

PRESS RELEASE – 28TH ANNUAL CONVOCATION | SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Sep 27, 2020: The 28th Annual Convocation of the National Law School of India University was held virtually on Sunday, September 27, 2020. The Convocation was pre-recorded and streamed at 11 am on our website www.nls.ac.in. The recorded video of the Convocation ceremony is available on the website.

Vice Chancellor of NLSIU, Prof (Dr.) Sudhir Krishnaswamy presented his Annual Report and congratulated the faculty, staff and students for ensuring that the Annual Convocation was held on schedule despite the disruptions arising out of the coronavirus pandemic.

He thanked the Chancellor, the Honourable Chief Justice of India, Sharad Arvind Bobde and the Chief Guest, Professor Niraja Gopal Jayal, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi for their time and effort to ensure a successful virtual Convocation.

Graduates:

This year, 576 students graduated from the various academic programmes of NLSIU. This includes:

3 from the Ph.D Programme

40 from the Master of Public Policy Programme

45 from the Master of Laws Programme

77 from the Bachelor of Arts and Laws (Honours) Programme and,

411 students from the Distance Education Programmes: This includes the Master of Business Laws Degree and other Postgraduate Diploma off-campus programmes.

Medals & Prizes: Additionally, 48 gold medals were awarded to graduates from different academic programmes as recognition of their achievements. Ms Yamuna Menon, who graduated with a BA LLB (Hons) Degree received a total of 18 medals - the highest number of medals received by any student in the history of the University.

Annual Report:

In the annual report, Prof (Dr.) Sudhir Krishnaswamy provided a broad sketch of the University's challenges and opportunities for the years ahead. These included the challenges owing to the COVID pandemic, efforts toward academic renewal and expansion, enhancing research, and a push toward ecological and financial sustainability.

The Vice Chancellor noted that the recent New Education Policy 2020 sets out four imperatives for NLSIU and other similarly placed Universities: the growth of single stream Universities into vibrant multidisciplinary institutions; embracing a holistic and multidisciplinary approach grounded in constitutional values rather than a narrow vocational approach; building a vibrant and open culture of knowledge creation grounded in high quality research, and ensuring greater inclusivity. He concluded by observing that the "University is enthusiastic and ready to embrace all these imperatives set out in NEP 2020" with the support and collaboration of our stakeholders.

Convocation Address:

Chief Guest Prof Niraja Gopal Jayal who delivered the Convocation Address, drew attention to some of the challenges of the post COVID world where she hoped the "Generation Z" would play its part to help the world steer through these challenges.

Stating that Globalisation could arguably be the first identifiable casualty of the COVID pandemic, she questioned: "Is globalisation dead? Can or Should it be dead? Or is it possible to imagine a newer and better form of globalisation?"

Prof Jayal said that globalisation doesn't have to be about the exploitative offshore manufacturing or even about the global integration of markets. "A newer form of globalisation grounded in an acknowledgement of the necessary interdependence

of nations is not just possible but also necessary. A more humane equitable form of globalisation surely needs to be crafted,” she said.