

### **SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, HYDERABAD**

Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune.

(Established under Section 3 of the UGC Act 1956, Re-Accredited by NAAC with "A" Grade (3.58/4) I Awarded Category -I by UGC



### CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

**PRESENTS** 

# CONVERSE'20



NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON

## **BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

DATE- 22nd and 23rd February VENUE- Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad









Established in the year 2014, Symbiosis Law School Hyderabad imbibes creativity and dynamism from Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune. In the endeavor of fulfilling the dreams of our founder chancellor and visionary, Padma Bhushan Dr. S.B. Mujumdar, Symbiosis Law School Hyderabad is dedicated to its responsibility of creating a global knowledge disseminating hub and transforming every student into a respectable "human being" by igniting the "cause of justice" in their minds. SLS Hyderabad is the meeting point of ideas and best academic practices and the melting point of diverse cultures in India and many others from across the world. The University is committed towards philanthropic activities and promotes its students to help the poor and marginalized. It aims to create value conscious skilled lawyers with par excellence serving dynamic needs of the community through Bar and Bench.

The college promotes holistic development of the students through various inter and intra personal activities to develop skill sets. It believes in learning through practical experiences beyond classroom learning. It provides various opportunities to students to develop their mind and learn new skills through promoting participation in various national and international competitions.

#### ABOUT CONFERENCE

Human Rights are the basic rights and freedoms available to each and every human being living on the earth. These rights are protected by law, and thus its infringement or violations will attract the damages, liabilities and penalties. The inclusion of corporate sector and their activities have led to economic growth, employment generation and rise in incomes but there are also clear signs of violations of fundamental human rights, dignity, equality and well-being of people. The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) endorsed in 2011, recognized the importance of protecting Human Rights in business enterprises. Initiatives including the National Action Plans which have been developed on the basis of the UNGPs, the rise of business led initiatives and practices, the emergence of non-state market regulatory initiatives such as voluntary sustainability standards, regulatory initiatives forcing companies to be more transparent and requiring them to report on their activities, etc, are few steps taken towards protecting the human rights in business enterprises and has also influenced other international business governances to have stricter rules to promote human rights in business operations.

This national conference will address various developments at National and International level in the area of Business and Human Rights. The aim of the conference is to analyze on the violations of rights and to bring together scholars and academicians from different domains to research and examine the reasons behind such violations.

#### **MAIN THEME**

The main theme of the conference is "BUSSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS". The theme is not restricted to any specific law, policy or any State. It has a wide ambit which covers the entire domain of human rights protection in the field of business. The objective of the research shall be restricted to the major theme, i.e., the study of human rights in business operations.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE**

- The major objective of this national conference is to ensure that the human rights and dignity of all are upheld in the context of business activities.
- The conference shall aim to take a step ahead to research and deliberate upon more strengthened regulations, and policies to bridge the gap between various international rules and regulations on business activities and human rights (such as UNGPs) and compliance of these regulations and policies in national laws.
- This conference will focus on the need to demonstrate the duty of business and enterprises as well as State to protect the rights and to strengthen their accountability.
- This conference has the agenda to discuss on actions needed for effective remedy to protect against business related human rights abuse.

#### **PARTICIPATION**

Academic Practitioners, Research Scholars, Students, and Professionals from all disciples can participate. Further, Representatives of Governments, Business, Industry Associations, Civil Society Organizations, Human Rights Bodies and Affected Individuals will be part of the discussion panels at this Conference.

#### **SUBTHEMES**

This Conference on Business and Human Rights will provide a platform to facilitate discussions on sub-themes such as:

- Business and compliance with Labour Rights and Standards.
- Human Rights Due Diligence.
- Human Rights Impact Assessments of Free Trade and Investments Agreements.
- Corporate Activism and Human Rights.
- Sexual Harassment, Gender Discrimination at workplace.
- Business and Environment Laws.
- Business, Human Rights and Corporate Social Responsibility.
- Access to Justice for Human Rights Violations by Multi-national Corporations.
- National Action Plans to implement UNGPs: Potential Pathways in India.
- Challenges and opportunities on UNGPs implementation in the regions of Asia.
- Business and Extra-Territorial Responsibilities.

Researchers may address, but are not restricted to any of the above mentioned sub-themes. Any other sub-theme unlisted here, but in consonance with the theme of the conference may also be considered.

#### KEY-NOTE SPEAKER

With immense pleasure we would like to introduce our key note speaker for the conference, Dr Surya Deva.



Dr. Surya Deva is an Associate Professor at the School of Law of City University of Hong Kong. He holds BA (Hons.), LLB and LLM degrees from the University of Delhi and a PhD from the University of Sydney, and has taught previously at the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi and at the National Law Institute University, Bhopal. Currently, he is a member of UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights. Dr Deva's primary research interests lie in Corporate Social Responsibility, Indo-Chinese Constitutional Law, International Human Rights, Globalisation, and Sustainable Development and he has published several books and articles on corporate human rights violations under various national and international

publications. In 2009, the International Commission of Jurists had commissioned Dr Deva to prepare a report on *Access to Justice: Human Rights Abuses Involving Corporations – The Peoples' Republic of China.* 

#### **CALLFOR PAPERS**

Original and unpublished manuscripts by Academic Practitioners, Research Scholars, Students, and Professionals from all disciples are welcomed in the form of: *Research Articles* (4,000 – 6,000 words including footnotes).

#### **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

- 1. The abstract and the manuscript must be aligned to the theme of the conference and should be submitted within their respective deadlines.
- 2. Co-authorship is permitted up to maximum of 2 (An author and a co-author).
- 3. All submissions must include
  - Cover Page, containing the following details: Title of the Paper, Name of the Author(s), Official Designation/Institutional details, and Contact details of the Author(s) including address, email ID and contact number.
  - An abstract not exceeding 350 words.
  - The manuscript in the above mentioned nature.
- 1. The body of the manuscript must be according to the following specifications:
  - a. Font: Times New Roman
  - b. Font Size: 12
  - c. Line Spacing: 1.5
  - d. Alignment: Justified
- 5. Submissions must follow the Bluebook (20th edition) style of citation. Footnotes must be in Times New Roman, font size 10 with single line spacing.
- 6. The abstract submission should also include a cover page specifying the details of the author(s).
- 7. All submissions will be subject to a plagiarism check at the first stage of evaluation. If work is found to be unoriginal or plagiarized, it will be rejected in the first instance.

#### **SUBMISSION PROCEDURE**

- 1. The submission must be made in .docx/.doc (word document) format. PDFs of submissions will not be accepted.
- 2. Submissions must be accompanied by a brief note in the body of the email, including the following information:
  - a. Name
  - b. Postal Address
  - c. Name of the Institution
  - d. Course of Study (if applicable)
  - e. Academic Year
- 3. The submissions must be emailed to <a href="mailto:converse@slsh.edu.in">converse@slsh.edu.in</a> with the subject titled as, "Abstract Submission for Converse'20" for abstract submission, and "Submission of full paper for Converse'20" for the final submission after the abstract selection.

#### PAPER PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

Academic community, professionals, research scholars and students are invited to present their manuscripts based on research and innovative ideas in the presence of esteemed academic and professional panel. The sessions of the conference will be grouped according to various themes of the manuscripts. Each presenter would be given a total time of 10mins which shall not include the time for questions and deliberations put forth to the presenter. The presentation shall be made oral through power-point presentations, e-posters or through exhibits.

#### **BEST PRESENTER AWARD**

The best presenter in each conference room shall be duly awarded. The selection of the best presenter will be decided based on the evaluation of the esteemed panel.

#### REGISTRATON DETAILS

- 1. Once the Abstract is selected, participants will be sent a registration link via e-mail.
- 2. The registration amount (inclusive of GST) for the Conference is:

Students-: Rs. 1500/-Others-: Rs. 2000/-

3. The amount paid shall include: Conference kit Transportation (from city/airport to college)

Breakfast, Lunch, High Tea, Dinner (during the course of event)

- 4. Co-Authors have to register separately.
- 5. Accommodation will be provided to the participants with separate charges.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Last Date of Abstract Submission – 22nd December Intimation of Abstract Selection – 3rd January Registration Dates – 3rd January to 20th January Final Submission of Manuscripts – 17th February

Date of the Conference – 22nd and 23rd February

#### ABOUT ORGANISING COMMITTEE

This is the flagship event hosted by Centre for Human Rights, an academic research centre which aims at achieving the objective of having an amicable tomorrow. The Centre for Human Rights of Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad aims to visualize a comprehensive society in order to ensure that the basic human rights are respected everywhere. The centre serves the purpose of creating awareness about human rights among the people, where everyone takes a responsibility to promote and protect the human rights and to develop an exhaustive understanding through research and developments in various fields of human rights. In two years of its establishment, the centre has conducted various lectures, workshops, seminars and field visits to study the violation of human rights and to work for its protection. The Centre in close collaboration with the Edinboro University, USA has also been workingon the refugee issues, in specific reference to the Rohingya Refugees situated in Bolapur, Hyderabad.

Chief Patron – Professor (Dr.) Sarfaraz Ahmed Khan Patron - Dr. Anuradha Binnuri Research and Publication Head - Professor (Dr.) Sripathi Dwarkanath Convener - Mr. Ahmar Afaq

#### MEMBER CO-ORDINATORS

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