

# Bharati Vidyapeeth (Deemed to be University) Institute of Management & Research, New Delhi

A Grade Status Awarded by MHRD, Govt of India, Reaccredited with Grade A+ by NAAC An ISO 9001:2015 14001:2015 Certified Institute A-4, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063

**Event:** Changing Dimensions of Criminal Laws – Contemporary Challenges

Mode & Venue: Offline & BVIMR, RWA Society of Shiva Enclave, Pachim Vihar New Delhi

Time: 10:00 am onwards on September 30, 2024



# **Event Objective:**

The primary objective of the seminar on "Changing Dimensions of Criminal Laws – Contemporary Challenges" was to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the recent reforms and contemporary challenges in criminal law. The event aimed to:

- 1. Educate Attendees: Offer students, legal professionals, and scholars' insights into the new amendments in Indian criminal laws, including the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and recent changes to the Indian Penal Code (1860), Code of Criminal Procedure (1973), and Indian Evidence Act (1872).
- 2. **Discuss Legal Reforms**: Analyse the significance of these reforms in addressing the challenges posed by evolving societal norms, technological advancements, and the increasing complexity of crimes.
- 3. **Encourage Critical Thinking**: Facilitate discussions on the implications of these changes on the current legal framework, including debates on confession laws, evidence-gathering methods, and the need for modernizing traditional legal practices.
- 4. **Bridge Theory and Practice**: Provide an interactive platform for students and practitioners to discuss the practical application of these legal reforms in real-world criminal cases.
- 5. **Foster Knowledge Sharing**: Enable dialogue between experts and attendees to enhance understanding of criminal law reforms and encourage legal professionals to stay updated with these changes.
- 6. **Promote Online and Offline Collaboration**: Utilize a hybrid model to bring together participants from diverse locations, ensuring accessibility and inclusivity in legal education and discussions.

#### **Event Strategy:**

The seminar on "Changing Dimensions of Criminal Laws – Contemporary Challenges" employed a hybrid format to maximize participation, combining in-person attendance with virtual engagement tools for seamless interaction. With Prof. (Dr.) Anurag Deep from Delhi University as the expert speaker, the event focused on the latest amendments in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and criminal law reforms. The content was strategically designed to address current legal issues, providing participants with valuable insights into the evolving landscape of criminal law. Faculty and student involvement ensured smooth execution and engagement.

# **Event Outcome:**

The seminar successfully provided attendees with a deeper understanding of recent criminal law reforms, particularly focusing on the **Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita**, 2023 and amendments to criminal procedure and evidence laws. Participants engaged in thought-provoking discussions on the practical implications of these reforms, enhancing their legal knowledge and critical thinking. The hybrid format allowed for wide participation, both online and inperson, ensuring the event's inclusivity and success. The collaboration between faculty, students, and the expert speaker fostered a productive learning environment.

FACULTY	NAME OF	CLASSES	KEY LEARNINGS
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<ul> <li>Dr. Neha Garg</li> <li>Mr. Gaurav Gupta</li> <li>Dr. Manjusha</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Dr. Neha Garg</li> <li>Mr. Gaurav Gupta</li> <li>Dr. Manjusha</li> </ul>	All Students and Faculties	Insights into recent criminal law reforms, especially the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. Practical understanding of new amendments in criminal procedure and evidence laws. Awareness of modern challenges in criminal law, including digital evidence and confession laws. Importance of staying updated with evolving legal frameworks.

# **About the Event:**

On September 30, 2024, the Department of Law, Bharati Vidyapeeth (Off-Campus, New Delhi) organized a thought-provoking seminar on "Changing Dimensions of Criminal Laws – Contemporary Challenges" at the BVIMR Auditorium. The event, attended both physically and online, attracted an engaged audience comprising students, legal scholars, and faculty members, all keen to explore the evolving landscape of criminal law. The seminar took place from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM, and offered rich discussions.

The keynote speaker for the event was Prof. (Dr.) Anurag Deep, a distinguished Professor from Delhi University, who joined the seminar virtually. His address focused on the pressing challenges criminal laws face today, with particular emphasis on technological advancements, evolving societal norms, and their impact on legal proceedings.

Dr. Yamini Agarwal, Director of BVIMR, New Delhi, also joined the session online. She commenced the event by welcoming the attendees and highlighting the importance of staying updated with contemporary legal reforms. She praised the Department of Law for organizing such a relevant and timely event, bringing to light key transformations occurring within the criminal justice system.

#### **Insights into Criminal Law Reforms**

One of the core topics discussed during the seminar was the need for reforms in Indian criminal laws, particularly focusing on new legislation such as the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and amendments to the Indian Penal Code (1860), the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973, and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. The presentation from Prof. Anurag Deep delved into how these reforms aim to modernize the criminal justice system by addressing issues such as the relevance of old laws in contemporary times.

Several participants raised thought-provoking questions, exploring whether the new legal reforms would be sufficient to address the complexities of modern-day crimes. A segment of the presentation explored the inclusion of digital evidence in criminal proceedings, cybercrime, confessions and evidence gathering have changed.

#### **Interactive Discussions and Audience Engagement**

The audience, was highly engaged throughout the session. It was shown during the seminar, on how confessions obtained under duress or by inducement are treated under the new reforms. The interactive nature of the session allowed participants to explore case studies related to criminal procedure amendments,

particularly focusing on how confessions should be handled in modern-day criminal trials.

Student moderators and participants also contributed by reading key sections from new legal amendments, such as changes in the Indian Evidence Act, which were highlighted during the seminar. The discussion about confession laws sparked a vibrant debate about how much discretion judges have in rejecting coerced confessions under the reformed legal system.

Many students attended the seminar physically in the auditorium and virtually via an online platform. The visual content from the event showed an auditorium filled with attentive participants, as well as several interactive sessions conducted online. The learnings allowed participants to benefit from the valuable insights shared by Prof. Anurag Deep.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks from the organizing team, expressing gratitude to the keynote speaker, faculty members, and students for their participation and enthusiasm. Certificates of participation were awarded to students and attendees, adding a sense of accomplishment to the highly informative seminar.

#### Conclusion

The seminar on "Changing Dimensions of Criminal Laws – Contemporary Challenges" provided a comprehensive overview of the evolving nature of criminal laws in India. The key takeaway from the event was the urgent need for legal professionals and students to stay updated with the latest reforms and their implications on modern-day criminal justice. The collaboration between the faculty and students, both inperson and online, ensured that the seminar was a resounding success, leaving attendees with valuable knowledge and insights into contemporary legal challenges.





















