

ORIENTATION DAY

1st AUGUST 2015

The First National Law University of the State of Maharashtra, the Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai, commenced its proceedings on August 1, 2015

The day began with a tribute to the former President, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, who passed into history on 27th July 2015. The occasion was graced by various luminaries from the field of legal education, significantly, Padma Shree Prof. (Dr.) N.R. Madhava Menon [Eminent Jurist] Prof.(Dr.)V.Vijaykumar [UNHCR Chair on Refugee Law at National Law School, Bangalore], Prof (Dr.) A. Lakshminath [Pro-Chancellor emeritus and founder Vice-Chancellor, Chanakya National Law University, Patna] and Prof. (Dr.) Parasuraman, [Director, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.]

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of MNLU Mumbai, Prof. (Dr.) Bhavani Prasad Panda, welcomed all the distinguished guests, students and their parents. He expressed his pleasure of having all the students, the first batch of MNLU Mumbai, and their parents at the occasion. He also conveyed how MNLU is striving to establish itself as an institution of legal learning where the students will be imparted skill training in addition to knowledge, building their capacity of logical thinking, and to put in his words '*dharmeya tatparta*'.

Thereafter, the message of Hon'ble Mr. Justice F. M. Ibrahim Kalifulla, Judge Supreme Court of India, the Chancellor of MNLU Mumbai, was read out to the gathering. In his message, Justice Kalifulla has expressed his warm wishes to the University and the staff and appreciated the support of the state government.

This was followed by the introduction of students. Students from diverse places and backgrounds introduced themselves, expressing their enthusiasm about being a part of MNLU and about participating in various activities.

Prof. Parsuraman introduced the Tata Institute of Social Sciences to the gathering, and extended his cooperation in every possible way. Prof (Dr.) V. Vijaykumar, one of the esteemed guests at the occasion, opined that as law students, they have to learn to think differently and effectively. His idea of a great institution is one which inculcates in its students, academic learning, communication skills and analytical skills.

Thereafter, Prof. A. Lakshminath discussed the various approaches to legal studies around the world. He said that students should all study together without envy, and pursue with vigour. According to him, we all should devote our intellect towards our country and our community that supports us.

The most awaited program was the orientation of students by Prof. Menon. He expressed his appreciation towards Prof. Panda for laying the foundation of MNLU in Mumbai. He extensively discussed the future of legal profession in the year 2020. According to him, the inclination of legal studies is towards specialization, and by the year 2020, the traditional approach of legal profession would become obsolete. Prof. Menon explained the significance of legal profession, as it is the only profession which has been mentioned in the Constitution of India.

In the last session the parents and students participated actively in an interactive session, where students and their parents addressed their queries to Prof Menon, Prof Panda and the panel. The vote of thanks was delivered by the Registrar, Prof Lalit Kumar Deb.