

International Global Meet on Human Rights Ends on a Bright Note

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KOCHI: The International Seminar on ‘Human Rights: National and International Perspectives’, organised by the National University of Advanced Legal Studies (NUALS), concluded here on Saturday. The seminar was inaugurated by National Human Rights Commission member Justice Cyriac Joseph on March 19. He said that ‘Rule of Law’ was the hallmark of a civilised society, and that every human activity, including research in science and technology, must adhere to it.

On the occasion, Guest of Honour Yogesh Tyagi, who is dean of the Faculty of Legal Studies at South Asian University, said, “when faced with the new challenges arising from the rapid developments in science and technology, the law becomes inadequate, incomplete and uncertain, undermining the practical supremacy of Rule of Law.” The first technical session involved interaction between the panel members and participants, during which queries on the accountability of the state, conjugal rights of juveniles and the status of live-in relationships vis-a-vis the institution of marriage were clarified. Scope for CSR in Human Rights

In the second session, the speakers discussed the possibilities and nuances of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in the fields of environment and human rights, and emphasised on the need for human beings to act as trustees for their progenies, so as to manage the environment for the future generation. Several papers on relevant topics were discussed and scrutinised in the session.

JNU Centre for Study of Social Systems professor Tiplut Nongbri was the keynote speaker in the third session. She laid emphasis on the human rights concerns, and the atrocities committed in the North East after the enforcement of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, thus aggravating and exacerbating the situations there. The sitting witnessed a session in which it was discussed whether the comparison of ‘surrogacy to adoption’ was legitimate, and whether a mother needs to be categorised in that manner for availing benefits.

The concluding day saw three more sessions, with School of Legal Studies, Cusat, director N S Soman heading the first session. Supreme Court of India senior advocate and founder of the Human Rights Law Network Colin Gonsalves said that the focus should be on the downtrodden. The last session and the penultimate sessions were moderated by Michaela Lissowsky, deputy founding director of International Nuremberg Principles Academy.

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