

**Felicitation Programme of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mohit S. Shah,
Chief Justice, Bombay High Court, Mumbai.**

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On the auspicious occasion of Rakshabandhan, Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai (MNLU) Mumbai had the distinct pleasure of having the august presence of Hon'ble Justice Mr. Mohit S. Shah, Chief Justice, Bombay High Court, Mumbai who graciously accepted the invitation to preside over the function as the Chief Guest. The Guests of Honour were Prof. (Dr.) S. Parasuraman, Director, Tata Institute of Social Sciences and Ms. Aarthi Ramakrishnan, MD, Mizuho Securities.

The function begun by introduction of all dignitaries followed by felicitation of Hon'ble Justice Mr. Mohit S. Shah Chief Justice, Bombay High Court, Mumbai and other dignitaries.

The welcome address was given by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of MNLU Mumbai, Prof. (Dr.) B.P. Panda. He explained the long term goals and targets that the university aims to achieve. He also thanked the Hon'ble Justice Mr. Mohit S. Shah, Chief Justice, Bombay High Court, Mumbai for helping the university establish and start in the academic year 2015-16.

It was swiftly followed by the Oath Taking Ceremony for the office bearers of the newly formed Student Bar Council. The SBC was elected through proper voting procedure and comprises of the following students –

- 1) Yashraj Samant – President
- 2) Niveditha Menon – Vice-President
- 3) Swapnil Singh – Secretary
- 4) Vidit Rajesh Harsulkar – Deputy-Secretary

The Office Bearers took an oath which was inducted by Hon'ble Justice Mr. Mohit S. Shah, Chief Justice, Bombay High Court, Mumbai and under which the Office Bearers solemnly resolved to fulfill their duties to the fullest without any fear or favour, malice or ill-will.

Following the oath, the President of the SBC addressed the gathering and stated the aims and goals of the Student Bar Council. He emphasized that it is the duty of the students and the SBC to make sure that the Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai reaches the zenith in every sphere. He also explained the proposed structure which is to be followed for creation of various committees. He promised on behalf of the SBC, that no student shall face any form of injustice and that opportunities will always be provided to the students to hone and nurture their talents and work towards the overall development of the University.

Then, the Guest of Honour, Prof. (Dr.) S. Parasuraman addressed the gathering and wished the students all the best in their journey towards becoming a Legal professional. This was followed by an address by Ms. Aarthi Ramakrishnan. She stated that for a student, the hardest choice is to decide what undergraduate degree he/she wants to pursue. But she reiterated that having chosen law, the students had made the correct choice. Having herself been a part of the early years of the NLSIU, Bangalore, she said that she understands the intricacies of the university and also understands the problems that a nascent university faces. But, she reassured the students that their choice was right and bright future awaits them.

After the address by the Guests of Honour, the Chief Guest, Hon'ble Justice Mr. Mohit S. Shah, Chief Justice, Bombay High Court, Mumbai addressed the august gathering. He started off by elucidating the importance of the non-legal subjects in the study of law, by quoting Sir Walter Scott. He also spoke about the importance of analytical skills in the life of a lawyer. *"Law is not only about advising your client, but about leading your client into the process of justice"*, he said. Next, he spoke about the vital role played by the professors, in the life of a law student, by providing a very succinct example. He stated that a

-Judge tells you about the 'What' of Law.

-Lawyer tells you about the 'How' of Law.

-But only a Professor can tell you about the 'Why' of Law.

Finally, he gave an insightful summary about the upcoming concept of negotiation and mediation in law. He concluded by advising the students to thoroughly introspect, before choosing a career option from the myriad of opportunities available in the legal field.

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Natasha Kavalakkat. The comperes for the function were Aditya Gupta and Sreenidhi S. The Function was a success and marked a new beginning for the newly formed SBC and the university.