



Commonwealth Legal Education Association



First Prof. (Dr.) N.R. Madhava Menon Memorial Lecture

on

Legal and Justice Education @2047: An Agenda for 100 Years of Independence

&

Book Launch

on

Wednesday, 17th September 2025 | 5:00 P.M. onwards

at

Bhim Hall, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre,
15 Janpath Road, Windsor Place, New Delhi – 110001

Inauguration by:

Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India

First Lecture delivered by:

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India,
Executive Chairman, NALSA & Chief Patron, CLEA



As India approaches the centenary of its independence in 2047, the legal profession stands at a transformative juncture. The coming decades will be defined by the imperatives of justice, rapid technological advancement, environmental challenges, and global interconnectedness. These forces demand a bold reimagining of how we educate and empower the next generation of lawyers. Legal education must move beyond traditional instruction, embracing dynamic, interdisciplinary, and innovation-driven frameworks that equip lawyers to navigate a complex and interconnected world. Over the past few decades, India witnessed a quiet revolution in legal education through the pioneering vision of Prof. (Dr.) N.R. Madhava Menon, whose introduction of the five-year integrated law programme and the National Law School model reshaped legal academia. Today, his legacy calls for a renewed leap, integrating constitutional morality, digital fluency, climate justice, and social equity into the core of legal training. This memorial lecture honors the legacy of Prof. (Dr.) N.R. Madhava Menon, the architect of modern legal education in India, and invites new conversations on law, technology, and justice for the next century. It provides a platform to explore critical questions: how can legal education and justice delivery be reimagined to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse, digitized, and complex society?

Supporting this vision is the **Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA)**, established in 1971, which serves as a global network advancing legal education and promoting the rule of law across Commonwealth nations. By bringing together academics, judges, lawyers, and policymakers, CLEA fosters excellence in legal pedagogy, research, and curriculum development. In India, CLEA has played a pivotal role in shaping reform movements in legal education, working alongside institutions and thought leaders to develop future-ready curricula. Complementing this mission, The **Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC)**, New Delhi, works in the fields of social justice and law reforms. As a multidisciplinary research and policy think tank, DAIC promotes high-quality studies, undertakes cutting-edge research on social and economic issues, develops national databases to disseminate knowledge, and advances advocacy and collaboration on socio-economic transformation, sustainable development, and inclusive growth, carrying forward Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's vision of equity and empowerment. Together, CLEA and DAIC bring global perspective and national resolve to reimagine legal education and justice for the 21st century.

About Prof. N. R. Madhava Menon: Padma Bhushan Awardee Prof. N. R. Madhava Menon (1935–2019), past president of Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA) revered as the father of modern legal education in India, was an academician, jurist, and institution-builder whose contributions reshaped legal studies nationally and internationally. Beginning his career as an advocate in 1956, he later joined Aligarh Muslim University and Delhi University, eventually leading the Campus Law Centre. His landmark contribution came in 1986 when, on behalf of the Bar Council of India, he founded the National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bangalore, pioneering the Five-Year Integrated LL.B. model that revolutionized Indian legal education. He further served as the founding Vice-Chancellor of NUJS, Kolkata, and as Director of the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal. A reformer and policy advisor, he contributed to criminal justice, higher education reforms, and judicial training. Decorated with several national and international awards, including the Padmashree (2003), Prof. Menon authored numerous works and inspired generations of lawyers, judges, and academicians.



Commonwealth Legal Education Association



Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA)

& Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC)

Cordially invite you to the

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15 Janpath Road, Windsor Place, New Delhi – 110001

Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India

has kindly consented to be the Chief Guest and formally inaugurate the event

&

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India,

Executive Chairman, NALSA & Chief Patron, CLEA

has graciously consented to deliver the First Prof. (Dr.) N.R. Madhava Menon Lecture

Prof (Dr.) S. Sivakumar
President, CLEA

Col. Akash Patil
Director, DAIC

Please be seated before 04:30 P.M.

Contact: ✉ clealecture@gmail.com ☎ +91 70176 93523 & +91 78268 78579

Programme

05:00 P.M. Arrival of Guests & Lighting of the Lamp

05:05 P.M. Welcome Address

Mr. Akash Patil, Director, DAIC

Felicitation of the Guests

05:10 P.M. Introductory Address

Prof. (Dr.) S. Sivakumar, Senior Professor, Indian Law Institute,
President, CLEA & Member, 21st Law Commission of India

05:18 P.M. Reflections on Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon

Dr. R. Venkataramani, Learned Attorney General for India

05:25 P.M. Release of Three Books

Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India,
Executive Chairman, NALSA & Chief Patron, CLEA

Introducing the book by **Mr. Gowrishankar Natesan**, Publisher, Thomson Reuters &
Chief Executive Officer Southshore Innovations Private Limited

05:35 P.M. Inaugural Address by the Chief Guest

Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India

05:50 P.M. First Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon Memorial Lecture on **Legal and Justice Education @ 2047: An Agenda for 100 Years of Independence** by **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant**, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Executive Chairman, NALSA & Chief Patron, CLEA

06:20 P.M. Vote of Thanks

Ms. Ruchi Sharma D., Joint General Secretary, CLEA

*Masters of Ceremonies: **Ms. Nabila Zehra**, Convenor, CLEA &
Mr. Salman Qasmi, Student Convenor, CLEA-Asia

Followed by High Tea

6:30 P.M.: Book Presentation to Authors: Presentation of Books to the Authors, followed by an Interaction with **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant** and the Distribution of Copies of the Book. Venue: **Shravasti Hall**

Books to be released:

1. **Sustainability and Subsistence: Legal Strategies for a Green Planet**
Foreword by Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India
Editor, Prof (Dr.) S. Sivakumar
2. **Disaster Management Laws in Asia: A Retrospect**
Foreword by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India
Editor, Prof (Dr.) S. Sivakumar
3. **Law and Society: During and Post Covid Pandemic**
Foreword by Dr. R. Venkataramani, Learned Attorney General for India
Editors, Prof (Dr.) S. Sivakumar & Prof. (Dr.) Lisa P. Lukose

RSVP:

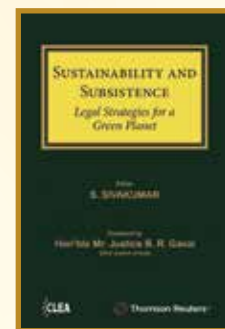
Dr. Vikram Singh Arya
Secretary, CLEA-Asia
8248515696

Shruti Sakral
DAIC
9650233878

Sustainability and Subsistence: Legal Strategies for a Green Planet

Foreword by **Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai**, Chief Justice of India

Editor, Prof (Dr.) S. Sivakumar



Sustainability and Subsistence: Legal Strategies for a Green Planet is a commemoration of over 50 years of the landmark Stockholm Declaration. It honors the foundational principles of global environmental governance and explores how they have evolved to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century. It brings together leading voices in environmental law to map the legal tools and policies needed to safeguard our planet's future. Contributors from diverse jurisdictions examine how constitutional mandates, intellectual property rights, sustainable tourism, corporate social responsibility, and community-based conservation can work in harmony to meet the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

Disaster Management Laws in Asia: A Retrospect

Foreword by **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant**, Judge, Supreme Court of India

Editor, Prof (Dr.) S. Sivakumar

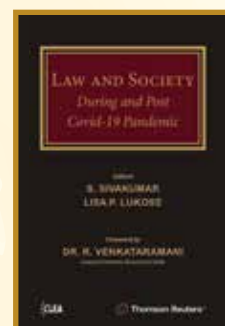


Disaster Management Laws in Asia: A Retrospect offers a comprehensive overview of disaster management practices across Asia and beyond. It explores the diverse geography and disaster profiles of Central, East, South, Southeast, and West Asia, as well as other jurisdictions such as Mauritius, Turkey, and Cape Town. Each chapter discusses the respective nation's unique challenges, legal frameworks, and best practices in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery. Edited by and with contributions from leading scholars and experts, the book provides valuable lessons on building resilience, promoting effective governance, and implementing innovative strategies to manage disasters.

Law and Society: During and Post Covid Pandemic

Foreword by **Dr. R. Venkataramani**, Learned Attorney General for India

Editors: Prof (Dr.) S. Sivakumar & Prof. (Dr.) Lisa P. Lukose



Law and Society: During and Post Covid-19 Pandemic offers an overview of how the Covid-19 crisis transformed legal systems and societal structures across South Asia and beyond. Based on papers presented at the Commonwealth Comparative Constitutional & Public Law (3CPL) Colloquium 2021, the book addresses crucial issues such as constitutional rights in emergencies, digital justice, and public health. It also explores vital yet often-overlooked topics like marine ecology, indigenous rights, AI, mental health, education, and migration. With a multidisciplinary approach, this volume provides both critical reflection and forward-looking perspectives, making it a valuable resource for all.

Partners



Publishing

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Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai
Chief Justice of India

Justice B. R. Gavai, born on 24th November 1960 at Amravati, is the 52nd Chief Justice of India. He enrolled at the Bar in 1985 and initially worked with late Raja S. Bhonsale before practicing independently at the Bombay High Court and later the Nagpur Bench, specializing in constitutional and administrative law. He represented major civic bodies, universities, and corporations, and also served as Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor at the Nagpur Bench. Elevated as a Judge of the Bombay High Court in 2003 and confirmed in 2005, he presided over a wide range of matters across multiple benches. In May 2019, he was elevated to the Supreme Court, where he has been part of nearly 700 benches and authored about 300 judgments, including landmark Constitution Bench rulings safeguarding fundamental rights. On 14th May 2025, he assumed office as Chief Justice of India. He retires on 23rd November 2025.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant
Judge Supreme Court of India &
Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)
& Chief Patron, CLEA

Justice Surya Kant, born on 10th February 1962 at Hisar, Haryana, is a distinguished jurist known for his contributions to constitutional and service law. After graduating from Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak, he began practice in 1984 at Hisar and later shifted to Chandigarh to practice before the Punjab and Haryana High Court. His exceptional legal acumen led to his appointment as the youngest Advocate General of Haryana in 2000 and designation as Senior Advocate in 2001. Elevated as a Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court in 2004, he later served as Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court from October 2018. Since 24th May 2019, he has served as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India and presently chairs the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee. Academically inclined, he earned an LL.M. with distinction in 2011 and has been closely associated with the activities of Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA).