it does not extinguish the requirement for proportionality. The siege conditions and restrictions on food and water have been flagged by the UN as a potential violation of Article 54 of Additional Protocol I. When the International Court of Justice issued provisional measures in early 2024 to prevent genocidal acts, the subsequent US vetoes of ceasefire resolutions once again highlighted how political power can override judicial concerns.

Jus Post Bellum: Justice Post Hostilities

Traditionally, the law ended when the treaty was signed. But the failures in Iraq and Afghanistan prove that winning the war is not the same as securing the peace. This has led to the development of Jus Post Bellum, which focuses on the transition back to stability.

Jus Post Bellum: Justice Post Hostilities

Traditionally, the law of war was a binary system: you were either at war or at peace. However, the catastrophic failures of reconstruction in Iraq and Afghanistan have forced the legal community to develop Jus Post Bellum—a framework governing the transition from the final gunshot to a sustainable, sovereign peace. It suggests that a war begun justly (Jus ad Bellum) and fought cleanly (Jus in Bello) can still be lost if the transition to peace is unjust.

Under the Fourth Geneva Convention, an occupying power is legally defined as a “temporary caretaker,” not a sovereign owner. They are prohibited from annexing territory, altering local laws, or exploiting resources for their own gain.

- In Iraq and Afghanistan, the UN system failed

to provide a robust check on the “occupier’s prerogative.” In Iraq, the dismantling of state institutions (de-Ba’athification) created a power vacuum that led to years of civil strife, while in Afghanistan, two decades of presence ended in a sudden collapse of the rule of law. In both instances, the UN was unable to enforce a transition that prioritized local institutional stability over the strategic interests of the occupying coalition.

- In Ukraine, the failure is even more fundamental. Russia has occupied territory to formally annex it in violation of Jus Post Bellum norms and the UN Charter. Because Russia holds a veto on the Security Council, the UN is legally “locked out” from supervising the restoration of Ukrainian sovereignty in those areas.

The Rise of Real-Time Accountability

To counter this UN paralysis, the international community is attempting to build an accountability framework in “real-time” rather than waiting for the war to end. The International Criminal Court (ICC) and the newly established International Centre for the Prosecution of the Crime of Aggression (A EuroJust ; EU Initiative) are currently documenting evidence in Ukraine. This marks a shift from the post-WWII Nuremberg model; we are no longer waiting for a peace treaty to identify war crimes. The ultimate risk remains the persistent shadow of “victor’s justice.” History shows that the law is often applied with surgical precision to the defeated (such as the tribunals for Rwanda or

the former Yugoslavia), while the actions of the “Big Five” permanent members often escape scrutiny. The UN’s inability to hold its strongest members to the same post-conflict standards creates a “two-tier” justice system. Unless the international order can bridge this gap, Jus Post Bellum remains a moral aspiration rather than an enforceable reality.

Conclusion: Do Rules Still Matter

If the UN is paralyzed and the big powers ignore the rules, why does international law still matter? It matters because even when nations break the law, they still feel the need to justify it. Whether it is India explaining its position post OP SINDOOR or the legal debates surrounding the 2026 US-Venezuela mission, the fact that governments still use the language of the UN Charter proves that these rules hold moral and diplomatic weight or as some put it “fear of economic sanctions”.

The real weakness isn’t the law itself; it’s the enforcement. The Security Council’s veto system and the rise of cyber warfare and autonomous weapons are testing rules that were written for a different century. The task for the next generation is to adapt these rules to modern realities while preserving their core purpose: to ensure that even in the midst of war, there are limits. The law of war may be imperfect, but it is the only thing standing between a world of rules and a world of pure, unrestrained force.

WAR AND PEACE: THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE AT UN @80



Charul Pande, B.A.LL.B 3rd Year

In 2025, the United Nations (UN) turns 80. Created in 1945 after the devastation of two world wars, it was built on a clear promise: to save future generations from the “scourge of war.” Eight decades later, that promise is still urgent, but the world has become more complex. Conflicts are more interconnected, trust between major powers is often low, and new threats like cyber warfare, disinformation, and climate shocks can trigger instability even without traditional battles. UN @80 is therefore not just an anniversary celebration, it is a serious moment to ask whether the world’s main peace organization is still able to prevent war and help build lasting peace in today’s conditions.

The UN matters because it remains the only global forum where almost every country can speak, negotiate, and seek solutions under a shared set of rules. Its work is guided by the UN Charter, which calls for peaceful settlement of disputes and rejects the use of force except in self-defense or when authorized by the UN Security Council. The UN is not a world government and cannot force countries to obey. Its strength depends on the cooperation, funding, and political will of its member states. Even so, it continues to provide essential tools for diplomacy, humanitarian coordination, peace operations, and the development of international norms that shape how states should behave.

As the UN approaches 80, the state of war and peace worldwide is troubling. Major conflicts such as the war in Ukraine, the violence in Gaza and broader tensions in the Middle East, and crises in places like Sudan, Myanmar, and parts of the Sahel show how quickly violence can escalate and how hard it is to end once it becomes entrenched. Many of today’s wars last for years, weakening governments, destroying economies, and leaving deep social wounds that can fuel future

conflict. Civilians are increasingly paying the highest price as homes, hospitals, schools, and essential services are damaged or attacked. These conflicts also create massive displacement, forcing millions of people to flee within their own countries or across borders, placing heavy pressure on host communities and neighboring states.

At the same time, geopolitical rivalry is making global cooperation harder, especially inside the Security Council. The Council’s five permanent members- China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, hold veto power, which can block decisions even when violence is severe. When the Council is divided, ceasefires can stall, peace missions can be delayed or restricted, and enforcement measures may become selective or inconsistent. This damages the UN’s credibility and weakens the sense that international rules apply fairly to all.

Despite these challenges, the UN has achieved important results over the decades. UN peacekeeping has helped countries transition away from war, protect civilians, support elections, and stabilize fragile areas when there is a political process to support. It has contributed to peace and recovery in several places, especially where local leaders and regional partners worked toward the same goal. The UN also plays a key role in quiet diplomacy through mediators and special envoys who reduce tensions, encourage dialogue, and support negotiations. In addition, the UN has helped shape international norms that discourage aggressive war and promote human rights and humanitarian protection, giving the world shared standards even when enforcement is difficult.

However, UN @80 highlights several serious problems that must be addressed. One of the biggest is the growing demand for Security Council reform. Many countries argue that the Council still reflects the power structure of 1945 rather than today’s realities, and that regions such as Africa and Latin America are not represented fairly in permanent decision-

making. Reform ideas include expanding membership, improving transparency, and limiting the use of the veto in cases of mass atrocities, but changes are difficult because they require agreement among powerful states that benefit from the current structure.

Another major challenge is that the global system often focuses more on managing crises than on preventing them. Emergency humanitarian aid is essential, but it cannot replace long-term peacebuilding. Sustainable peace requires dealing with root causes such as weak governance, corruption, exclusion, inequality, and competition over resources. In many places, conflicts are also being reshaped by technology. Cyberattacks can disrupt critical services, disinformation can deepen social divisions, and drones and emerging autonomous weapons can lower the cost of violence while raising new ethical and legal concerns. Artificial intelligence may further increase the speed and unpredictability of conflict, increasing the risk of miscalculation. Alongside these risks, nuclear tensions remain dangerous, and climate change acts as a “threat multiplier” by worsening food insecurity, water stress, disasters, and displacement, especially in fragile states.

Funding and political support are also major obstacles. Peace operations and humanitarian programs depend on contributions from member states, and when payments are delayed or reduced, missions lose capacity. At the same time, public trust in international institutions has weakened in many places, making cooperation harder. These pressures can leave the UN expected to do more while having fewer resources and less unity among the states that control its decisions.

Looking ahead, the UN's path at 80 should focus on practical priorities. Prevention must become the first choice rather than the last resort, using early warning, mediation, inclusive governance, human rights protection,

and development that reduces grievances before violence begins. Peacebuilding should be strengthened alongside peacekeeping, because lasting peace depends on justice, functioning institutions, education, jobs, and reconciliation, not only on the presence of forces on the ground. Peace processes should also be more inclusive, because peace agreements are more durable when women, youth, and affected communities have a real role in negotiations and recovery. The UN and its

members must rebuild respect for international law, including the protection of civilians and humanitarian access, and must push for accountability in a consistent way so that global rules are not seen as selective. The organization also needs to modernize cooperation on new threats, including cyber stability, responsible AI use, and safeguards against harmful autonomous weapons and disinformation.

Ultimately, UN @80 reminds the world of a basic truth: the UN cannot create peace by itself. It is a tool, and its effectiveness depends

on the political will of member states. The organization can provide diplomacy, humanitarian coordination, peacekeeping support, and legal frameworks, but countries must choose to use these tools sincerely and consistently. At 80, the UN's mission is not outdated, war still destroys lives, and peace still requires cooperation. The real global challenge is whether nations will move beyond division and short-term interests to protect the rules and institutions that prevent wider conflict. If UN @80 becomes a moment of reform, prevention, and renewed commitment, the UN can remain a vital anchor for peace in a fast-changing world. If not, the risk is a future where conflicts last longer, civilians suffer more, and global norms weaken further, exactly the future the UN was created to prevent.



WAR AND PEACE: THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE AT UN@80

(युद्ध आणि शांतता : संयुक्त राष्ट्रांच्या 80 वर्षांपुढील जागतिक आव्हान)



Balaji Doke LLB 2ND YEAR

युद्धाचा ज्वालामुखी पुन्हा धगधगतो आहे; प्रश्न एवढाच - संयुक्त राष्ट्रे अजूनही शांततेचा मार्ग दाखवू शकतील का?

प्रस्तावना -

“युद्ध कोणाचेच नसते, पण त्याचे विदारक परिणाम मानवी सभ्यतेच्या अनेक पिढ्यांना भोगावे लागतात.” आज 2026 मध्ये जेव्हा आपण इतिहासाच्या पाऊलखुणांचा मागोवा घेतो, तेव्हा असे लक्षात येते की मानवी संस्कृतीचा विकास जितका विज्ञानाने झाला, तितकाच तो संघर्षांनीही काळवंडला आहे. दुसऱ्या महायुद्धाच्या भीषण राखेमधून जेव्हा जग सावरत होते, तेव्हा मानवतेने एक सामूहिक शपथ घेतली होती - ‘पुन्हा कधीही नाही’ (Never Again). याच उदात्त भावनेतून 24 ऑक्टोबर 1945 रोजी ‘संयुक्त राष्ट्र’ (United Nations) या संघटनेचा जन्म झाला. आज 2026 मध्ये या ऐतिहासिक घटनेला 80 वर्षे पूर्ण होत आहेत. 80 वर्षे हा कोणत्याही आंतरराष्ट्रीय संस्थेसाठी एक मोठा मैलाचा दगड असतो, पण दुर्दैवाने आज हा टप्पा साजरा करताना जगाच्या नकाशावर शांततेऐवजी रक्ताचे डाग अधिक गडद दिसत आहेत. युक्रेनच्या रणांगणापासून ते गाझाच्या उद्ध्वस्त गल्ल्यांपर्यंत आणि इराणच्या आकाशात धगधगणाऱ्या क्षेपणास्त्रांपासून ते दक्षिण चीन समुद्रातील वाढत्या तणावापर्यंत - युद्धाचा ज्वालामुखी पुन्हा एकदा पेटला आहे. अशा वेळी प्रश्न उभा राहतो की, 80 वर्षांची ही अनुभवी संघटना आजही शांततेचा मार्ग दाखवू शकेल का, की ती केवळ श्रीमंत राष्ट्रांच्या ‘चर्चा करण्याचे व्यासपीठ’ बनून राहिली आहे?

स्थापना आणि ऐतिहासिक पार्श्वभूमी: विनाशातून आशेचा जन्म -

दुसऱ्या महायुद्धातील नरसंहार मानवी कल्पनेच्या पलीकडचा होता. जपानच्या हिरोशिमा आणि नागासाकीवर झालेले अणुबॉम्बचे हल्ले, नाझींच्या छळछावण्यांमधील क्रूरता आणि कोट्यवधी लोकांचे स्थलांतर यामुळे जगाला एका खंबीर जागतिक पालकत्वाची गरज भासू लागली. यापूर्वी 1920 मध्ये स्थापन झालेली ‘लीग ऑफ नेशन्स’ ही संस्था दुसरे महायुद्ध रोखण्यात पूर्णपणे अपयशी ठरली होती, कारण तिच्याकडे सदस्य देशांवर अंकुश ठेवण्यासाठी कोणतीही ठोस यंत्रणा नव्हती.

या अपयशातून धडा घेऊन संयुक्त राष्ट्रांची रचना करताना तिला अधिक व्यवहार्यता आणि ताकद देण्याचा प्रयत्न करण्यात आला. 51 मूळ सदस्य देशांनी ‘संयुक्त राष्ट्र सनद’ (UN Charter) वर स्वाक्षरी केली. या सनदेचा मुख्य उद्देश होता. आंतरराष्ट्रीय शांतता आणि सुरक्षा राखणे, मानवी हक्कांचे संरक्षण करणे, आंतरराष्ट्रीय कायद्यांचे पालन सुनिश्चित करणे आणि

सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकासाला चालना देणे. सुरुवातीच्या शीतयुद्धाच्या काळात, अमेरिका आणि सोव्हिएत युनियनमधील संघर्ष शिगेला पोहोचलेला असतानाही जगाला तिसऱ्या महायुद्धापासून वाचवण्यात संयुक्त राष्ट्रांनी महत्त्वाची पडद्यामागची भूमिका बजावली, हे ऐतिहासिक सत्य नाकारता येणार नाही.

80 वर्षांतील यशाचा आलेख: केवळ युद्ध नव्हे, तर मानवता -

संयुक्त राष्ट्रांचे मूल्यमापन केवळ मोठ्या युद्धांच्या संदर्भात करणे अपूर्ण ठरेल. एका सजग विद्यार्थ्याच्या दृष्टीने पाहिले तर या संघटनेने मानवी विकासाच्या अनेक आघाड्यांवर मूक क्रांती घडवून आणली आहे. जर संयुक्त राष्ट्रे नसती, तर आज जगाची स्थिती अधिक भयावह असती.

1. मानवतावादी साहाय्य: ‘वर्ल्ड फूड प्रोग्राम’ (WFP) च्या माध्यमातून युद्धग्रस्त आणि दुष्काळग्रस्त भागात अन्नाचा पुरवठा करण्यात आला आहे. जेव्हा एखाद्या देशाची यंत्रणा कोलमडते, तेव्हा संयुक्त राष्ट्रांचा निळा ध्वज आशेचा किरण बनतो. दरवर्षी कोट्यवधी लोकांना या मदतीमुळे जीवदान मिळते.

दल्याने

2. आरोग्य क्रांती: जागतिक आरोग्य संघटना (WHO) मुळे पोलिओ आणि देवी सारख्या रोगांचे जगातून निर्मूलन शक्य झाले. 2024-25 मधील नवीन आरोग्य संकटांच्या वेळीही या संस्थेने जागतिक समन्वयाचे काम केले आहे. ‘युनिसेफ’ (UNICEF) ने जगातील लाखो मुलांच्या प्राथमिक शिक्षण आणि लसीकरणाची जबाबदारी यशस्वीपणे पेलली आहे.

3. शांतता रक्षक दल (UN Peacekeeping): जगातील अत्यंत अशांत भागांमध्ये, जिथे वांशिक हिंसाचार शिगेला पोहोचला आहे, तिथे ‘ब्लू हेल्मेट्स’ म्हणून ओळखले जाणारे संयुक्त राष्ट्रांचे शांतता सैनिक स्वतःचे प्राण पणाला लावून सामान्य नागरिकांचे रक्षण करतात. भारताने या मोहिमांमध्ये आजवर आपले सर्वाधिक सैनिक पाठवून जागतिक शांततेसाठी आपली कटिबद्धता सिद्ध केली आहे.

सुरक्षा परिषद: ‘व्हेटो’चा शाप आणि सत्तेचे राजकारण -

संयुक्त राष्ट्रांच्या रचनेत ‘सुरक्षा परिषद’ हे सर्वात शक्तिशाली अंग आहे, पण आज हेच अंग सर्वात मोठे अडथळा बनले आहे. सुरक्षा परिषदेतील पाच कायमस्वरूपी सदस्य (P5) - अमेरिका, रशिया, चीन, फ्रान्स आणि ब्रिटन - यांना मिळालेला ‘व्हेटो’ (Veto) अधिकार हा 1945 च्या काळानुसार विजयी राष्ट्रांना दिलेला सन्मान होता, पण 2026 च्या बदललेल्या जगात तो अन्यायकारक वाटतो. जेव्हा रशियाने युक्रेनवर आक्रमण केले, तेव्हा रशिया स्वतःच सुरक्षा परिषदेचा सदस्य असल्याने आपल्या विरोधातील कोणताही ठोस ठराव त्याने व्हेटो वापरून फेटाळून लावला. तसेच, मध्यपूर्वेतील संघर्षात इस्रायलच्या विरोधात येणारे ठराव अमेरिका वारंवार आपल्या नकाराधिकाराचा वापर करून रोखते. हा प्रकार म्हणजे “ज्याची लाठी त्याची म्हेस” असा आहे. यामुळे जगातील लहान आणि विकसनशील देशांचा या संघटनेवरील विश्वास उडू लागला आहे. आज

जी-4 (भारत, जपान, जर्मनी, ब्राझील) सारखे देश सुरक्षा परिषदेच्या विस्ताराची मागणी करत आहेत, कारण सध्याची रचना जगाच्या वास्तविक लोकसंख्येचे आणि शक्तीचे प्रतिनिधित्व करत नाही.

सद्यस्थितीतील जागतिक संकट: रशिया, इराण-इस्त्रायल संघर्ष आणि 2026 चे वास्तव -

2022 मध्ये सुरू झालेले रशिया-युक्रेन युद्ध 2026 पर्यंतही पूर्णपणे संपलेले नाही. हे युद्ध आता केवळ दोन देशांमधील सीमावाद राहिलेला नाही, तर ते जागतिक महासत्तांच्या वर्चस्वाचे प्रतीक बनले आहे. या युद्धामुळे जागतिक अन्नसाखळी विस्कळीत झाली असून गहू आणि खतांच्या किमती वा गरिबांच्या तोंडचा घास हिरावला गेला आहे. परंतु, सध्या जगाचे लक्ष मध्यपूर्वेकडे लागले आहे, जिथे परिस्थिती अत्यंत भयानक वळणावर पोहोचली आहे. इस्त्रायल आणि अमेरिकेच्या संयुक्त लष्करी कारवाईदरम्यान इराणचे सर्वोच्च नेते आयातुल्ला अली खामेनी यांची हत्या झाल्याचे वृत्त समोर आले आणि संपूर्ण जगात खळबळ उडाली. या घटनेने आगीत तेल ओतण्याचे काम केले आहे. इराणने या कारवाईला तीव्र प्रत्युत्तर देत इस्त्रायल आणि आखाती देशांतील अमेरिकन लष्करी तळांवर शेंकडो क्षेपणास्त्रे आणि ड्रोनने हल्ले केले आहेत. एखाद्या देशाच्या सर्वोच्च नेत्याची अशा प्रकारे हत्या होणे, ही आंतरराष्ट्रीय मुत्सद्देगिरीतील अत्यंत गंभीर घटना मानली जात आहे. यामुळे इराण-इस्त्रायल संघर्ष आता थेट महायुद्धाच्या उंबरठ्यावर येऊन ठेपला आहे. या संघर्षाचा परिणाम केवळ त्या प्रदेशापुरता मर्यादित नाही. भारतासारख्या देशांसाठी हे संकट आर्थिकदृष्ट्या गंभीर आहे, कारण आपला मोठा कच्चा माल (तेल) या भागातून येतो. 'स्ट्रेट ऑफ होर्मुझ' सारखा महत्वाचा व्यापारी मार्ग युद्धामुळे बंद झाल्यास जागतिक व्यापाराला मोठी खीळ बसू शकते आणि तेलाचे दर गगनाला भिडू शकतात.

युद्धाचे बदलते स्वरूप: 21 व्या शतकातील नवीन आव्हाने -
आज युद्ध केवळ तोफा आणि विमानांनी रणभूमीवर लढले जात नाही. 21 व्या शतकातील युद्धाचे स्वरूप अत्यंत गुंतागुंतीचे आणि 'हायब्रीड' (Hybrid) झाले आहे, ज्याचा सामना करणे संयुक्त राष्ट्रांच्या जुन्या नियमावलीला जड जात आहे:

- **सायबर युद्ध (Cyber Warfare):** प्रत्यक्ष सीमेवर न जाता एखाद्या देशाची अर्थव्यवस्था, वीज व्यवस्था, बँकिंग किंवा संरक्षण यंत्रणा एका क्लिकवर निकामी करणे शक्य झाले आहे. 2025 मध्ये अनेक देशांच्या पायाभूत सुविधांवर झालेले सायबर हल्ले हे याचेच पुरावे आहेत.
- **माहिती युद्ध (Information Warfare):** सोशल मीडियाच्या माध्यमातून खोट्या बातम्या (Deepfakes) पसरवून लोकांच्या मनात द्वेष निर्माण करणे आणि देशांतर्गत अस्थिरता निर्माण करणे, हे आजचे नवीन शस्त्र आहे. यामुळे समाजात अंतर्गत फूट पडते, जी भरून काढणे अवघड असते.
- **आर्थिक शस्त्र (Economic Sanctions):** शस्त्रांपेक्षा अधिक आर्थिक नाकेबंदी करून एखाद्या देशाला जागतिक बाजारपेठेपासून तोडणे, हे देखील युद्धाचेच एक रूप आहे. यामुळे त्या देशातील सामान्य नागरिकांचे हाल होतात.

भारताची भूमिका: 'विश्वबंधू' आणि ग्लोबल साऊथचा आवाज -

भारत हा जगातील सर्वात मोठी लोकशाही असलेला देश असून त्याचे संयुक्त राष्ट्रांमधील योगदान अतुलनीय आहे. भारताने नेहमीच "हे युद्ध करण्याचे युग नाही" (This is not an era of war) ही ठाम भूमिका आंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तरावर मांडली आहे. पंतप्रधान मोदींच्या या विधानाने

जगाला एका नव्या मुत्सद्देगिरीची दिशा दिली आहे. भारताची सुरक्षा परिषदेत कायमस्वरूपी सदस्यत्वाची मागणी आता केवळ भारतासाठी नाही, तर संपूर्ण 'ग्लोबल साऊथ'साठी (आफ्रिका, दक्षिण अमेरिका आणि दक्षिण आशियातील विकसनशील देश) महत्वाची आहे. जोपर्यंत जगातील सर्वात मोठी लोकसंख्या असलेल्या देशाला निर्णय प्रक्रियेत स्थान मिळत नाही, तोपर्यंत संयुक्त राष्ट्रांचे निर्णय खऱ्या अर्थाने लोकशाहीवादी ठरणार नाहीत.

बदलती जागतिक व्यवस्था (World Order) आणि UNO ची भूमिका

आजच्या बदलत्या काळात संयुक्त राष्ट्रांची भूमिका ही केवळ 'समन्वयकाची' असून चालणार नाही, तर ती आक्रमक असायला हवी.

1) मल्टिपोलर (Multipolar) जगाची गरज -

जग आता केवळ एका किंवा दोन महासत्तांच्या दावणीला बांधलेले राहू शकत नाही. जागतिक सत्ताकेंद्र हे 'बहुध्रुवीय' (Multipolar) असायला हवेत. जेव्हा सत्ता विभागली जाते, तेव्हाच आर्थिक उन्नत असलेल्या देशांची अरेरावी कमी होईल आणि संयुक्त राष्ट्रे अधिक निष्पक्षपणे काम करू शकतील.

2) तिसऱ्या जगाकडे पाहण्याचा दृष्टिकोन -

ऐतिहासिकदृष्ट्या पाहता, 'तिसऱ्या जगातील' (विकसनशील) देशांच्या विकासासाठी किंवा तिथे होणाऱ्या मानवाधिकारांच्या उल्लंघनाबाबत संयुक्त राष्ट्रांची भूमिका नेहमीच मवाळ दिसून आली आहे. आफ्रिकेतील वांशिक हिंसाचार असो वा आशियातील गरिबी, प्रगत देशांच्या तुलनेत या भागातील समस्या सोडवताना UNO ची आक्रमकता कमी पडते. ही 'मवाळ' भूमिका बदलून विकसनशील राष्ट्रांना समान दर्जा देणे ही काळाची गरज आहे.

शांततेचा मार्ग: काय करणे आवश्यक आहे?

संयुक्त राष्ट्रांच्या 80 व्या वर्षानिमित्त आपल्याला काही मूलभूत आणि धाडसी बदल करावे लागतील:

1. **सुरक्षा परिषदेत लोकशाहीकरण:** केवळ पाच देशांची मतेदारी संपवून परिषदेचा विस्तार करणे. व्हेटो अधिकाराचा गैरवापर रोखण्यासाठी नवीन नियम तयार करणे.
2. **आर्थिक स्वायत्तता:** संयुक्त राष्ट्रे अनेकदा मोठ्या देशांच्या निधीवर अवलंबून असतात. त्यामुळे त्यांना स्वतंत्र आर्थिक स्रोत उपलब्ध करून देणे, जेणेकरून ते दबावाखाली येणार नाहीत.
3. **हवामान बदल आणि संसाधने:** भविष्यातील युद्धे पाणी आणि अन्नासाठी होऊ शकतात. त्यामुळे हवामान बदल रोखण्यासाठी संयुक्त राष्ट्रांनी अधिक आक्रमक भूमिका घेणे आवश्यक आहे.
4. **मुत्सद्देगिरीला प्राधान्य:** 'युनायटेड नेशन्स जनरल असेंब्ली' (UNGA) ला अधिक अधिकार देणे, जेणेकरून बहुसंख्य देशांचा आवाज ऐकला जाईल.

निष्कर्ष - शेवटी, संयुक्त राष्ट्रे ही काही जादूची कांडी नाही की जिने एका रात्रीत सर्व युद्धे थांबतील. ही संस्था तितकीच मजबूत आहे जितके तिचे सदस्य देश तिला बनवू इच्छितात. 80 वर्षांपूर्वी ज्या आशेने या संस्थेची स्थापना झाली होती, ती आशा आजही जिवंत ठेवणे हे आपल्या सर्वांचे कर्तव्य आहे. युद्धाचा शेवट नेहमीच विनाशात होतो - मग तो जिकणाऱ्याचा असो वा हरणाऱ्याचा. आज 2026 मध्ये आपण अशा वळणावर उभे आहोत जिथे आपल्याला ठरवावे लागेल की, आपल्याला आपल्या पुढच्या पिढीला वारसा म्हणून काय द्यायचे आहे? बॉम्बचे आवाज आणि रक्ताळलेली जमीन की शांतता, विकास आणि सुरक्षित जगाचे स्वप्न?

जर संयुक्त राष्ट्रांनी स्वतःला काळानुसार बदलले नाही, तर इतिहासातील 'लीग ऑफ नेशन्स'प्रमाणे तिचीही नोंद एक हतबल संस्था म्हणून होईल. पण जर जगातील सर्व देशांनी संकुचित राष्ट्रवाद आणि अहंकार बाजूला ठेवून मानवतेचा विचार केला,

GLOBAL DOUBLE STANDARDS: SUPERPOWERS AND THE EROSION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS



Shubhra Tripathi, BALLB 3rd Year

Introduction

Sovereign equality and consent are fundamental components of International Law and its architecture. However, regardless of the existing guidelines, the dominant states' continuous use of illegitimate behaviors and selective adherence, first, second, and third world, discredits effective multilateral agreements. As an example of selective adherence, some states use legal excuses to justify their international behaviors, while placing no legal value to their behaviors controlled by directives. Participatory legal contradictions are common among the dominant states, such as the United States, Russia, and China. These states justify their legal violations under international law by using self-defense, humanitarian and other security justification doctrines.

Conceptual Framework: Double Standards and Selective Compliance

International Law demonstrates a double standard when states unilaterally apply these norms differently for different cases, individuals, or geographical areas. The main concern is not that a state is differentiating per se and crossing a legal boundary, it is that this is typically motivated by a state's geopolitical agenda instead of an objective legal rationale. In a situation where there is no central authority, legislature, or globally mandated law enforcement; powerful states acting lawfully are the only ones that can provide structural compliance.

The term 'selective compliance' generally describes the legal approach where states comply with some prescribed actions while avoiding compliance and actions that may contradict the objectives of those legal instruments; take advantage of legal loopholes; legal exceptions or reservations; or legislative intent

of a statute. The effects of this practice are that the legal instruments become a boundary-less receptor for state actions and strategies instead of the internationally accepted and coherent strategic actions of states to combat irrational international order.

Theoretical Perspectives on Power and Law

Theoretical mapping of double standards derives from fundamental tensions of classical realism and liberal institutionalism perspectives of international order. Realists argue that law is of no real consequence and is just a 'rhetorical prop' to legitimize coercive acts. They argue that powerful states will always bend or completely disregard rules when systemic constraints are weak. On the other hand, liberal institutionalists argue that there is a stabilizing effect from shared/integrated laws, and that great powers even rely on the credibility and predictability of their legally binding obligations.

A constructivist and critical legal approach, with more nuance, shows how double standards influence the evolution of norms. Accusations of double standards are common in international criminal law, where the selective investigation and prosecution of the 'weak' or 'non-Western' states often draw accusations of neo-colonialism, and engenders calls for broader inclusivity in norm-producing processes. This situation is a repeat of Russia and China's historical framing of international law as a tool of Western imperialism, and their assertion that a strict adherence to sovereign equality is necessary in the face of 'interventionist' limits, such as the Responsibility to Protect (R2P). In this sense, double standards are not simply an implementation flaw, but an active area of dispute regarding the hierarchy of legal loyalties and the distribution of interpretive control.

Case Studies of Major Power Conduct Military Interventions and the Use of Force

The prohibitions on the use of force articulated in Article 2(4) of the UN Charter exhibit, to put it charitably, some double

standards. The absence of self-defensive claims and self-defensive humanitarian justifications lacking explicit Security Council approvals illustrate how legally competing justifications operate to bypass the law. Iraq 2003 exemplifies superpower unilateralism, while Crimea 2014 and Ukraine 2022 exemplify legally and politically competing justifications for the use of force without self-defensive claims.

Sanctions Regimes

In terms of sanctions, the US has adopted what are termed 'secondary sanctions' and placed embargos against Russia and Iran. The US sanctions against Iran are characterized by economically sectorial and financial measures while attempting to extend what are termed 'extraterritorial' unilateralism (i.e., sanctions against economically non-compliant nation states, termed 'unilateral' by the proponents of the measures, as it imposes sanctions against that negatively impacts the non-compliant nation). Russia and China have also adopted sanctions in a form that shields their aligned states from sanctions, and parallel to that, have implemented sanctions that do not contravene their strategic interests. This competition in the fractured and non-constitutive ethical space of sanctions creates a space for intentional contradictions.

The Role and Limitations of the United Nations

The UN conveys faith in a global order grounded in law, yet its design magnifies the existence of multiple standards. The Charter's Structural Security Council Permanent Member Veto Power means any of the Big Five can prevent the adoption of a resolution that critiques them or their clients. The Council's paralysis over Syria and Russia's vetoes of proposed actions against Russia as a result of the War in Ukraine both demonstrate how the veto converts the Council into a venue for geopolitical trade as opposed to a venue for neutral enforcement of the law.

The more representative General Assembly, lacks the enforcement capacity of the (Chapter VII) and is often limited to declaratory or symbolic functions. While it is true that the General Assembly can pass resolutions based on a doctrine called "Uniting for Peace", it is also true that its actions have little to no enforceability and can be ignored with impunity by the more powerful states. It is this unequal distribution of function that leads to the conclusion that legality is a function of the will of the powerful rather than a result of an autonomous legal order.

Other organs, like treaty bodies and the International

Court of Justice (ICJ), have limitations that are beyond their control. For the ICJ, they are reliant on the jurisdiction of states, and the great powers do not engage with compulsory jurisdiction (selective dominion with respect to jurisdiction) - a classic example being Russia and the United States. The Council, like most of the ICJ, attracts quite some criticism for unbalanced attention to certain states (Israel in particular), which passes over other egregious violations, leading to claims of politicisation.

Impact on Global Governance and the Rule of Law

The double standards of powerful states also affect the perception of the UN as a multilateral institution. The UN is seen as not providing neutral and equitable resolutions to conflicts for Palestine, Syria, and more recently Ukraine. The UN's inability to resolve these conflicts has caused a rapid shift to creating new, potentially more unilateral, regional governing processes that break apart the current world order. The charge of double standards has a paralyzing effect on the development of international law, states refrain from legal responses and diplomatic initiatives to avoid being accused of allowing the doctrine of self-restraint to dominate the development of international customs, ultimately self-restraint works against active and forceful participation in the international community.

Reforming International Legal Mechanisms

Numerous institutional and doctrinal reforms are possible for addressing such pathologies. First, reforms to the Security Council should focus on the veto. Suggestions include limiting the veto for genocide, crimes against humanity, or mass atrocities; requiring veto explanations to the General Assembly; or creating a veto with a qualified majority of permanent members. While these reforms won't end the politics of power, they will increase the price of blocking decisions on obvious violations.

Second, the dispute settlement bodies should be made more inclusive and less at the discretion of the major powers. More use of optional clause consent, more robust treaty-based standing, and more multilateral cases on climate and human rights may facilitate less insulation of the powerful. Along with this, there should be more transparency in the doctrines of self defence and humanitarian intervention, so that states are required to provide rational and objective criteria instead of using ad hoc politically motivated reasoning.

The third point pertaining to the climate and sanctions regimes emphasizes the need for more transparent and rights-integrated compliance frameworks. Regarding climate treaties, integrating legally binding procedural obligations alongside independent review mechanisms for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) would strengthen accountability. For sanctions policies, greater multilateralism and independent reviews that are legally defined 'per the outside' are critiques aimed at the political abuse of sanctions.

Conclusion

The erosion of international agreements is not simply a result of defiance of outlier states; it is equally a result of a consistent pattern of double standards and selective noncompliance by the American, Chinese, and

Russian superpowers. All three of these superpowers engage in instrumental legalism: they accept a treaty's constraining provisions when they are advantageous but, when they are not, they stretch or sidestep the provisions. Their behavior, especially as it is funneled through the Security Council, heightens arbitrariness and diminishes the prescriptive power of international law. Modifications to the veto, stronger independent dispute resolution, and more transparency and inclusiveness in the interpretation and enforcement mechanisms of the legal order are the minimum changes needed to reclaim a rules-based legal order from the grasp of power politics. Absent such changes, the assertion of a "rules-based international order" will be little more than the patina covering a highly tiered, arbitrarily enforced legal order.



80 YEARS OF UNITED NATIONS



Hrishikesh Pawar, LLB 2ND YEAR

Last year United Nations Completed it's 80 years of Establishment, UN charter signed in 26 June

1945 and came into force in 24 October same year. The object of United Nations was improving life around the world by promoting peace, human rights and social progress, including access to healthcare and education. The United Nations stands up for justice and respect of human rights. It supports countries in developing their economic and social resources, while setting standards for sustainability. They have improved the lives of people around the world, creating better living standards for all. The United Nations is essential, one-of-a-kind meeting ground to advance peace, sustainable development and human rights. It works towards helping countries to end the horrors of conflict to forge sustainable peace. But what is happening these days when the World is turning towards situation like III World War. When Countries are Fighting with each other and the people who are suffering, now we lost the count of them.

As of early 2026, the United Nations (UN) is navigating a period of intense global conflict, characterized by major wars in Gaza, Ukraine, Sudan, and other regions, which have pushed the organization's peacekeeping, diplomatic, and humanitarian mechanisms to their limits. UN Secretary-General António Guterres has described the current international context as "chaos," defined by a decline in global cooperation and high levels of impunity.

The UN's role in 2026 revolves around five key functions: facilitating diplomatic negotiations, providing humanitarian aid, protecting civilians, maintaining peace operations, and managing a growing global displacement crisis.

Key Areas of UN Involvement in 2026 –

- Middle East (Gaza): In early 2026, the UN Security

Council is navigating the implementation of a U.S.-led peace plan to consolidate a fragile ceasefire. A UN-backed "Board of Peace" is overseeing the post-war transition in Gaza. However, Hamas has rejected the presence of the international stability force, creating operational challenges. The UN continues to coordinate humanitarian aid, with over 500,000 people facing emergency food insecurity despite aid increases.

- Ukraine: Marking the four-year anniversary of the invasion in February 2026, the UN General Assembly passed a resolution supporting Ukrainian territorial integrity and calling for an immediate ceasefire. UN Human Rights experts reported that 2025 was the deadliest year for civilians since the start of the war, emphasizing the need for accountability regarding POW treatment and the return of deported children.
- Sudan and the Sahel: The UN Peacebuilding Commission is actively engaging in the Sahel region to prevent the spillover of violence, addressing the drivers of conflict in partnership with regional organizations.
- Lebanon: In late 2025, the Security Council voted to extend the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) mandate until the end of 2026 before starting a one-year drawdown.
- Iran, Israel and United States: In February 2026 the war between these nations have started after launching the first missile UN General Secretary António Guterres made statement "The UN Charter provides the foundation for the maintenance of international peace and security," he said, citing Article 2, which prohibits "the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state." International law and international humanitarian law must always be respected," the Secretary-General said, condemning the military strikes by the United States and Israel against Iran as well as the subsequent attacks by Iran. As other members stated that the suffers of these wars are always

the civilians, stop targeting hospitals, schools and homes of citizens and go back to negotiation table to avoid loss of human lives. We are witnessing a grave threat to international peace and security. Military action carries the risk of igniting a chain of events that no one can control in the most volatile region of the world.

Core Functions and Challenges

- **Humanitarian Aid & Displacement:** The UN assists a record number of people, with UN agencies feeding over 123 million people and assisting in the protection of 139 million people fleeing war and persecution globally. However, funding for these activities is strained, with a projected USD 2 billion budget deficit for peacekeeping in 2025–2026.
- **Peacekeeping Operations:** There are currently 11 multidimensional UN peacekeeping operations deployed. These missions face high-risk environments, including active violence and non-state armed groups, particularly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), Central African Republic (MINUSCA), and South Sudan (UNMISS). Trying to state Countries to avoid war and work towards mutual settlement.
- **Security Council Dynamics:** The UN Security Council continues to be hampered by deep geopolitical divisions, particularly between permanent members, limiting its ability to take swift action in several conflicts. As the pressures from the Developed Countries and Higher political powers are creating hurdles in this situations when all members have stand together and firmed for creating peace keeping.

- **Human Rights:** UN Special Advisers and Commissions of Inquiry are actively investigating war crimes, focusing on the protection of children and women in armed conflict, and sexual violence in conflict areas. As the consequences of war is far great than anyone imagined and still it has not stopped. The civilians who are the major loss bearers they have lost the place where they stayed there lives, the loss of life of there family members or separation from them, then human trafficking or Sexual assaults on the suffers, counselling of the children's who were present in that situation and many more things which are coming in from of them day to day basis.

Eighty years after its founding, the United Nations faces new challenges. The climate crisis is raging, inequalities are growing, and poverty is on the rise, Deforestation, soil erosion, Pollution is increasing and many more critical situations are standing ahead of humanity. Terrorism and the nuclear threat persist, and new threats have emerged as artificial intelligence becomes a , rushing ahead of regulation. And on going chaos of War which is affecting Developed countries but more suffers are Developing countries in worst scenario lack of resource managements and its impact on Global Market conditions is devastating as things are getting costlier because of less availability of the resources and vies a versa. According to In general secretary the UN is trying to convince the countries to avoid war and loss of human lives, infrastructure, natural resources and habitat and bring them back to the stage where both parties can come to settlement.

AI AND LITIGATION



Hrishikesh Pawar, LLB 2nd Year

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is now in everyone's mind and in hand, we can say that maximum of Activities are handled by AI from teaching, driving, etc. As the reliance on AI have increased so much today that it have entered in section of major professions like Doctors, Engineers, Accountants and litigations too. Now if we see Litigation is more related to practical appliances of knowledge a lot of research is needed updating of new laws and judgments, knowledge about not only national but international laws and vise a versa. Earlier it was an interesting adventurous activity as well as lots of new experiences, new things, practical experiences, visiting new places and searching corresponding sections in different acts, relating case laws, reading judgements and many more things. As in today's new World where technology is updating on daily basis, a lawyer is also have to stay updated if they want to survive so adapting AI has become positive as well as negative for lawyers, positive for those who are new emerging in this profession and who have knowledge how to use it, and negative for those who have never relied on technology and who are not able to understand it. AI is an double edge sword, mm if you have complete knowledge you can used it accurately but if you have half knowledge it will mislead you, the people who don't have knowledge will completely avoid it. But today the higher level of courts have started becoming technology oriented the basic object is for transparency between citizens like using in camera proceedings in courts and to save the trees less use of physical or paper documents and rely on technology like touch screen Pcs or IPad. But there were also some circumstances where it used without knowledge or with half knowledge which created chaos in court rooms as the lawyers started to wholly rely

there work done by AI and making statements, arguing, incorrect mentioning of case laws, without cross checking them whether it is right or wrong. Recently there were some things which Supreme Court noticed in court room when a lawyer completely fail to convey what there was in his Petition to judge, the judge came to know that it is work done through AI so judge immediately dismissed the case, in another circumstances in court room of Justice B V Nagarathna recalled that how a lawyer fake case law Mercy Vs Mankind, in last few months Supreme Court has seen growing number of cases filing by lawyers cities fake case laws derived from AI which is only increasing workload of judges and if it is not timely notice then impact of that judgement will mislead the subordinate courts and lawyers and citizens. The reliance on AI should not supposed to be blind and mostly the new generation lawyers and the new user of these tools who have half knowledge, must be very careful before relying on AI because they are trusted by there clients.

The use of AI in litigations is important part too as the number of cases pending in courts very much. The AI today is performing some basic functions which is helping the legal system. But AI to reach the level of Advocacy, that is very long goal. For technical functions the reliance on AI is an helpful function but while practically analyzing and presenting a case in court room on behalf of client is completely different approach. AI may have power to do quantity of work, but when it comes to quality human mind is most reliable. A accurate way of using AI is to completely understanding it and taking points from it not to completely rely on it. May be in future AI will able handle this work... may be but today human mind has no Alternative because a mixture of Emotions and Practical Experiences can only applied by Human Mind not AI.

SILENT VICTIMS OF WAR



Ananya Arya LLB 1ST YEAR

In the wake of World War II, the United Nations was established as a guardian of peace, a platform for dialogue and a shield for humanity against the horror of war.

Today the UN marks the 80th year, reflecting on its enduring promise to shield humanity and uphold peace

In 1945 with the founding of the United Nations, we traded the battlefield for the boardroom, trusting words to restrain war, placing faith in diplomacy to preserve peace. Yet eight decades later the question arises – has peace truly reached who needs it the most? While the great wars have been avoided, the world still bleeds from countless smaller conflicts that the UN's paper shield cannot seem to cover.

War in its most brutal form is often discussed from the lens of geopolitics, territorial disputes and strategic victory but beyond this lies a hidden painful reality, war is a deeply human tragedy as well borne disproportionately by those who never choose it the ordinary people for them it is not just about diplomacy and strategy but about survival.

Behind every declaration of wars lies a quiet unraveling of countless lives. A mother in conflict zone does not debate international law, she worries whether her child will eat that night, a father who grieves his son claimed by a war that was never his to fight. A student does not contemplate ceasefire agreement but wonders about the dream which got buried under debris. These are the real narratives of war. While leaders negotiate and strategize it's the common citizen who pays the highest price.

Yet paradoxically wars are justified in the language of power, security and national interest while diplomacy becomes a subtle struggle for dominance and in this pursuit, human lives risk becoming collateral.

The United Nations over 80 years symbolizes both hope and limitation, it has played a significant role in peacekeeping, humanitarian aid and conflict

Resolution, international conventions and global cooperation stand as reminder that collective action is possible

However the persistence of conflicts across the world raises an ironical question. Can peace really sustain when power and politics dominate international relations? Can diplomacy remain meaningful if strategic gains are kept above human sufferings?

The answer lies in re-centering global governance from prioritizing citizens' life than territorial lines

Peace is not merely absence of conflict, it is the presence of justice, dignity and opportunity. Which requires addressing the root causes of conflict, poverty, discrimination and inequality because for ordinary people peace means envisioning a future without fear

At 80, the United Nations must recognize that worlds need to move beyond symbolic commitments that lasting peace cannot be built on fragile negotiations but its legacy is to be defined by the impact on human lives.

The global challenge today is not to end war but to create conditions where peace can thrive. This requires empathy in leadership, accountability in action and unwavering focus on humanity.

Because in the end peace is not signed agreement or celebrated in victories but is measured in quiet safety of those lives where fear to survive does not define existence.

COEXISTENCE OF WAR AND PEACE IN THE 21ST CENTURY: A MYTH OR A REALITY A DISCRETIONARY CONVERSATIONAL PIECE



Radha Rajguru, B.A.L.L.B 5TH Year

“We make war that we may live in peace,” says Aristotle.

War is a state of conflict between countries arising because of their differences. It can also be seen as an extension of national policy toward others in order to expand territories or assert dominance.

Have we ever thought about the human nature behind initiating and continuing wars?

According to Thomas Hobbes, an English philosopher, scientist, and historian, human nature before civilisation was extremely violent. Aggression, therefore, is a trait inherent in humans, and it often finds its expression in violence and war.

War: Justified or Condemnable?

War is generally considered bad because it destroys lives, disrupts development, damages economies, and harms the environment. Its effects are not limited to the present generation; they extend into the future through physical, social, and psychological consequences.

However, some argue that war can be morally justified under certain circumstances. War may be considered morally acceptable when it is fought in self-defence, to end violations of rights, or to resist unjust peace. Historically, wars have also led to significant social and political changes and, at times, have contributed to progress and reform.

This leads to an important question: Can war ever be completely stopped?

Leo Tolstoy, the Russian author of one of the greatest novels ever written, *War and Peace*, believed that war is inevitable. In certain religious traditions as well, war is

sometimes interpreted as a form of divine punishment.

In the 21st century, however, the global political structure appears different. We now have rules and laws governing international relations, independent nation-states, largely accepted national boundaries, and institutions that promote cooperation. These developments have significantly reduced the likelihood of large-scale wars.

Yet history tells another story. Since the 17th century, there has not been a single century without major wars. The 17th century witnessed the Thirty Years' War, the 18th century saw the Seven Years' War, the 19th century experienced the Napoleonic Wars, and the 20th century was marked by the catastrophic World Wars.

Each war brought changes to societies—some beneficial and others destructive. Future leaders often claim to learn from the mistakes of the past. However, differences among nations have continued to persist, allowing wars to occur repeatedly. This suggests that the possibility of war in the 21st century still exists.

Peace: Meaning and Reality

Peace can be understood as an ideal state of happiness, freedom, and harmony within and among all people and nations on Earth.

What derives peace among people? Possibly the answer lies in the words of former President of the United States John F. Kennedy, who said that peace does not necessarily mean loving each other; rather, it means living in mutual tolerance and submitting disputes to just and peaceful settlements.

What derives peace among nations? In the present global system, institutions such as the United Nations play an important role. Peace among nations is fostered through diplomacy, international cooperation, economic interdependence, and collective efforts to address global issues such as human rights, climate change, and humanitarian concerns.

Endnotes

1. Shafiqullah Ahadi, War for Peace: "We make war that we may live in peace.", Hasht e Subh Daily (May 4, 2024), <https://8am.media/eng/war-for-peace-we-make-war-that-we-may-live-in-peace/>
2. Thanos Dellatolas, The Inherent Nature of Violence: A Philosophical and Psychoanalytic Inquiry ResearchGate, (March 2025), https://www.researchgate.net/publication/389944712_The_Inherent_Nature_of_Violence_A_Philosophical_and_Psychoanalytic_Inquiry
3. Berov G. Lyubomir. Are wars Inevitable?, J. Obes. Fitness Manag. Vol. 2 Iss. 2. (2023), <https://www.mediaresonline.org/are-wars-inevitable.html#:~:text=What%20is%20war%20and%20what,%2C%20religions%2C%20nations%20or%20ideologies.>
4. Address at the Dedication of the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial., The American Presidency Project, Jan 19, 1936, <https://www.presidency.ucs.edu/documents/address-the-dedication-the-theodore-roosevelt-memorial>
5. Seth G. Jones & Riley McCabe, Russia's Grinding War in Ukraine, (Jan 27, 2026), <https://www.csis.org/analysis/russias-grinding-war-ukraine>
6. Center for Preventive Action, Iran's War With and the United States, (Mar 13 2026), <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/confrontation-between-united-states-and-iran>
7. Global Witness, Three months on from the military coup, what should the international community do to support the people of Myanmar?, (May 6, 2021), https://globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/transition-minerals/three-months-on-from-the-military-coup-what-should-the-international-community-do-to-support-the-people-of-myanmar/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=240286584&gbraid=0AAAAADm6L OBJYqdbOcx07SQhsfS7m-ZSO&gclid=Cj0KCQjwsdnNBhC4ARIsAA_3hehVmdfMlEu33BoIG14ITgizCkpdGi1RBg9K9Atm2Wk7HNFkKg vXOxMaAjnREALw_wcB
8. Rakesh Sood, Making sense of the political tsunami in Nepal, The Hindu, March 14 2026, <https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/making-sense-of-the-political-tsunami-in-nepal/article70740867.ece>
9. UNICEF, Gender equality, 2023, <https://www.unicef.org/mena/gender-equality>
10. Global Peace Index 2025, Institute for Economics & Peace, <https://www.visionofhumanity.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Global-Peace-Index-2025>
11. Leo Tolstoy Quotes, Goodreads, <https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/76606-we-can-know-only-that-we-know-nothing-and-that>

THE EROSION OF ARTICLE 2(4) IN THE AGE OF HYBRID WARFARE



Tejas Choudhary, B.A.LL.B 2ND YEAR

Eighty years ago, the signatories of the United Nations Charter etched a definitive line in the blood-soaked soil of the mid-20th century: Article 2(4). It was designed as the ultimate legal dam against the tide of total war, strictly prohibiting “the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state.” Article 2 is enshrined under the Chapter 1 of UN Charter: Purpose and Principles. Article 2(4) of the UN charter states that “All Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the Purposes of the United Nations.” The evolving dynamics of global power politics, coupled with the growing passivity of the United Nations, raise urgent questions about the continuing relevance and enforceability of Article 2(4). The “force” imagined in 1945—defined by overt military invasions and declared hostilities—has steadily given way to an insidious “grey zone” reality, where coercion operates below the threshold of traditional warfare.

The Rise of the Grey Zone

In the contemporary landscape of 2026, the traditional battlefield has migrated. We have entered the era of Hybrid Warfare, a sophisticated blend of cyber-subversion, state-sponsored disinformation, and the tactical use of Private Military Companies (PMCs). These evolving methods cannot only be considered as alternatives to what a layman calls “kinetic wars” but as lawfare strategies designed to operate just below the legal threshold of an “armed attack.” The evolving global powers exploit via interpretive gaps in the Charter and modern powers achieve

the strategic ends of war without ever technically violating the black letter law of the UN Charter. Few of the very evidentiary examples of the plausible and diplomatic use of Grey Zone are stated below :

- 1. The Wagner Group private military of Russia:** The proliferation of Private Military Companies (PMCs)—most notably the Wagner Group and its 2026 successors—has fundamentally altered the “Attribution Gap.” By utilizing these non-state actors to secure territory or destabilize regimes in the Global South and Eastern Europe, states can achieve the strategic outcomes of an invasion while maintaining plausible deniability. Under the current UN framework, because these are technically “private” entities, their kinetic actions often fail to trigger the legal responsibility of the sponsoring state, rendering the Charter’s prohibition on the “use of force” a mere procedural hurdle rather than a deterrent.
- 2. China’s “Maritime Militia”:** In the recent past, China has been alleged to use a fleet of hundreds of “fishing vessels”—technically civilians—to swarm disputed reefs and harass the navies of the Philippines and Vietnam. These are alleged to be officially “patriotic fishermen” receiving state subsidies. When they ram a foreign ship, China claims it was a “civilian maritime accident.” Similar to the Wagner group of Russia, China escapes the allegations by claiming them to be private entities, and thus finds itself a way of plausible deniability. While on the other hand, if a US or Philippine destroyer fires on a “fishing boat,” they look like the aggressor violating international law, even if the “fishermen” are armed militia members.
- 3. Turkey’s “Mercenary Subcontracting”:** In recent conflicts, Turkey has reportedly deployed thousands of Syrian fighters (not Turkish citizens) to fight in Libya and the Nagorno-Karabakh war. By using foreign proxies rather than the Turkish

Armed Forces, Ankara can project power and change the outcome of a war without incurring “national” casualties or the legal baggage of a direct intervention. Since these fighters are not members of the Turkish military, it is technically difficult to hold the Turkish state legally responsible for their conduct under the Articles on State Responsibility, as “effective control” is notoriously hard to prove in court.

4. **Iran’s “Mosaic Proxy Network”:** Iran supports a “lattice” of groups—Hezbollah, the Houthis, and various PMF militias in Iraq—that act as an external security perimeter for Tehran. Iran is alleged to provide the missiles, the training, and the funding, but the groups maintain their own local political identities. When the Houthis strike Red Sea shipping, Iran can state they are “acting on their own initiative.” This exploits the Principle-Agent gap. International law (like the Nicaragua Case) requires a very high bar to prove a state is “directing” a proxy. Iran stays just below that bar, achieving strategic “attrition” against its rivals without ever providing the “smoking gun” needed for a legal Article 51 self-defense justification against Tehran itself.

The Implementation Deficit

The gaps in the interpretations of the UN charter gives way to a profound crisis of political will and evidentiary standards that has rendered the UN a spectator to its own erosion. The spirit of UN Charter when endorsed can be the only way to possibly evict the implementation deficit.

1.The Higher Bar of “Effective Control”: The primary legal bottleneck in addressing hybrid warfare is the attribution hurdle. The International Court of Justice (ICJ), through precedents like the Nicaragua and Genocide (Bosnia v. Serbia) cases, established the “effective control” test—a rigorous standard requiring proof that a state issued specific instructions for every illegal act committed by a proxy. In the age of decentralized “Mosaic Networks” and autonomous PMCs, this high evidentiary bar acts as a legal shield for the aggressor. By the time the “smoking gun” is produced in a court of law, the geopolitical map has already been redrawn. The UN’s inability to evolve its standard of proof to match the fluidity of modern command-and-

control structures ensures that “plausible deniability” remains the most effective weapon in a state’s arsenal.

2.The Security Council as a “Hegemonic Brake”: Furthermore, the veto power held by the P5 has evolved from a tool of stability into a mechanism for legalized obstruction. When a permanent member—or its strategic client—utilizes hybrid tactics to destabilize a region, the Security Council is structurally incapable of labeling the act a “threat to peace” under Chapter VII. This creates a dual-track international order: a “Rule of Law” for the weak and a “Rule of Exception” for the powerful. The result is an institutional paralysis where the UN can condemn a traditional border skirmish between minor powers but remains silent when a superpower cripples a rival’s sovereign functions through a “deniable” cyber-offensive or a maritime militia swarm.

3.The “Gravity” Gap and De Minimis Aggression: There exists a dangerous “gravity gap” in the UN’s current implementation strategy. Article 2(4) is often interpreted through the lens of scale and effects. Modern aggressors have mastered the art of “Salami Slicing”—conducting a series of low-intensity, non-kinetic operations that, individually, do not reach the “gravity” required to trigger a collective UN response.

Way Forward

While the “Implementation Deficit” presents a grim diagnostic of the UN at 80, the horizon is not entirely dark. The path toward reclaiming the sanctity of Article 2(4) lies in transitioning from a passive, reactive legalism to a proactive, adaptive multilateralism. In this kinetic global scenario, the role of India emerges strongly as a normative actor.

1. The way forward requires a surgical update to international legal standards. India, with its sophisticated legal tradition and experience as a victim of cross-border hybrid tactics, can lead the charge in advocating for the “Overall Control” test. By lowering the evidentiary bar for state accountability over PMCs and proxies, the international community can close the “Attribution Gap” that currently rewards plausible deniability.
2. India’s persistent demand for a permanent seat on the UNSC is no longer just a matter of national prestige; it is a structural necessity for the UN’s

survival. By championing the “Voice of the Global South,” India can bridge the trust deficit between the P5 and the rest of the world. A reformed Council that includes India provides a “stabilizing middle”—a power capable of mediating between rival blocs and ensuring that the Veto is used as a shield for peace rather than a sword for hegemonic interests.

3. In 2026, India’s doctrine of strategic autonomy has evolved into a proactive role as a “stabilizing force.” Through initiatives like the Global Development Compact and its leadership in Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), India offers a model of power projection rooted in empathy and cooperation rather than coercion. India’s recent

focus on Space Cyber Security and AI safety (such as the 2026 AI Impact Summit) positions it to help draft the much-needed “Digital Geneva Convention,” defining where cyber-interference crosses the line into a “use of force.”

The idea is to build a world where the words of Mahatma Gandhi come to life: “The rule of all should be the rule of the law of love; and the law of love is nothing but the law of Truth. I am a man of peace. I believe in peace. But I do not want peace at any price. I do not want the peace that you find in stone; I do not want the peace that you find in the grave.”



WAR, PEACE, AND FUTURE



Saeed Deepak Rote B.A.LL.B 3RD YEAR

Abstract

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, a pivotal moment for critical reflection on the organization's legacy and future in an increasingly volatile global landscape. This article examines the United Nations at this milestone through the theme "War and Peace: The Global Challenge at UN @80," offering a multi-faceted analysis of the organization's evolutionary trajectory. It traces the complex shift from traditional models of state centric conflict resolution established in 1945 to contemporary paradigms emphasizing proactive, positive peacebuilding and cooperation.

The study shows that there are still challenges that need to be addressed. These include the growing threat of wars that don't follow rules, the connection between climate change and security and the fact that the UN Security Council is often unable to make decisions because of arguments between powerful countries and the use of veto power.

The United Nations system needs urgent reform because it has reached its eighth decade of operation. The article argues that the United Nations needs to establish digital sovereignty as a legal principle in order to establish its future legitimacy and develop grassroots decision-making power to achieve its goals. The organization needs to create trust between diplomatic leaders and local communities to achieve its two goals of protecting human dignity and establishing decentralized global governance.

The Global Journey: From Conflict to Cooperation

The collapse of the League of Nations was not merely a diplomatic defeat; it was a visceral reminder of what happens when international mandates lack structural "teeth" When we reflect on the United

Nations at 80, we see that the transition from a defunct League to the UN was a deliberate, ambitious attempt to institutionalize order. The drafters of the Charter sought to avoid the League's performative nature by creating a two-track system. Under Chapter VI, the UN prioritizes the peaceful settlement of disputes, requiring parties to seek solutions through "negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement."¹ However, the architects recognized that diplomacy alone is often insufficient. Thus, they empowered the Security Council under Chapter VII to determine the existence of any threat to the peace and to mandate collective enforcement measures when dialogue is exhausted.² This framework transformed international law from a set of abstract suggestions into a system of actionable, collective security.

This journey is profoundly human, even beyond the legalities. Imagine the world in 1945 as a collection of remote strongholds divided by the "crumbling walls" of imperial avarice and ideological distrust. Every country watched its neighbours fearfully from behind its ramparts. The first time we all agreed to use the stones of those collapsing walls to construct a bridge was with the creation of the United Nations is walking on that bridge when they negotiate a trade route or a ceasefire while seated across from a rival. The bridge sways under the weight of contemporary nationalism, and the mist of false information makes it difficult to see the other side. It is frequently a terrifying walk.

Otherwise, we risk retreating into our own fortresses, waiting for the walls to collapse on us once more. At 80, the "Global Journey" tells a story of human courage of choosing to walk toward each other, even when the ground beneath us feels shaky.

¹ U.N. Charter art. 33, para.1.

² U.N. Charter art. 39.

Challenges to Peacebuilding

As the UN approaches its 80th anniversary, the peacebuilding apparatus faces a “perfect storm” of structural, financial, and technological challenges. From a legal perspective, the primary challenges are the liquidity crisis and the deterioration of necessary financial obligations under Article 17 of the Charter. As of 2026, unpaid assessments for peacekeeping operations totalled an incredible \$3.7 billion, requiring a 15% overall reduction in operating costs. The UN cannot project the “credible deterrence” necessary to protect civilians and uphold ceasefires when it is unable to pay its employees or maintain its equipment. This “financial paralysis” directly leads to a security void on the ground.

Analytically, this is made worse by the politicisation of the veto power. A surge in Security Council vetoes in 2025 and early 2026, surpassing levels seen during the Cold War, has hindered responses to protracted conflicts in Sudan, Ukraine, and Gaza. This institutional deadlock has led to a “fragmentation of peace,” where states turn away from the UN in favour of ad hoc coalitions or private “Boards of Peace.” Legally speaking, this undermines the UN’s authority as the principal arbiter of global security and ushers in a “might is right” era where powerful actors establish conditions for peace that are not governed by international law.

The most terrifying issue, aside from ledgers and vetoes, is the weaponization of digital space. Today’s peacekeepers must contend with “algorithmic warfare” disinformation campaigns intended to undermine local confidence and provoke violence against UN staff. False narratives propagated on social media have directly resulted in the deaths of peacekeepers and the immobilisation of humanitarian aid in regions like the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Lebanon. For the person on the ground, “peacebuilding” now involves navigating a digital minefield of hate speech and manipulation in addition to de-mining a physical field. Being a “sentinel of hope” in an era of impunity is the UN’s biggest challenge at eighty.

If we allow the UN to become a “walled-off citadel” of bureaucracy, we fail the millions who look to the blue flag not as a symbol of high-level diplomacy, but as the only thing standing between them and total chaos

Ecocide and Climate-Security Nexus

The present-day battlefield now exists between

environmental boundaries rather than between ideological divides. Peacebuilding efforts will continue to fail in 2026 because they focus on war symptoms while disregarding environmental destruction which sustains wartime conflict. The “Global Journey” initiative proposes to establish “Ecocide” as the fifth international crime through amendments to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC). This legal shift represents a revolutionary change because it transfers environmental protection from “soft law” treaties to the mandatory “hard law” aspects of criminal law. By making it illegal to destroy ecosystems through mass destruction the UN can prevent civil unrest which begins with resource shortages of water droughts and soil infertility and rising sea levels.³

The farmer who lives in a dry river basin considers “international peace” to be more than an abstract concept which people debate in Geneva because he depends on well water for his daily needs. The peace which exists between people disappears when the well water supply ceases to exist because of improper management of the upstream environment. People need to stop treating nature as an element that supports human history and instead view it as the essential component which guarantees our existence. The legalization of Ecocide protection will extend beyond tree conservation to protect a grandmother who needs to remain in her home because her land can no longer produce food for her grandchildren. The primary function of humanized law exists to create peace between people through the establishment of peace between humanity and nature.

³ Drafting an International Crime of Ecocide,

Independent Expert Panel for the Legal Definition of Ecocide (2025)

⁴ The Climate-Security Nexus: New Frontiers for Peacebuilding, U.N. Env’t Programme (Jan.22,2026).

⁵ U.N Charter art.39.

The Evolving Role of International Law

The United Nations celebration of its 80th anniversary marks a transition in international law which now serves as a protective framework for people instead of safeguarding state interests. The current transformation occurs through two essential domains which include Digital Sovereignty and the development of Responsibility to Protect (R2P) as military command. The Charter emerged in 1945 as a document which described the world through its physical borders and its active military capabilities. Today nations divide their territorial boundaries between physical land and virtual digital territory. The legal framework now defines sovereignty as a protection measure which extends beyond military deployment to safeguard national data security and digital rights of citizens from external algorithmic threats.

The R2P legal doctrine has developed through various stages since its establishment. The original purpose of the R2P framework to stop mass killing events has undergone transformation because its implementation requires human security assessment until 2026. Law has progressed from functioning as a top-down command system to operating as a bottom-up demand for people to receive their basic rights. The new analytic framework proves important because it disproves the Westphalian principle which allowed states to exercise complete control over their internal affairs. International law now establishes that a state must safeguard its citizens' essential rights to obtain legitimacy as a governing authority. The international community acquires both legal and moral responsibilities to intervene during state failures because this situation shifts attention from "Sovereign" rights to "Subject" rights.

The concept of the "Digital Refugee" demonstrates how legal systems have developed through human experience. This person has lost their entire existence because a false internet story permanently destroyed their physical home and state-backed cyber-attackers removed all traces of their identity. The only method to create a "digital safe haven" for them requires international law. The UN needs us to speak about it through its formal procedures yet the organization exists to protect human rights. The code that operates our world needs to create freedom for all human spirits.

The UN @80 needs to achieve its goal through showing people that they exist as more than national citizens because they have become parts of a worldwide

consciousness. Law systems will become useless because they protect people through digital existence if they only function as industrial-age laws. The battle for truth against deepfake technology needs to become part of our mission which transforms conflict into peaceful collaboration. The establishment of digital dignity as an international legal principle will create a "Global Order" which protects both military peace and emotional tranquility among people.

Right to Truth

The unique legal contribution which I present will establish "Right to Truth" as a basic human right through its recognition under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). The law requires states and corporations to follow a "Duty of Care" which protects the information ecosystem because disinformation leads to genocidal violence in real-world situations. Actual censorship does not exist here because the intention is to protect the "marketplace of ideas" from being contaminated by deliberate dangerous untruths. The 21st century requires this element because it completes the system which keeps international order intact.

Institutions in Maintaining Global Peace

The United Nations has completed 80 years of operation which has made people question its institutions through a new lens that treats efficiency as less important than establishing empathy. The United Nations after spending years in operation has become known as an aerial designer who creates global systems from his New York skyscraper base. In 2026 we face an institutional challenge which requires us to create housing but also to protect the safety of those who will live there.

The Security Council serves as the main element that defines this institutional crisis through its both legal and analytical functions. The organization created in 1945 preserves a structure that no longer resembles current global conditions. The P5 nations created their "Veto Power" system to keep their most powerful countries involved in the international system which they believed would prevent a third world war from occurring.

The modern world uses veto power to create legislative deadlock which stops progress during times of widespread violence and environmental destruction. The General Assembly is currently experiencing a historic transfer of legal authority. Through resolutions like "Uniting for Peace," the broader membership of

the UN is asserting its right to act when the Security Council is paralyzed. The international institutional law framework experiences a fundamental transformation through this security process which now exists as a democratic system.

Conclusion

The United Nations has reached its eightieth as an established organization which now functions as a worldwide ethical authority. The path from 1945 destruction to 2026 current situation demonstrates that peace exists as an ongoing process which requires both legal work and human effort. The UN can break free from its organizational stagnation by transforming its

focus from state-based “negative peace” to “positive peace” which protects digital rights and environmental sustainability.

The UN @80 legacy requires global order democratization through a transformation from a “club of sovereigns” system to a “union of peoples” format. International law must establish regulations for virtual and environmental domains while maintaining its foundational connections to human nature. The next eighty years will focus on creating a better way for humans to coexist if we succeed in changing our systems and safeguarding the “Right to Truth.”



PSYCHOLOGICAL CARE AND REHABILITATION: ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS AND LEGISLATION IN PRISONS



Swara Kolhe, BA.LLB 1ST YEAR

"The degree of civilisation in a society can be judged by entering its prisons."

~ Fyodor Dostoevsky

Introduction

Why were prisons initially made? For repentance, reformation and reintegration of the convicted individual back into the society. But today as society progresses, it becomes of utmost importance to question whether this progress reflects and incorporates what is most human about a human being— one's mental health. Ironically Mental health has been one of those things that has been overlooked in the very system that is supposed to deliver and ensure justice.

The question still stands concerning the prison environment and its impact on the mental health of individuals in prison and most importantly, whether or not the said environment is conducive and aiding them in the way that they need. Unfavourable and torturous prison circumstances can in turn lead to proliferating crime rates. Addressing the mental health concerns of prisoners is not merely about reformation but a matter of basic human rights.

This article sheds light on the current inhumane prison conditions and their grave repercussions in the form of degrading mental health and the challenges that stand before the criminal justice system in our country. It also highlights the significance of counselling, therapy and rehabilitation in a prison setting.

What are the current conditions in prison and how do they impact incarcerated individual's mental health?

Currently Indian prisons are facing major problems

such as overcrowding, lack of medical facilities and sanitation, high rates of unnatural death, staff shortage, lack of nutrition, delay in judicial procedures and many more. Mental Health concern is one such severe issue faced by the prison population of India. According to the report by the Standing Committee on Home Affairs the national average occupancy rate in prisons across India is 130% which indicates significant overcrowding.

Various researches suggests that psychiatric morbidity among individuals in prison is relatively higher than in the general population. Some of the mental illnesses which are currently prevalent among the prison population are as follows:

- **Substance use disorders (SUD)**

In SUD the individual continues to use drugs and alcohol despite facing severe harmful consequences. Nicotine, alcohol and cannabis are seen to most prevalent.

- **Depression**

Various factors including overcrowding, isolation, violence, poor social support, lack of privacy and maladjustment, etc make the incarcerated individuals prone to depressive disorder. Many convicted inmates have a history of depression or many such mental illnesses which further leads to more deterioration of that individual's mental health due to poor prison environment and lack of mental health aid. Between the year 2017 and 2021 817 unnatural deaths were reported in prison out of which 660 were suicides.

- **Schizophrenia**

Schizophrenia is one of the serious mental disorders that affects the individuals thought process, perception and social interaction with major symptoms including hallucination, delusion and cognitive impairment. According to a study conducted by the International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health most prisoners who had committed violent crimes such as murder had a diagnosis of schizophrenia. These

schizophrenic individuals continue to remain untreated or undertreated especially in a prison setting due to a lack of medical facilities and inefficient prison management.

- **Adjustment disorder**

A lot of mentally ill prisoners find it extremely difficult to adjust to the prison environment. The majority of them are taken advantage of by other prisoners and are severely abused, often raped and have their belongings stolen as well. The adjustment issues faced by the individuals who are in prison need to be thoroughly addressed if they are to reintegrate and resettle into society.

Self-harm tendencies are also commonly seen among the prisoners. A prisoner's socioeconomic condition before being convicted and being put into prison plays a significant role in shaping that individual's behaviour in prison and also in their reaction to rehabilitation programmes. According to the Prison Statistics India 2019 about 85 percent of prisoners are found to be from underprivileged sections. This means that they are often illiterate, homeless and have suffered exploitation as well. Prisoners develop self-harm tendencies often as a way to cope with their thoughts, especially to deal with emotions such as anger along with this also as a form of regret by punishing yourself for your actions.

In **Sunil Batra vs Delhi Administration (1980) AIR 1579** the fundamental rights of prisoners were secured. In addition, it also exposed poor treatment of the prisoners and abusive behaviour exhibited by prison officers. This case made it extremely clear that **Article 14 (Right to life), Article 19 (Right to freedom) and Article 21 (Right to life and personal liberty)** of the Indian Constitution apply to those in prison as well.

Similarly in **Sheela Barse vs State of Maharashtra (1983) AIR 378** the problems and assaults faced by female prisoners in Mumbai were put forth. This case highlighted the inhumane treatment received by prisoners especially female inmates and the need to change the prison management systems.

Considering all these factors and arising issues it cannot be neglected that the role of counsellors in prisons has become crucial. The mental health problems of prisoners need to be addressed through therapy and rehabilitation.

Current legal framework to address this issue

The **Prison Act of 1984** is centred around punishment

more than rehabilitation thereby bringing a custodial approach in the criminal justice system of our country. It significantly lacks in tackling the mental health concerns of prisoners. This law has proven to be inadequate as it does not take in to consideration the modern-day mental health needs.

To cater to the needs of prison reformation the Ministry of Home Affairs introduced the Model Prison Manual which was revised in 2016. This was done to ensure humane treatment to prisoners, promote rehabilitation along with aligning the prison administration with human rights standards. One of the key objectives of this manual is to shift the focus from punitive confinement to reformative and rehabilitative correctional practices. It specifically mentions various vocational training and educational programmes to prepare the prison population for reintegration into society. It also introduces post release support in terms of employment assistance, rehabilitation grants and coordination with several non-governmental organisation to ease the individual's return into society. It also focuses on mental health screening at admission and access to mental health professionals and counselling services. One of the most notable changes that the **Model Prison Manual** suggests are the separate facilities for mentally ill prisoners.

The law which is most paramount in this sense is the Mental Healthcare Act of 2017, as this law recognises mental health as a right of an individual including those in prison. It protects the individual from inhumane treatment and emphasises their right to access the mental healthcare services. This act decriminalises attempt to suicide which brings the focus on the importance of rehabilitation.

NGO intervention

The Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) 's Prayas is a noteworthy initiative aiming prison reformation and social work intervention within the criminal justice system by running rehabilitation programmes in prison. The project supports individuals who are under trial or convicted along with their families to reduce recidivism and ensure reintegration into society.

Likewise the Samarth Initiative is India's first prison-based Cognitive Behavioural Therapy programme designed in such a way that it helps to reform inmates through forensic psychology and positive criminology, thereby breaking the cycle of crime. This includes

group therapy sessions, suicide preventive measures and training for the prison staff.

It does leave room for a certain argument that prisoners do deserve such punitive actions and punishments after all. But this is when it becomes critical to understand that approximately 65 percent of the prison population in our country is awaiting trial and has not been convicted of any crime yet. And as previously discussed these prisoners mainly come from an underprivileged background. Thus, prolonged stay in prisons hampers their mental health and also makes it difficult for them to continue with their life post release.

Conclusion

There already exists an enormous amount of stigma around mental health. This situation worsens when you are locked up in a prison completely helpless and hopeless for any respite, and trying to overcome your mental challenges. There is no denying the fact that the current prison conditions are inhumane with a considerable disregard for one's mental health. It is necessary to understand that mental healthcare is non-negotiable and an integral human right. The goal of reformation that our criminal justice system is aiming to fulfil, cannot be done if such neglect towards mental health concerns persists.

The laws governing the current prison administration are inefficient and do not incorporate what is needed to help an individual reform and reintegrate into society. The substantial role that a counsellor, rehabilitation and therapy play needs to be recognised and implemented.

References:

1. ResearchGate [Online]. Temporarily Unavailable. Available at: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/352679419_Prisoners%27_rehabilitation_and_wellbeing_a_psychosocial_perspective (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
2. R. Garg, (2021). Case analysis on Sunil Batra v. Delhi Administration & Others, 1978 – iPleaders [Online]. IPleaders. Available at: <https://blog.ipleaders.in/case-analysis-sunil-batra-v-delhi-administration-others-1978/> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
3. (2025). Rehabilitation of Convicts in India: Legal Provisions and Social Integration [Online]. The Legal Quorum. Available at: <https://thelegalquorum.com/rehabilitation-of-convicts-in-india-legal-provisions-and-social-integration/> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
4. (2025). ResearchGate [Online]. Temporarily Unavailable. Available at: <https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s37a68443f5c80d181c42967cd71612af1/uploads/2025/03/202503192054442839.pdf> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
5. [Online]. Available at: <https://ijip.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/18.01.084.20231103.pdf> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
6. C. author, The impact of imprisonment on individuals' mental health and society reintegration: study protocol [Online]. PMC . Available at: <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC10369709/> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
7. [Online]. Available at: https://journals.lww.com/aips/fulltext/2024/08010/prison_mental_health_an_indian_perspective.17.aspx (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
8. Committee Reports [Online]. Available at: <https://prsindia.org/policy/report-summaries/prison-conditions-infrastructure-and-reforms> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
9. (2023). Suicide major cause of unnatural deaths among prisoners in India: SC committee tells apex court [Online]. The Hindu . Available at: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/suicide-major-cause-of-unnatural-deaths-among-prisoners-in-india-sc-committee-tells-apex-court/article67255189.ece> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
10. D. R. Sharma, (2024). Transforming Lives Behind Bars: The Samarth Initiative : Psychological Intervention for Prisoners [Online]. Mind Practice. Available at: <https://www.themindpractice.in/post/transforming-lives-behind-bars-the-samarth-psychological-intervention-for-prisoners> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
11. (2025). Revised Model Prison Manual [Online]. Available at: <https://www.gktoday.in/revised-model-prison-manual/> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
12. S. Shetty, (2023). Sheela Barse vs State Of Maharashtra 1983 AIR 378, 1983 SCR (2) 337 [Online]. A.K. Legal & Associates. Available

at: <https://aklegal.in/sheela-barse-vs-state-of-maharashtra-1983-air-378-1983-scr-2-337/>
(Accessed: 19 March 2026).

13. Health and beyond...strategies for a better India: using the “prison window” to reach disadvantaged groups in primary care [Online]. PMC . Available at: <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4535085/> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).
14. Adjustment and mental health problem in prisoners [Online]. PMC . Available at: <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC3237124/> (Accessed: 19 March 2026).

15. A study on the nature of criminal offences in prisoners with psychiatric disorders [Online]. Available at: <https://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/article/view/7525> (Accessed: 19 March 2026)



ECHOES OF CONFLICT, WHISPERS OF PEACE: MAPPING EIGHT DECADES OF UN'S GLOBAL JOURNEY



Koena Ganguly, B.A.LL.B 3rd Year

Introduction

The United Nation, an organisation born from the ashes of the devastating World War II, now stands at 80. Eight decades towards bridging the gap between conflict and cooperation, UN has provided a global platform for dialogue, granting voice to smaller nation states. The United Nations was conceptualized to lift the world from the ruins of conflicts, to lead the world into a peaceful era. Though its predecessor, the League of Nations faltered and eventually was disbanded in 1946, it paved the way for the institutionalization of the United States, in order to facilitate global governance. In tandem with the agenda of global governance, the UN also aimed at maintaining international peace and security, foster cordial relations, facilitate socio-economic progress and safeguard human rights globally.

Yet, against the backdrop of present realities, owing to a transition from a bipolar setting to a multipolar landscape of the geopolitical stage, several obstacles have emerged for the United Nations, which place the UN's authority under scrutiny.

International Law and Global Order

United Nations played a pivotal role in the development of international law. It contributed to the genesis of global legal norms which is a core element is defining relations between the states. The UN Charter and the International Law are intricately linked, as the Charter serves as a bedrock guiding notions of global peace, cooperation and security. The principles set forth by the UN Charter are central in laying down obligations of the member states, defining procedures for resolving disputes and establishing the legal framework for collective action. The Charter

also consolidates the responsibilities of international institutions on maintaining stability of the global platform and ensuring nation's adherence to globally acknowledged legal codes.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) stands at the helm in shaping and applying the international law, which is established on the lines of the UN Charter. The ICJ through its judicial pronouncements and advisory opinions helps in the interpretation of international treaties. This is done through clarification of legal principles thus promoting peaceful dispute settlement. Through articulation of legally binding principles, the ICJ enhances the global rule of law consequently supporting the United Nation's Mission to uphold justice and international stability.

The UN's Shining Moments

The United Nations was conceptualized as an international organization which could foster peace and cooperation in a fractured world order of 1940s, and it would be unfair to disregard UN's substantial contribution. A significant yet not widely acknowledged contribution of UN has to be promotion of fair and inclusive international trade through UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD). It views free trade as a driver of sustainable development which would bring down poverty and promote equitable growth. This is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals set out for 2030, in which UN brought together 193 countries, to agree on 17 specific, measurable goals which included eliminating hunger, poverty, bringing about socio-economic growth by ensuring healthy lives and quality education. The UN also works closely with the World Trade Organisation to assist the developing nations to achieve the set Sustainable Development Goals.

Another significant achievement of United Nation lies in its advancement of human rights. The Human Rights Declaration of 1948 was the foundational treaty which laid down that fundamental human rights are to be universally protected, recognizing that the notions of

dignity and freedom are inalienable aspects of life for humans around the globe. This declaration went on to redefine the relationship between individual, state and the international system, making the individual person and its rights the focus of national and international organizations.

Coupled with these, Peacekeeping happens to be an important contribution of the UN towards international stability. Herein, impartial and armed UN forces which are drawn from the member states are used to stabilize fragile situations. UN Peacekeeping began in the year 1948, when UN Military Observers were deployed to the Middle East. Here, the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) was given the task to monitor the Armistice Agreement between Israel and its Arab Neighbours. It was further employed during the 1956 Suez Crisis under the able guidance of UN's second Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld.

United Nations contribution continues to shine through the development of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which was negotiated between 1973 and 1982, codified the contemporary law of the sea. It articulates the states' rights over maritime routes and develops framework as exclusive economic zones and also lays down procedures for resolving conflicts and more notably, new provisions for protection of marine resources and conservation of the oceans.

The Contemporary Global Challenges

While these decisions sound excellent on paper, several challenges are posed in this present era. The challenge lies in moving from vision to reality. On front of initiatives regarding climate change, the hurdles are in form of insufficient fund allocation, deficit in political commitment and weak enforcement mechanisms that prevent prompt compliance. Similar challenges are obstructing the proper implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. With regard to the refugee crisis, challenges intensify further as nation's sovereignty is at stake.

Adding to the aforementioned issue of implementation, the surge in recent armed conflicts around the globe have further brought the UN's reputation under sharper spotlight. Questions have been hurdled regarding UN's authority over power hungry states, seeking to promote their expansion-oriented national objectives.

Starting with the Russia- Ukraine Conflict that

erupted in 2022 and persists in the present times as well, America's capture of Venezuelan President and the ongoing Iran-Israel Conflict represent only a handful of the many conflicts. Further, the dynamic nature of geopolitics has led to interests of nation states being divided and unclear, this is evident at the international level as well, when the nations are unable to reach on one single decision regarding an issue, creating a deadlock consequently hampering the overall decision-making ability of the UN. This weakens the standing of United Nations to that of a passive observer rather than a proactive mediator.

To make matters worse, United States, which happens to be the largest contributor to the UN general budget, amounting to almost 22% of the UN general budget and 25% of UN's peacekeeping budget has slashed its funding by nearly \$1 billion US, which comes across as a major setback.

Way Ahead

The future of United Nations lies in reclaiming its credibility through decisive actions and embracing the notion of multilateral cooperation.

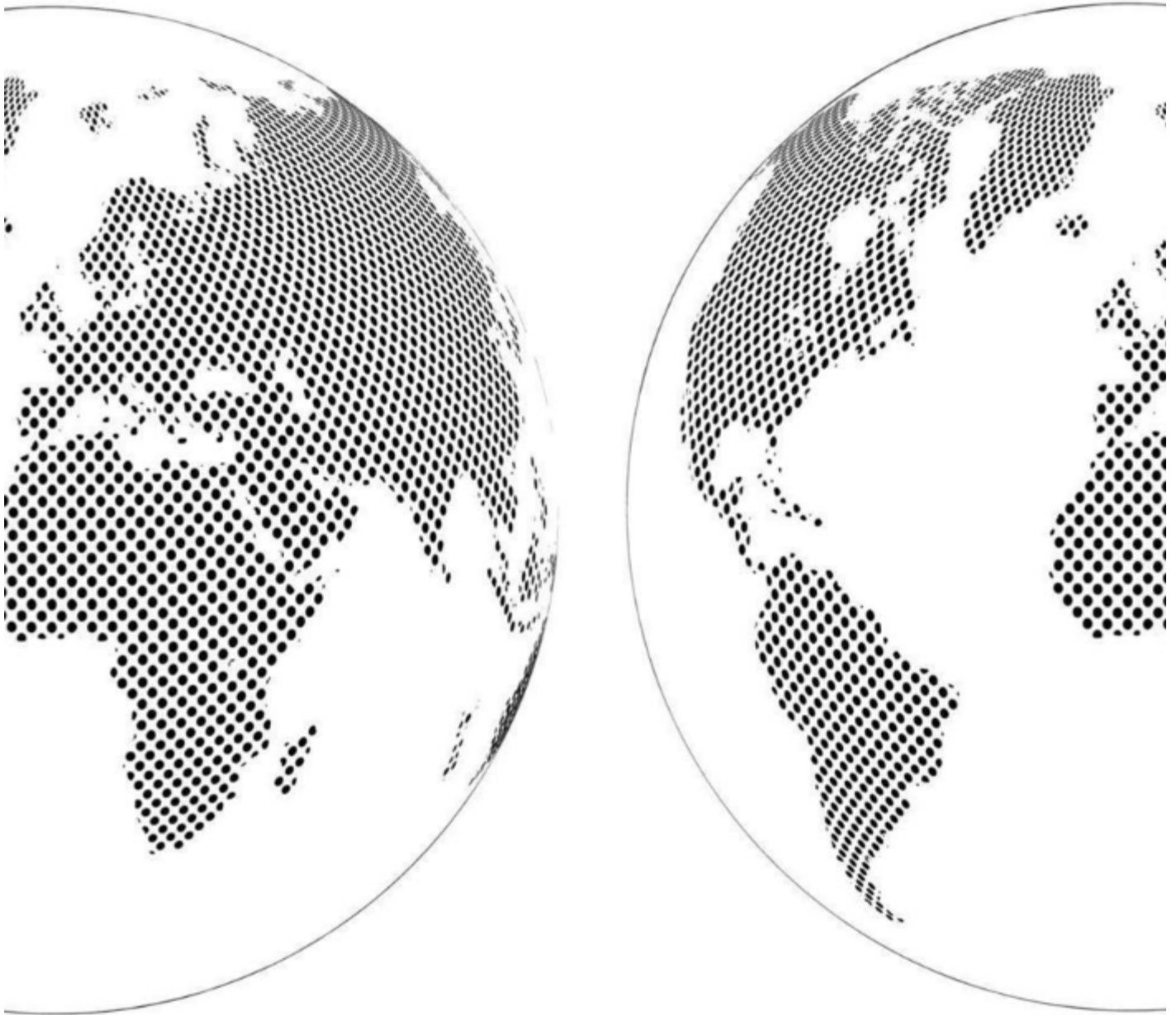
In order to mark the 80th anniversary of United Nations and its celebrations, the UN@80 Initiative was launched by the Secretary-General Antonio Guterres in 2025. This initiative is a reform program launched in order to adapt the UN to the modern challenges of the present era. This program is structured around three major workstreams. The first workstream emphasises on bringing about efficiency in the UN Secretariat. This is to be done through consolidation of various administrative platforms and optimizing operations. The second workstream addresses the issues of implementation, thus working towards improving coordination, strengthening accountability for which reforms have put forth by an Ad Hoc Working Group, which is co-chaired by New Zealand and Jamaica. The third and the last workstream calls for structural and programmatic realignments across various arenas such as human rights, sustainable development, humanitarian action, peace and security. All of these are to be supported by system wide enablers such as shared devices, data initiatives and pooled funding. In unison, these reforms are constituted in the UN@80 Action Plan.

Conclusion

In a nutshell, it could be said that though at present

times UN struggles manoeuvring through the complex geopolitical scenario categorized by intense tussles of national interests, it no way means that UN has lost its relevance. United Nations is still the single most influential platform which facilitates dialogues of global level, giving small nation states a fair representation

and a chance to be heard and contribute to the global development. It only needs to make active changes at structural and administrative level to reclaim its credibility and wield the power it previously did, for the wellbeing of all nations and individuals.





Poetic Musings

05

The Cost of War Beyond the Battlefield

-Saniya Khan, LLB 1ST YEAR



When the sounds of gunfire fade and the headlines move on, the world assumes that war has ended. But for those who have lived through it, the war lingers in broken homes, restless nights, and memories that refuse to fade. they say that only the dead have truly seen the war end. the people returning to their destructed homes, children returning to their ground full of blood, a mother waiting for her son to return home, the letters that were never sent, the hope that eventually dies,

it makes me think does the war truly end?

how much does one need to suffer?

how much loss should occur?

war takes away the meaning of life; it takes away even the little peace it had promised.

the once happy kid no longer smiles, safety no longer feels close it lingers like a distant memory, almost out of reach.

the house still stands, yet it is no longer home, only walls that carry stories they will never tell, his toys broken, his innocence turned into hatred.

i wonder, does the war truly end?

the sun will rise again, bringing a new day but does the sunshine feel the same?

spreading light across what's left behind, yet nothing it touches feels alive again.

days repeat themselves

the same stillness, the same emptiness, the same silence,

the same quiet pain that refuses to fade.

the sun rises, again,

but can it bring back what was lost?

the sun is no longer a sign of hope only a light that falls

on a life that will never be the same.

and if the war has ended,

what is it that remains?

what survives when everything else is taken

when even living begins to feel uncertain?

perhaps the war never ends

it leaves a aching heart, a tired soul and a restless mind.

war lives through lives of those who survived.

THE WORLD'S BLACK AND WHITE

-Saniya Khan, LLB 1st Year



War and peace
The world in black and white,
One darkens everything it touches,
The other tries to bring back the light.

Like fire and ash
One burns without pause,
The other is all that is left behind,
Quiet, and still.

Like a storm and still water
One rages without warning,
Tearing through everything in its path,
Leaving everything changed.

No one calls a storm for joy,
No one wins from its ruin.
It comes, it takes,
And it leaves behind silence.

Peace is the quiet after
Like water at rest,
Soft, steady,
Almost enough to make you forget.

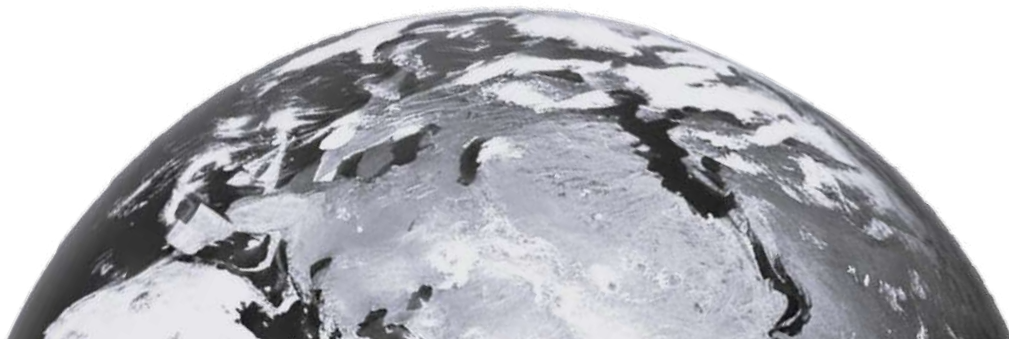
But peace is fragile.
Like shattered glass
Carefully put back together
Never the same,
Never as whole as before.

It holds,
But only until it breaks again.

They say peace follows war,
But why must it come after?
Why must something burn
For calm to exist?

Peace whispers,
Trying to remember
What war made it forget.

And maybe that is the truth
Peace is never complete,
But war was never necessary.



DAWN AFTER THE DARKNESS

-Siddhi Khare, B.A.LL.B 1ST YEAR



Mother, oh mother, you hear me say,

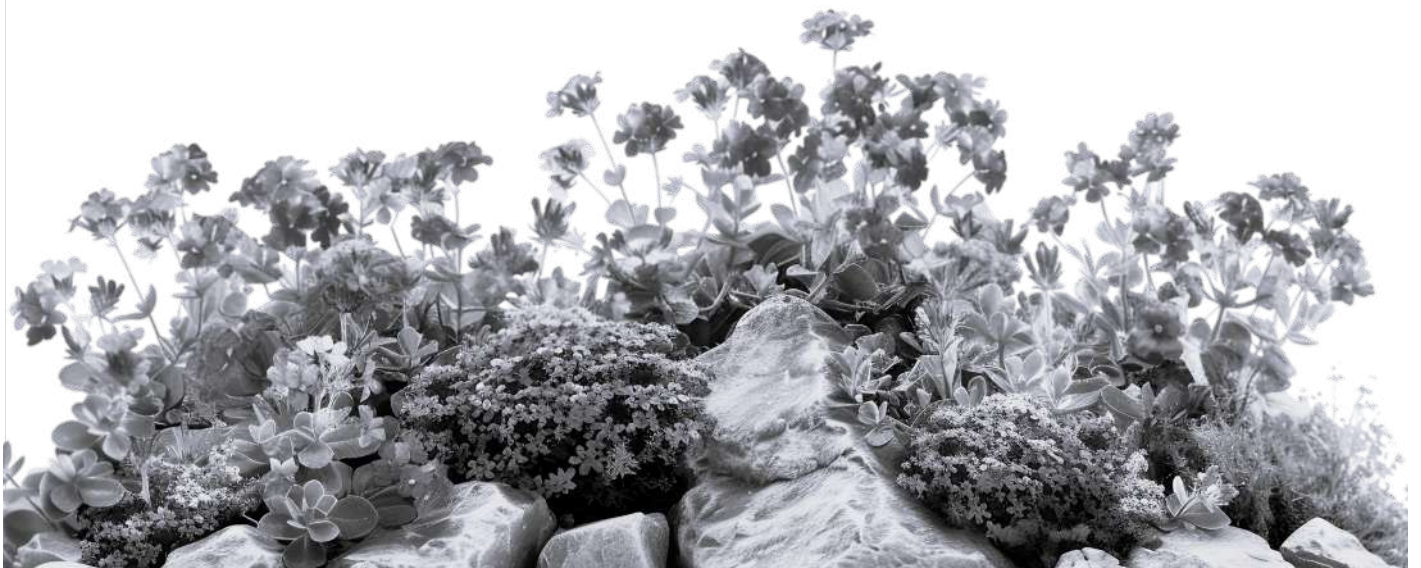
Starcrossed is me who watches her dreams shatter in dismay,
Little did I ken this waking life was coveted by many men

Starcrossed are they who fear there is no next day,
Starcrossed are they who pray for their beloved to stay,

Starcrossed are they who cannot watch the sun rise as the
moon fades away,

Mother, oh mother, you hear me say I am no star-crossed but
fortuned with health every day;

And in their shadow, I finally see my way.



देर से सही...

-Ananya Arya, LLB 1st Year

उस दिन न्याय देर से जागा,
सूरज भी थोड़ा था सुस्त सा भागा। अदालत के
दरवाज़े चुप थे खड़े, सब अपने कदमों में जंजीरें
जड़े।

तराजू उसके हाथ में था,
पर पलड़ा कुछ झुका-सा था।
कागज़, मुहर और कानूनों में, सब कहीं जैसे
रुका-सा था।

दरवाज़े पर भीड़ खड़ी थी, हर चेहरे पर एक कहानी
थी।
किसी की उम्मीद थक कर बैठी, किसी की आँख में
पानी थी।

एक अरज़ी चुपचाप पड़ी थी, उम्मीद वहीं कहीं जमी
थी।
हर तारीख़ पर बस ये मिला “फिर आना” और वक़्त
चला।

झूठ यहाँ खुलकर हँसता था, सब बस चुपचाप
सहता था।
चंद नोटों की खनक के नीचे, न्याय भी कहीं दबता
था।

फिर न्याय ने धीरे आँख उठाई, अपनी ही सूत थोड़ी
घबराई।
सोचा “अगर मैं ही सो जाऊँ, तो सब की लौ कैसे
बचाऊँ?”
फिर काँपते हुए भी सब खड़ा रहा, हर वार से और
बड़ा रहा।
क्योंकि अंत यही सिखाता है, न्याय देर से सही, पर
आता है।



Her Freedom, Her Voice

-Ananya Arya, LLB, 1st Year

They raised her like a fragile flame,
A quiet grace, a careful name.
A bird of light they praised to be,
Yet feared the thought of her flying free.

They gave her dreams-but trimmed them
small,
A narrow sky, a guarded wall.
“Be soft,” they said, “be pure, be wise,”
Yet chained the truth behind her eyes.

Her laughter bloomed like summer rain,
But joy, they said, must still remain.
For freedom, when it wears her face,
It is often called a wild disgrace.

They called it love when power grew,
A velvet cage, a painted view.
Where vows became a silent key
To lock the door of dignity.

But wings remember open air,
No cage can kill the need to dare.
And every “no” she dares to say
Is thunder breaking night away
For she is not a passing spark,
Nor silent ground to leave a mark.
She is the wind, the tide, the sky
Too wild for chains, too strong to tie
A woman's will belongs to her,
no iron rule can cage her.

A Dignified Departure

-Ananya Arya, LLB 1st Year



In a silent ward where shadows lie, Machines keep counting breaths gone by.
A heart still beats , yet hope is thin While endless nights grow deep within

The body trembles, the spirit bends, Through sleepless nights that never end .
Each passing day a heavier chain, Bound to a life of silent pain.

They whisper softly, “Hold on tight, Life is sacred, keep the fight.”
But none can feel the wounds inside, Or hear the soul that slowly cried.

The strength once held in living veins Now fades beneath unending pains.
The voice that laughed now falls to sighs, While silent tears fill tired eyes.

Yet law stands tall with rigid face, Denying mercy in this place.
What justice binds a soul to pain, And call such suffering humane?

If dignity belongs to life,
Why must compassion fear the knife?

Perhaps true justice is not blind, But brave enough to still be kind.
For sometimes mercy, soft and deep, Is letting suffering fall asleep.



Quiet Rot

-Adity Patil, B.A.LL.B 1ST YEAR



Swinging from numbing pain
To nervous rage.
I wish to quit your game
Of death and decay.
With a promising smile
And a deceitful gaze,
You continue your path
A pretentious sage.
Accepting alms,
Offering murder in exchange.
All I'd give to cage you
In your own words of aid.
The wish resides in my heart
To lock up that arrogance;
A ladle to make of the vain,
And with it I'll churn
Still with disdain.
I wish to sit silent, watch you await,
A ride that's never to come,
While you fume at it being late.



World in Rage

-Sujal Phand



When the world descends into chaos,
Blood stains every corner of the earth.
Loud voices rage—
Yelling, shouting, howling in fury.

One world, yet shattered.
Into countless fragments.

Hatred lingers everywhere,
Wars erupt to prove supremacy.

In the storm of anger,
No one listens to prayers.

A body was created
With the hope of peace—
The United Nations proclaims
That we are one,
Born of the same human breed
.
Yet the human tendency to quarrel
Endlessly propagates conflict.
The white flag of peace is raised,
But the hunger for power
Never truly ends.

Nations are said to be a family,
Yet in reality there are hundreds of them,
Each suspicious of the other,
Each speaking of peace
While nurturing rivalry.

Its goal symbolizes unity,
Yet its roof bears a hole—

Through which violence seeps.

Ironically, those who preach peace
Often become the architects of war.

The institution exists on paper,
But its execution drifts.
In a haze of uncertain hope.

It claims to stop war,
Yet its promises echo like false notes.

Everywhere, someone burns
In the insatiable hunger for power.
The strong crush the weak.
Humans claim to symbolize humanity,
Yet they are the ones who destroy it.

They call animals wild—
But none are wilder than them.

They devastate the creations of nature
While falsely claiming
To be the most intelligent beings alive.

Everyone rages,
Everyone destroys.

Wisdom itself appears deceptive.
And so a body was formed—

To calm humanity,
Yet humanity refuses to be calmed.

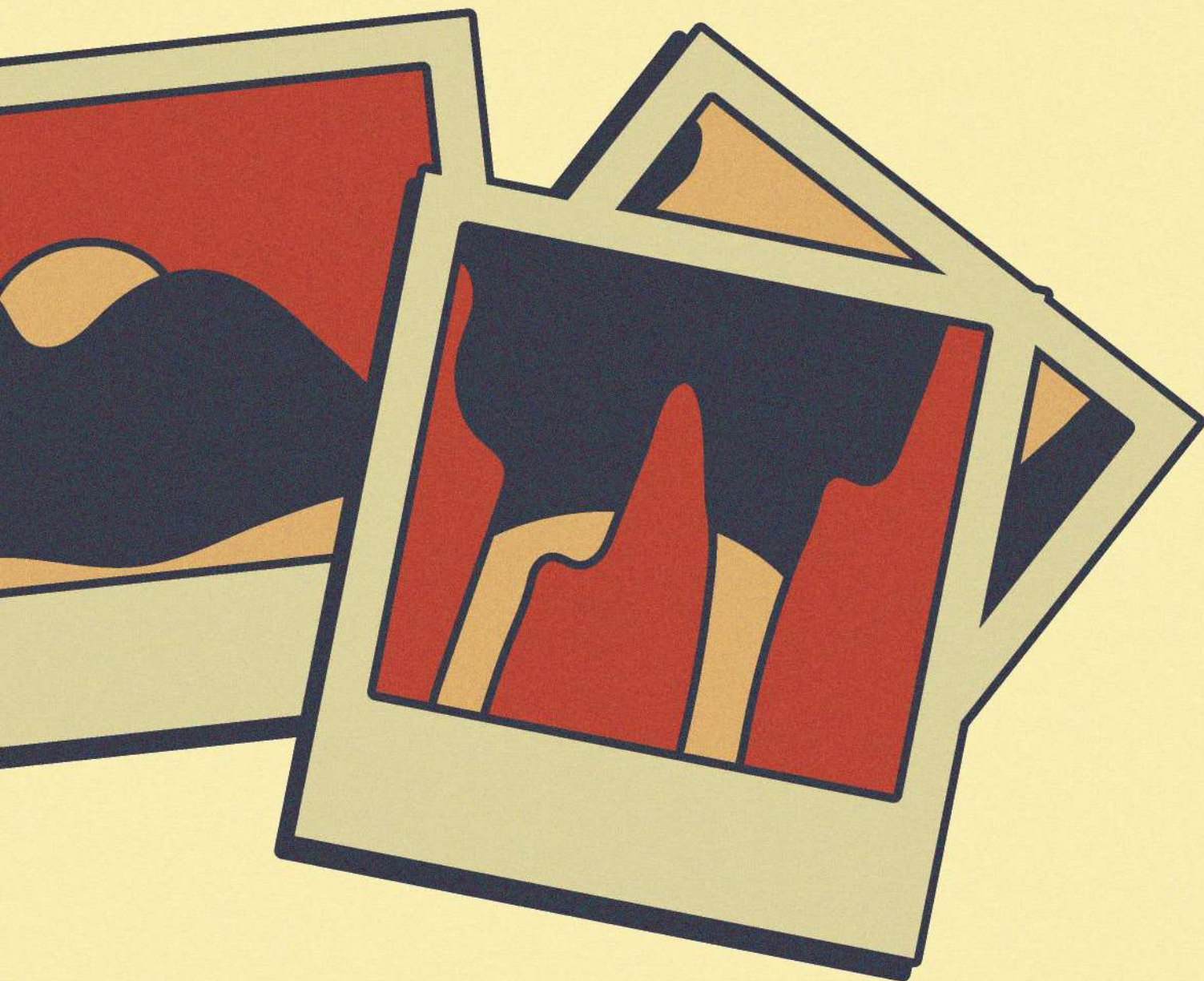


Photo Gallery

06

ALUMNI DEPARTMENT



Alumni Video Message Initiative For
Teacher's Day 2025



DESSNFLC Alumni Meet 2025-26



Alumni Meet: Delhi Chapter



DESSNFLC Alumni Meet 2025-26



DESSNFLC Alumni Meet 2025-26



DESSNFLC Alumni Meet 2025-26



Alumni Meet: Delhi Chapter



Alumni Meet: London Chapter



Alumni Meet: London Chapter



District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, Pune & Office of the Deputy Inspector General IGR, Pune

CONSUMER CLUB



District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, Pune & Office of the Deputy Inspector General IGR, Pune



A One Day Consumer Awareness Camp



A One Day Consumer Awareness Camp

CULTURAL DEPARTMENT

DUM-INDRADHANUSH 2026



DEBATE DEPARTMENT (MIMANSA)



Outside Participation Photo



Outside Participation Photo



Outside Participation Photo



Late Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Smruti Karandak
International Intercollegiate Debate Competition



Late Gopal Ganesh Agarkar Smruti Karandak
International Intercollegiate Debate Competition



ENVIRONMENT CELL



Tree Plantation Drive

Poster Making Competition



GUEST LECTURE DEPARTMENT



JUDICIAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



Judicial Interns At District & Sessions Court With Justice Ragit



Judicial Interns At CBI Court



Judicial Interns With Shri. Shyam Rukme, Principal Judge At Family



Judicial Interns At District Sessions Court



Judicial Interns At Family Court

LEGAL RESEARCH CELL (LRC)



Research Guidance Workshop For Avishkar
Competition 2025



Avishkar Competition College Level



Avishkar Competition College Level



"From Principles to Policy: Ten Years of DPSP-
Driven Constitutional Governance."



LIBRARY



National Librarian's Day



Savitribai Phule Jayanti Celebration



Vachan Prerana Diwas

MOOT COURT SOCIETY



Novice Moot Court Competition



Lokmanya Tilak National Appellate Moot Court Competition



Lokmanya Tilak National Appellate Moot Court Competition



Lokmanya Tilak National Appellate Moot Court Competition



Vidhivedh 1.O – Religion Vs Rights - Before The Nation Hears It

MUN CLUB



NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME



Independence day celebration



Guru Pournima Celebration



Bhakti Yoga Participation



Shramadaan and Awareness Session



Anti-Ragging and POC SO Act Awareness Programme



Traffic awareness



Granth Dindi



Agro-Based Industries.



Organ Donation
Awareness Programme

PLACEMENT & INTERNSHIP ASSISTANCE CELL

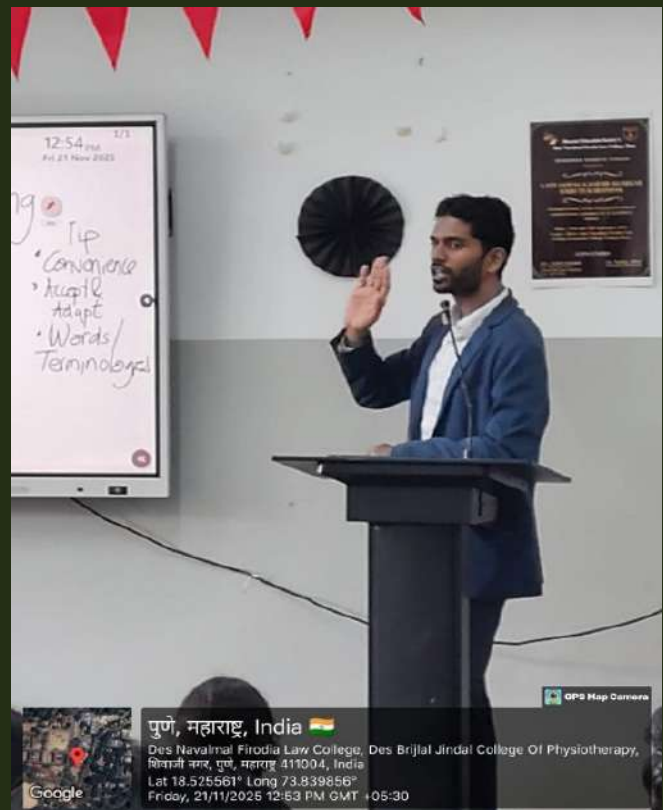




Quality Improvement Programme (QIP)



“ Building a Winning CV & Strategic Guidance for Employability ”



POSH



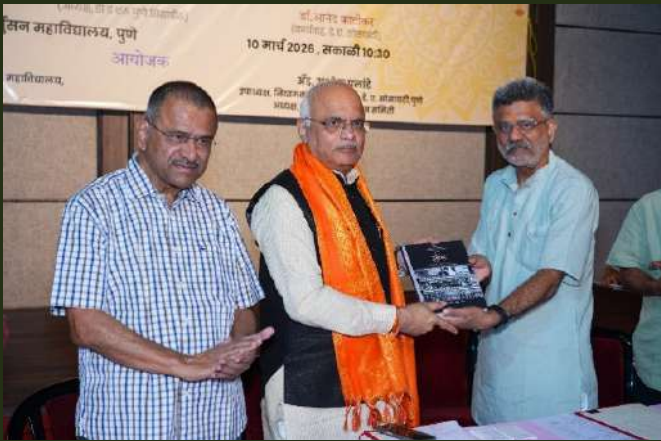
SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP DEPARTMENT



“Changing Paradigms of Criminal Justice System in India” on 25TH Sept 2025



PG Department Seminar on “Evolving Role of India in Global Governance and International Trade” on 24th February 2026

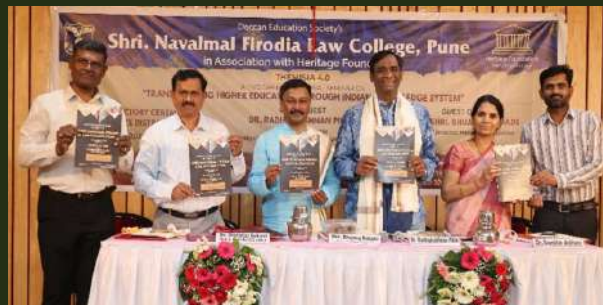
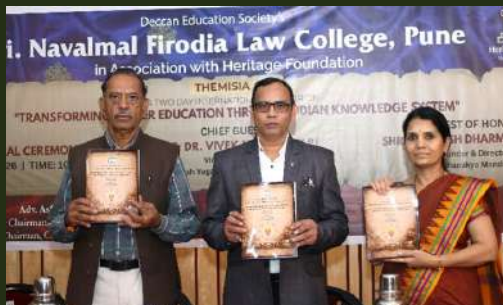


सामाजिक
परिवर्तनातून
राष्ट्रनिर्माण : १००
वर्षांची वाटचाल, 10
मार्च 2026





A Two Day International Seminar On The Theme – **Transforming Higher Education Through Indian Knowledge System: A Global Perspective**



SPORTS DEPARTMENT



SPPU STARTUP TALK SERIES – CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS



Introduction Of The Guests On Dias



Ishita Choudhary (Iibballb) Interacting With Adv. Uttakarsh Mattikop



Trisha Abhang (Iballb) Interacting With Adv. Uttakarsh Mattikop



Adv. Hb Keshava Delivering The Session-1



Audience Engaged In The Conversations

VIDHIPATH 3.0'- A STREET PLAY COMPETITION



WOMEN'S' STUDY CELL, "PARIPOORTI" REPORT

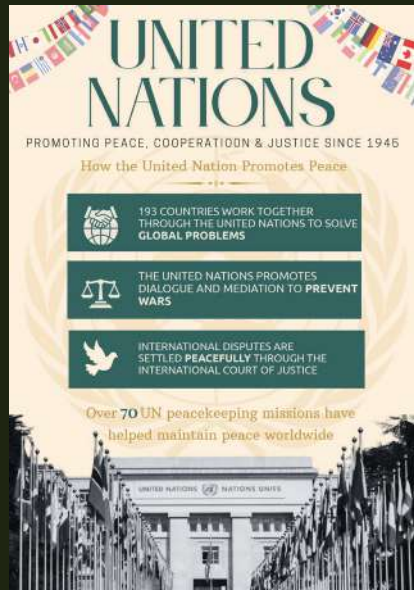


MAGAZINE DEPARTMENT

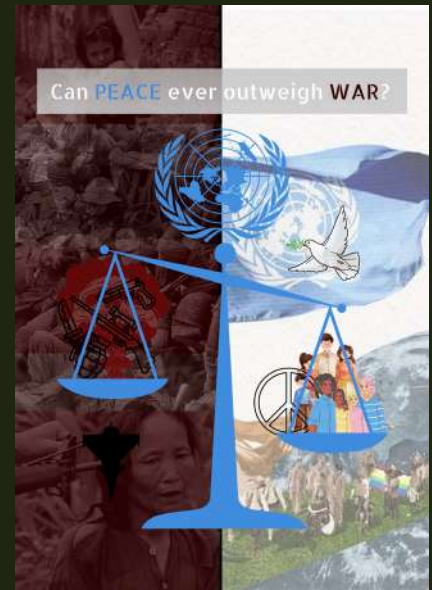
DIGITAL POSTER MAKING COMPETITION FOR MAGAZINE COVER PAGE



Aryan Devne



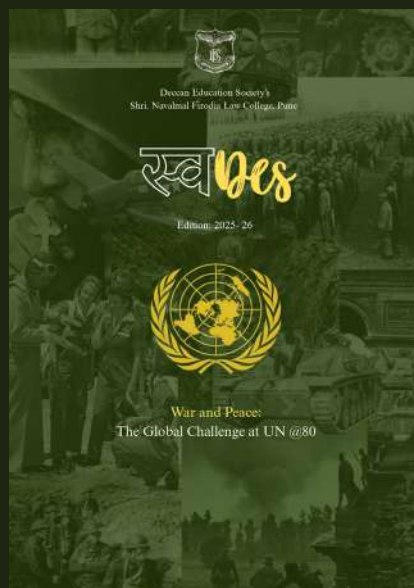
Anushka Junonkar



Shrushti Dumbre



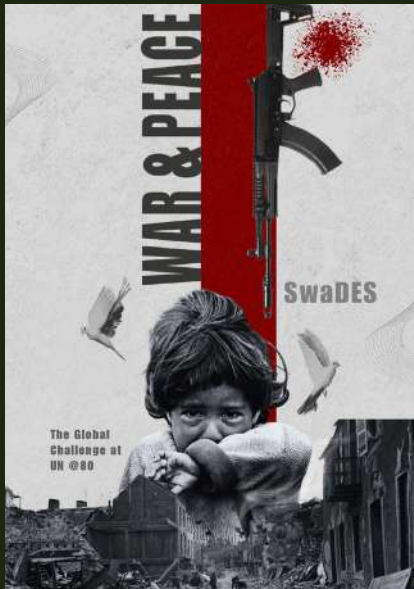
Shreya Saloni



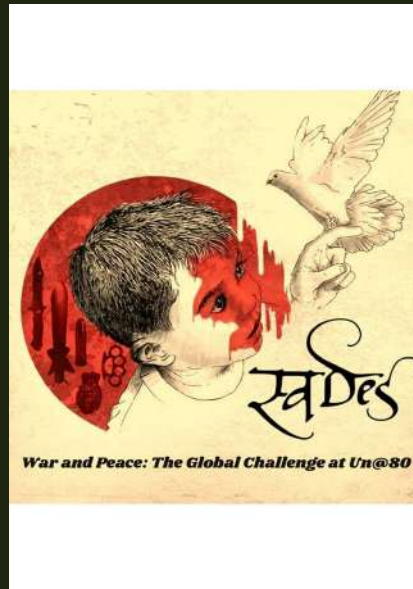
Urukriti Gupta



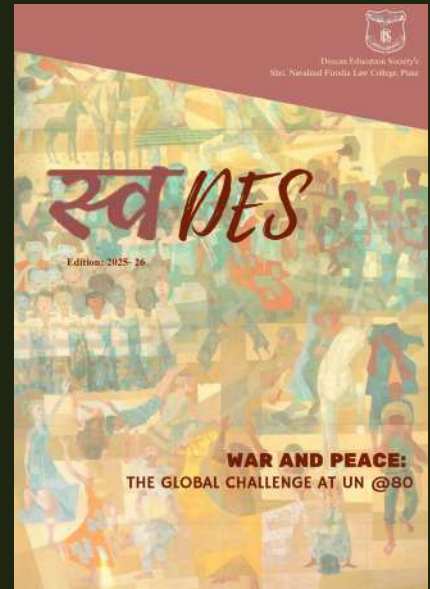
Shravani Kharjule



Madhura Vartak



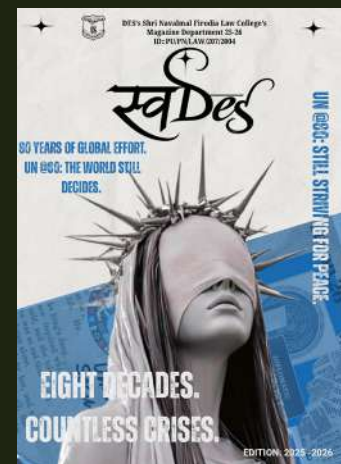
Trishna Pultambekar



Himanshi Jangra



Anushkka Behel



Sanchi Kirtikar



Mansi Hingane



Kashish Vasudev



Aditya Raj



स्वदेश

2025-26



**Deccan Education Society's
Shri Navalmal Firodia Law College, Pune**

I.D. : PU / PN / LAW / 207 / 2004

Gate No. 3, Fergusson College Campus, FC Road, Pune - 411004.

Tel. : (020) 67656401 | Fax : (020) 676556120

Email : deslaw@despune.org | Website : www.deslaw.edu.in