The Faculty of Law, Delhi University organized seven days Faculty Development Programme (FDP) at Moot Court Hall, Umang Bhawan from 3 March to 9 March 2018. Based on the theme “Contemporary Legal Challenges and Prospects”, the FDP became the scintillating platform of exchange of ideas and concerns among almost three generations of law academicians and practitio

ers. The Programme witnessed lectures by legal luminaries like Prof. Upendra Baxi, Prof. M.P. Singh, Prof. B.B. Pande, Prof. B.T. Kaul, Prof. Poonam Saxena, Prof. Kamala Sankaran, Prof. Amita Dhanda, Hon’ble Justice Madan B. Lokur, Hon’ble Justice Gitta Mittal, Hon’ble Justice Dr. S. Muralidhar, Her excellency Dr. Neeru Chadha, Prof. S. K. Palhan and Prof. Ved Kumari. The Programme audience was mostly comprised of newly recruited Assistant Professors at Faculty of Law, Delhi University.

All the lecture sessions were planned in a way to provide ample time for interaction between the audience and the resource persons. The Programme audience had used this opportunity to their utmost satisfaction and brought multiple perspectives to the forum through their questions and comments. This programme has also provided knowledge of rich history of the Faculty of Law, Delhi University through the invited resource persons. Most of the resource persons in their lectures had remembered their days in
the Faculty of Law and underlined the importance of hard work and integrity to achieve success in life. This has left an impeccable imprint on the minds of the audience about the sanctity and sincerity associated with the place and the profession.

The programme was structured to provide insights to the audience on three important points. These are, first, to provide a theoretical perspectives or jurisprudential insights of different subjects of law; second, to provide practical class-room teaching guidance and use of many important teaching tools; and third, to provide practical lessons of team building, time management and stress management.

Prof. (Dr.) Ved Kumari, Dean & Head, Faculty of Law was the Programme Patron and Assistant Professors Dr. Ashwini Siwal, Dr. Narendra Bishnoi and Dr. Ashish Kumar were the Programme Coordinators. There were also two students volunteer assisting on all seven days towards the successful completion of the FDP. There were four sessions of 90 minutes each scheduled for all the seven days of the FDP. The further daily details of the Programme is as follows:

**3 March 2018, Day 1**

The Programme was inaugurated by Her Excellency Judge Neeru Chadha, Judge ITLOS, Hamburg, Germany. She delivered an insightful lecture on changing nature of International Law. Her lecture primarily dealt with three emerging challenges of Public International Law, namely, first, UNSC reforms and its challenges; second, nature of Bilateral Investment
Treaties; and third, the expanding horizon of Human Rights and its implications to state sovereignty. Her cogent and erudite lecture was well received by the audience and was followed by a very engaging Q & A session. The questions addressed to her covered a range of issues like China’s approach towards South China Sea Judgment, Indian practice of appointing judges to international legal forums, India-China border dispute, legality and justifiability of Bilateral Investment Agreements etc. She responded eloquently to all the questions within the framework of international law.

This was followed by a lecture of Dr. Anupam Jha (Assistant Professor, LC-II) providing detailed insights of the syllabus of the Public International Law. He discussed the niceties of the subject and provided practical guidance to the audience to improve their knowledge and teaching methods of the Public International Law. He also took the queries of new teachers teaching Public International Law and resolved their doubts.

At the second session of the day Hon’ble Mr Justice (Dr.) S. Muralidhar, Judge, High Court of Delhi delivered a lecture on the topic “Access to Justice”. He discussed both theoretical and practical aspects of the subject and highlighted through illuminating data and insightful videos, the contemporary pressing need to give more attention to this topic so that justice delivery systems could touch the highest altar of democracy, justness and fairness. His lecture also captured the historical developments and contemporary trends related to
theories of legal representations, expanded notions of _locus standi_, alternative dispute resolution and the global and virtual justice. He also highlighted the important data sources and theoretical paradigms that could be used both for empirical and doctrinaire legal research by the programme audience.

At the third session of the day, Hon’ble Ms. Justice Gita Mittal, Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi delivered a very erudite and detailed lecture about the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). She discussed many facets of ADR and highlighted complexities and opportunities ingrained in this form of justice delivery system vis-à-vis socio-economic structures of Indian populace. In a very interactive Q & A session she also deliberated upon the benefits of arbitration and India’s potential to become a hub of arbitration activities of the globe.

The fourth session started with an ice breaking activity to provide faculty members a chance to get acquainted with one another and to form teams assimilating and synthesizing different perspectives on a common theme. This activity was followed by the introduction of each Law Centre by their respective PICs or their representatives. Dr. V. K. Ahuja (PIC Law Centre II) welcomed all the faculty members and made a detailed presentation about Law Centre II and discussed the qualities of good teachers. This was followed by the presentation about Campus
The second day of FDP started with the lecture of Prof. Amita Dhanda, (Professor of Law, NALSAR, Hyderabad). Prof. Dhanda gave a lucid lecture on the topic “Equality in Classroom” and discussed available teaching methods to bring equality in classrooms. Her emphasis was to engage multiple voices and concerns while discussing legal concepts in the classrooms so that legal nuances of a principle under discussion could be understood in a better and impartial manner. She discussed threadbare many roles of the teacher in classroom (like manager, facilitator, arbitrator and colleague & co-learner) and provided her own insights accordingly.
The day also witnessed a very illuminating and erudite lectures conducted by Prof. Poonam Pradhan Saxena (Vice-Chancellor of National Law University, Jodhpur) and Prof. S.N. Singh (Former Professor, Faculty of Law, DU) on Family Law and Competition Law respectively. Prof. Saxena discussed in detail the prevailing concepts of Family Law particularly Hindu Law and indicated towards some ingrained gender biases in the statutory provisions and the judicial decisions. She critically deliberated the case of Bhaurao Shankar Lokhande v. State of Maharashtra and other provisions of Hindu Succession Act, 1956 to prove her points. Prof. Singh discussed the contemporary challenges in the proper implementation of competition law in Indian socio-economic milieu. Internal Faculty members Dr. Manju Relan (Associate Professor, LC-I) and Dr. Arti Aneja (Assistant Professor, LC-2) discussed the syllabi of Family Law and Competition Law papers respectively and provided practical guidelines to the teachers teaching these subjects.

The last session of the day was conducted by Prof. Ved Kumari on the Adult Learning Theories. She in her own interactive way provided insights and practical guidance to the audience about various approaches and theories of the adult learning.
The first two sessions of the third day of the FDP were conducted by Prof. S. Palhan (Professor, Great Lakes Institute of Management) on the topic of team building and leadership. He through his games and interactive exercises imparted skills of team building and leadership. In the after lunch session, Dr. Alka Chawla (Associate Professor, CLC) gave insight and discussed about the Intellectual Property Rights. She also discussed some teaching tools important for the subject. Hon’ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur (Judge, Supreme Court of India) conducted the last session on topic “Social Justice and Judiciary”. He deliberated in depth the judiciary’s role and challenges in meeting the ever widening contours of social justice as conceptualized by the Indian Constitution and other statutory laws.
The first two sessions of the day were conducted by Prof. S. Palhan on time management and stress management respectively. He discussed the life learning differences between ‘urgent’ and ‘important’ and suggested to divert our energies to all the important works so that they could be accomplished in proper time. The third session was conducted by Prof. B. B. Pandey (Former Professor, Faculty of Law, DU) on the topic “Contemporary Gender and Speech Criminalisation and Selective Application of Criminal Laws”. He discussed threadbare the contemporary incidents of biased application of criminal law and made the audience aware about the probable future that these trends and incidents might lead to if correctional measures were not taken now. Dr. Vandana (Associate Professor, CLC) further discussed the syllabus of the Indian Penal Code and imparted valuable tips and guidelines of teaching criminal laws. The last session of the day was conducted by Prof. Ved Kumari and Dr. V. K. Ahuja on teaching methods. Both have deliberated in detail the various teaching
methods that could be useful for law teaching.

7 March 2018, Day 5

The fifth day of the FDP started with the lecture of Prof. Kamla Shankaran (Vice
Chancellor, TNNLS, Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu) on challenges and contemporary issues in Constitutional Law. She brought to the fore her own research about role of the Delhi University academicians in the drafting of the Indian Constitution and its further developments. She discussed threadbare the impeccable contribution of the academicians of the Faculty of Law, DU to the many important socio-economic development of constitutional principles. She also underlined the need to include Schedule 6 of the Constitution in syllabi of Constitutional Law papers in order to impart the knowledge of special characteristics of the Indian federalism.

Her lecture was followed by the insightful session conducted by Prof. Upendra Baxi (Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Law, DU) on the topic “Unlearning the Law” and the “Research and Publication”. He underlined the need to teach law with its relation to the other streams and philosophies in order to find the exact positioning of particular legal provision and the purposes served by it in any given socio-economic-politico context. His intellectual alacrity and thought provoking examples have insights for all the fields of law and it was very well accepted by the audience.

This was followed by the lecture on case study method with practical exercise by Prof. Ved Kumari. During the last session of the day, Rahi Foundation film “The Little Girls We
were and the Women We Are” – a film on child sexual abuse survivor was shown. The hall discussed the many issues and concerns about child sexual abuse survivors.

8 March 2018, Day 6

This day started with the very warm and enthusiastic flavor of International Women’s Day. The first session of day six was conducted by Prof. B. T. Kaul (Chairperson, Delhi Judicial Academy) and Mr. O.B. Lal (Associate Professor, LC-II) on labour laws. Prof. Kaul discussed the importance of labour laws for peaceful and democratic industrial development of a country. He underscored the contemporary challenges to the subject coming from the economic policies of globalization and liberalization. He also underlined the problems of unorganized sectors and need of its proper regulation. While responding to a question he pointed out the abysmal status of legal protection available to the sanitation workers. Mr. O. B. Lal discussed the syllabus of labour law and provided important guidelines to the teachers teaching the course.

The second session of the day was conducted by Mr. Rajesh Kumar (Librarian, Faculty of Law, DU) on the topic “Research Matrix”. He provided many practical information about library resources and facilities available at Delhi University and Faculty of Law in particular. He also highlighted some ethical and legal concerns that must be considered while
undertaking any writing and publication exercises. He discussed many methods through which the importance and value of any paper could be measured.

To commemorate the International Women’s Day, a Panel Discussion on the topic “Evolving Role of Women Lawyers specially in Corporate Laws” was organized at the third session of the FDP. Mr. Lalit Bhasin with many other women lawyers from Bar participated in the discussion and shared their professional and personal experiences of achieving excellence in their life. The panel highlighted the role that a women lawyer could play in corporate world in making it more gender neutral and fair. The last session of the day was organized on “Professional Ethics”. Ms. Meenakshi Arora, Senior Advocate and Ms. Isha Wadhwa (Assistant Professor, CLC) gave lucid presentations about the subject highlighting its nature, scope and importance.

9 March 2018, Day 7

Prof. M. P. Singh (Chancellor, Central University of Haryana) delivered his lecture on the topic “Administrative Law and Public Law in General including Comparative Public Law” and encouraged the programme audience to inculcate the highest values of integrity and hard work at the first session of the day. He, with his emotive tone, pointed out the importance of the study of Comparative Public Law for better understanding of one’s own constitutional
and administrative systems. In the same session, Dr. Sarbjit Kaur (Associate Professor, LC-I) discussed the syllabus of administrative law and provided overall insights in the subject.

The second session of the day witnessed the lecture and training session about paper setting and evaluation. Prof. Ved Kumari and Dr. Sunanda Bharti (Assistant Professor, LC I) provided practical guidance and insights in paper setting and evaluation. In the continuation of commemoration of International Women’s Day, a Panel Discussion was organized on the topic “Status of Laws to Protect Women’s Right in India” during third session of the day. The last session of the day was devoted to receiving reflections from the programme audience.

A cultural evening was organized at the end of FDP. An engaging skit on gender issues (particularly women and transgender), poetry recitation, singing of classical Hindi songs and a colorful parade and magic show were the attractions of the cultural evening. The FDP ended with the dinner and certificate distribution.

FDP was very much well received by the newly recruited Assistant Professors of Faculty of Law, Delhi University. This was reflected from the facts of overwhelming registration for the programme and the attendance of the faculties for each session. It has been a great success in imparting the knowledge of useful teaching skills and teaching tools to the newly recruited teachers and also helped them in uplifting their theoretical approach towards law and encouraged them to reflect upon the emerging contemporary challenges in the law and the future prospects. This FDP provided the most needed space to the more than 100 newly appointed Assistant Professors to meet and bond with each other. They learnt about the long history and innovative traditions of the Faculty of Law in addition to updating their knowledge of various legal topics. It is believed that this FDP will go a long way in improving the standard of teaching and learning in the Faculty of Law.

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