



॥वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्॥

**SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED UNIVERSITY)
SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, PUNE**

Care | Courage | Competence | Collaboration
(Re-Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade)

ALUMNI NEXUS

ANNUAL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



8TH EDITION, 2018

ALUMNI NEXUS



*Symbiosis International (Deemed) University
categorized as GRADE 1 University by
the University Grants Commission (UGC)
and ranked 44th amongst the top 50
universities of the country by NIRF.*

THANK YOU!

To all our Alumni for their continuous support,
encouragement and guidance.

We appreciate your efforts that
have contributed towards achieving this feat.

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Symbiosis Law School, Pune stood 9th among 1400 law teaching institutes and topmost among Private Law Schools at Govt. of India's NIRF Ranking 2018 competing with National Law Universities.

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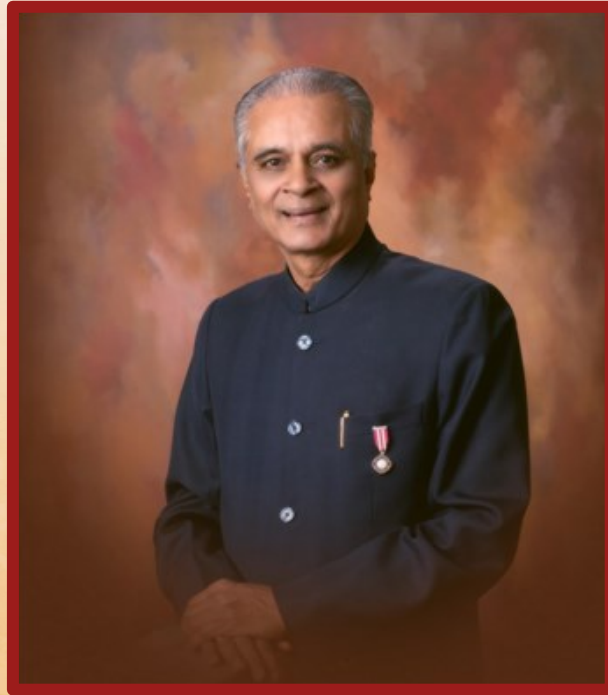
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(FOUNDER, PRESIDENT) CHANCELLOR'S NOTE



Symbiosis, since its inception has been accomplishing the essence of the Upanishadic principle of “*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*”. The students of this institution come from all over the world and live as one family. This Symbiosis family has now become a home to an enormous variety of intellectual and proficient students from varying backgrounds and cultures coming together from different parts of the world and living as one family.

Symbiosis International (Deemed University) has upheld the position of excellence in almost all the spheres of education in not just India but a lot of other countries around the world. Symbiosis Law School, Pune under its aegis has created a niche for itself in the field of legal education, wherein the students are being offered quality education at the same time engage human needs of the society.

The Annual Alumni Meet is an opportunity for all the alumni who have witnessed and were a part of the evolution of this institute to come together to reconnect, reminisce and bridge the present with the past. 40 years ago we embarked on a journey with a dream of giving quality legal education. Today, Symbiosis Law School, Pune has grown from strength to strength to become one of the premier law schools in the country and the globe.

This college has witnessed all of you, young enthusiastic professionals grow to become the best in your calling and respective fields of interest. It is for the young to learn from the more experienced and the accomplished to relive the passion and innocent zeal of starting afresh.

We are delighted be a part of the successful journey of our alumni and extremely proud of them for keeping our flag flying high both in professional and public service.

Keep up the great strides!

Prof. (Dr.) S.B. Mujumdar

Founder and President, Symbiosis Society

Chancellor , Symbiosis International (Deemed University)

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PRO CHANCELLOR'S NOTE



Symbiosis Law School, Pune has never failed in keeping up with its students after they graduate and takes immense pride in making them the privileged members of the alumni community. It is an occasion of extreme joy to note that Symbiosis Law School, Pune has completed 40 years of its esteemed existence and continues to set many a landmarks in the field of legal education.

An institution owes its students for their quality contribution in building the institution's reputation in the society, and this reputation in turn is what helps its students in being recognised in the world at large. Symbiosis Law School, Pune was developed as an idea nurturing not only the vision of imparting good quality legal education to its students but also to create the leaders of tomorrow.

The Alumni network portrays the Law School's remarkable success in justifying its motto. I appreciate the efforts of the Symbiosis Law School, Pune team for the many interactive activities that have been worked on avenues of alumni engagement and wish them good luck for all similar endeavours in the future.

The alumni of this institution are the frontrunners in strengthening the mission of justice and excellence.

I wish you all the best!

Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar

Pro Chancellor, Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune

Principal Director, Symbiosis Society

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VICE CHANCELLOR'S NOTE



Symbiosis Law School, Pune has always emphasised research and pursuit for knowledge dissemination which continues to be the cornerstone of its legacy.

The development and nurturing of every institution is attained by the hard work of the Director, Faculty and Staff. But, any institution gains reputation for excellence mainly when the alumni win accolades for themselves and their alma mater. It is also because of our dedicated alumni that Symbiosis Law School, Pune continues to enjoy its journey of excellence and has managed to complete 40 glorious years of being a beacon in the field of legal education and justice work.

We take pride in the fact that our alumni have never stepped back from contributing to any kind of endeavour that the institution has taken up for adding to its growth and success. We can never go out of words in appreciating the achievements of the whole Symbiosis family and will always hope of its continuance among all its members.

Dr. Rajani Gupte
Vice Chancellor
Symbiosis International (Deemed University)

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE



Dear Alumni,

I trust you are doing well!

Another year has passed, quicker than one can imagine. We see a new batch of students turn into alumni, and we are filled with bittersweet emotions. As I read about the plethora of fields that the alumni of Symbiosis Law School, Pune have excelled in, I feel a sense of fulfillment and take great pride to the legacy. You have truly embodied the principles of this Law School and fought odds to emerge successful.

As Symbiosis Law School, Pune celebrates its 40th year since inception in a manner grander than ever, I am reminded of the journey we have had. The

journey you have been a part of, the journey responsible for the respect and recognition we enjoy today. While you may not be students here anymore you will always be an integral part of Symbiosis Law School, Pune and it is through our alumni meets that we strengthen the bond between us.

As I write this, I am filled with gratitude for our brilliant alumni. For it is them, who have repeatedly helped us with placements, enrichment programmes, sponsorships and have provided other means of support. They have worked hard and achieved great heights and made us feel like we are a part of their success. Truly, without them, Symbiosis Law School, Pune would be incomplete.

You stood by us as we embarked on Symbiosis Law School's journey by expansion into NOIDA and Hyderabad. By 2019, we should enter Nagpur and we look forward to your support.

Let us commit to strengthen this brilliant bond, for this is the ultimate symbiotic relationship for SLS, Pune and Symbiosis International Deemed University.

Peace, Prosperity and Joy!

Prof. (Dr.) Shashikala Gurpur, *Fulbright Scholar*,
Director, Symbiosis Law School, Pune,
Dean, Faculty of Law, Symbiosis International (Deemed University)

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INTERVIEW WITH JUSTICE SANGITRAO PATIL

“Procedural Mock Trials lead to overall student development”

What message would you like to give to the current students of the college?

To begin with, I dutifully wish to remind the upcoming lawyers of Symbiosis, that life is a precarious journey. It contains challenging situations and hurdles high enough to pose as insurmountable. However, when observed closely and patiently, it becomes vividly apparent that the obstacles are indeed not extensive enough to block the road. If I recall my college years, I am again reminded of the daily sufferings associated with hardships and stress induced working days. I can undoubtedly proclaim that, if I could pass such an extreme phase, so can every other individual in this universe. The key is to remain optimistic of the future. It is equally imperative to surround yourself with a set of friends, who can and will help you through thick and thin.



I often come across such gullible students, who under the influence of their seniors ruin their court experience. They only interact with the same seniors and in this process, lose value addition to their knowledge.

I strongly advise students to participate in mock trials, not because internships are redundant rather because such procedural mock trials lead to overall development of the student, in terms of research, arguments and procedure.

What are the changes you would like to see in the Indian Legal Education System?

The Indian education system, particularly in the legal field has seen tremendous progress since my time. Several new avenues have opened with newer techniques, faculties and facilities. Interestingly, I did not have access to full time faculty, today students have access to anything but permanent faculty!

During my days, law was not looked upon as a career but merely as an optional choice, and often as a last resort. The situation is vastly different today. I'm well aware of the fact that students do have various opportunities to experience real world procedures, like, moot courts and mock trials. However, I staunchly believe practical training should be a mandatory subject every semester and every year. This will greatly benefit the students gain experiences of court, which, I have noticed is in deficit in the student interns I have had work under me.

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How would you describe experience at Symbiosis Law School, Pune?

I was in the 3rd batch of SLS Pune, and I finished my law degree in 1980. During those days, we had two academic cycles: June to June, October to October. I came to Symbiosis in my second year of pursuing the law degree after I had to leave my native place due to personal reasons. In Pune, I would travel for almost 14 kilometers to reach college and had a lot of household work as well. I would cook for my brother and brother-in-law. Apart from that, I had to manage my studies, but sincerity always bears fruit. It was challenging, but hard work is always worth it. During my years, we did not have any concept of moot courts or guest lectures which are widely provided to students today.

Can you tell us about your professional journey and the hardships you faced?

I joined the Judiciary, in 1988 and served for 4 years in Bhandra district. I was then transferred to Baramati for a period of 2 years; thereafter I was promoted to the post of district judge. Subsequently, I was appointed as Registrar for two terms, once in 2001 and then in 2009. Soon, I became the Registrar vigilance and Registrar of legal matters. I have also served as the Chief Justice of the Small Causes Court in Bombay. Thereafter, I served as the principal judge of the City Civil Court. I have also trained 4 batches for judicial officers from 2006 to 2008. So to summarize, I have had administrative, teaching and judicial posts, which have led to an expansion of my knowledge base. I believe, no one can know it all and everyday and every second, we learn and grow. I plan to retire on October 15th, 2018 as I would have reached the age of 62.



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GLIMPSE OF THE ANNUAL ALUMNI MEET, 2017

The Alumni Committee and Cell of Symbiosis Law School, Pune hosted the Annual Alumni Meet, 2017 on 16th April, 2017 at J.W. Marriott Hotel, Pune. The event was attended by various alumni from across the country. The welcome address by Dr. Shashikala Gurpur shed light upon the importance of the alumni-institution relations. It was followed by a panel discussion on "Professional legal education and the purview of the Bar Council of India". The panel discussion was chaired by some of our most revered alumni consisting of Diya Uday, Manavendra Mishra, Sampath Bulusu, who moderated the discussion, Vishal Kumar, Suyash Mohan Guru, Amit Singh Sethi, and Jinamoni Bhavsar.

The discussion was a collection of different view points and spearheaded to crop constructive criticism. The Alumni Outreach Awards for the support and special achievements were presented to our most supportive alumni. They received awards for their outstanding achievements and their dedications towards the betterment of Symbiosis Law School, Pune. Post lunch, the alumni headed for a nostalgic visit to their old campus on S.B road.



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GRAND EVENTS

CONQUEST



On 26th August, 2017, the Law Hawks Forum of Symbiosis Law School, Pune, in association with the CLPR (Centre for Law & Policy Research, Bangalore) conducted the Western Regional Round of the National Quiz Competition on Indian Constitution, History and Politics, 'ConQuest'. The Chief Guest, Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Revati Mohite Dere, Judge, Bombay High Court, addressed the gathering and in her discourse she stated that life

is a continuous learning experience. The purpose of ConQuest continues to be increasing awareness regarding the Constitution, in which it makes great strides each year.

B.G. DESHMUKH MEMORIAL LECTURE

Symbiosis Law School, Pune and Public Concern for Governance Trust (PCGT), Pune Chapter, jointly organized



the 6th Late Shri B.G. Deshmukh Memorial Lecture, 2017 on the topic- "Citizens' Concerns and Right to Services Act, 2015" on 29th August, 2017. Mr. S.C. Nagpal, IRS (Retd.), Chairman, PCGT, Pune Chapter delivered the presidential address and also introduced the above mentioned theme of the memorial lecture. He said, "Whenever there is injustice, it is the duty and responsibility of citizens to raise their voice in order to protect their dignity and rights, as dignity is non-negotiable". The keynote speaker was Mr.

Swadheen Kshatriya, IAS, Ex. Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra and presently State Chief Commissioner for Right to Service, Government of Maharashtra. He educated the students about the Act and how as future lawyers we must use it to its fullest advantage.

TEACHERS' DAY



The Alumni Cell and Committee of the Student Advisory Board of Symbiosis Law School, Pune, as an ode to their beloved professors, organized Teachers' Day celebrations on 6th September. A personalized video was showcased for every teacher with a message from an alumnus, as a tribute to the everlasting impact they have in our lives. The students then performed a medley of various folk dances, which was greeted by thunderous claps and loud cheers. One of the attractions of

the event was the Annual Award Distribution Ceremony, where the teaching and non-teaching staff were bestowed with appropriate titles and tokens of gratitude. As the programme drew to a close, all present took to some melodious old tunes.

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SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, PUNE- NATIONAL ALTERNATE DISPUTE

RESOLUTION (ADR) TOURNAMENT

Symbiosis Law School, Pune also organised the 'Symbiosis Law School, Pune- National ADR Tournament, 2017' on 6th October, 2017. The tournament hosted teams from 24 law schools across India. The programme was inaugurated by Chief Guest, Hon'ble (Retd.) Justice P.Venkatarama Reddi, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India. The general conception regarding ADR is that, it is a means of reducing the burden of the courts. He dissented the same by saying, "ADR is not Alternative Dispute Resolution, it is Appropriate Dispute Resolution." The winner for the Arbitration Rounds of the Tournament was Nirma University, Gujarat whilst Amity Law School, Delhi bagged the Runners-Up position.



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF LAW SCHOOLS (IALS) :

GLOABAL LAW DEANS' FORUM (GLDF) AND ANNUAL MEETING (AM)

Symbiosis Law School, Pune, (SIU) in association with the International Association of Law Schools (IALS), hosted GLDF and Annual Meeting 2017 from 9th to 11th November, 2017. This highly prestigious event provided a platform where law school leaders from across the world congregated to strategise ways to improve legal education globally. The theme of the conference was 'Innovative Pedagogy, Harmonized Curriculum and Global Networking for Implementing Change'. Francis SL Wang, Dean Emeritus, Soochow University, Kenneth Wang School of Law, China, among various others, discussed the action plan that needs to be operationalized for the future, keeping in consideration the rule of law, and also keeping the dialogue going by holding regional meetings throughout the world. This event was a grand one and was attended by several respected professors and was a huge honour for SLS, Pune.



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HERBERT SMITH FREEHILLS (HSF) -OXFORD INTERNATIONAL LECTURE

PROGRAMME



Symbiosis Law School, Pune, hosted the prestigious Herbert Smith Freehills- Oxford International Lecture Programme, 2018 (HSF-Oxford ILP) from 5th-9th February, 2018.

Dr. Gurpur, Director, SLS, Pune Dean, Faculty of Law, SI(DU) in her speech highlighted the feat of SLS, Pune in achieving the very first HSF Award for Community Legal Services. Mr. Chris Parsons, Chairman, India Practice, Herbert Smith Freehills, London, commended the university for being the only private institution in India to have hosted HSF-Oxford

ILP twice in nine years. Prof. Endicott, Professor of Legal Philosophy, Oxford University, garnered various landmark Constitutional Law judgements, to provide an in-depth analysis of rule of law, human rights, and the situation on Brexit. Mr. Parsons gave an overview of private acquisitions and the work done by HSF towards the same. The ceremony ended with a moot court adjudicated by the resource persons, Prof. Endicott, Mr. Parsons and Prof. Nitin Kumar, Assistant Professor, SLS, Pune.

NANI A. PALKHIVALA MEMORIAL INTER-COLLEGIATE ELOCUTION COMPETITION



SLS, Pune in association with Nani A. Palkhivala Memorial Trust, Mumbai organized the 11th edition of Nani A. Palkhivala Elocution Competition on 23rd January, 2018. The dignitaries included Hon'ble Justice J. A. Patil, former Judge, Bombay High Court, Chairperson, Enquiry Commission Adarsh scam and several well known advocates. Hon'ble Justice J. A. Patil appreciated the performance of the participants and shared his wisdom & expertise with them. Adv. Bapat said

that it is necessary for law students to keep reading and thus keep evolving with the ever-changing dynamics of law. Adv. Kothari emphasized the concept of elocution and the larger perspective of learning the art as opposed to winning or losing. Rohit Bhattacharya, won the first prize.

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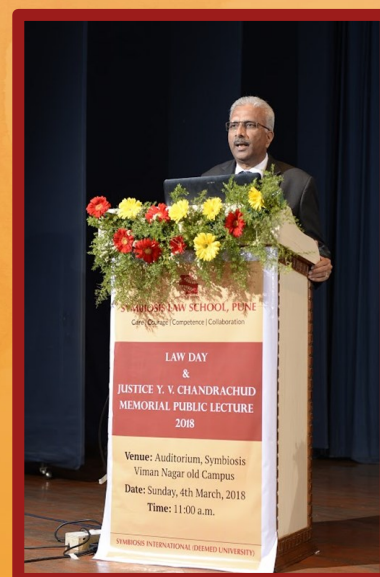
SYMBHAV : GLOBAL VILLAGE

10th edition of Symbhav- the Annual Cultural Fest of Symbiosis Law School, Pune, with the theme "Global Village" was held from 21st to 25th February, 2018. The cultural fest inaugurated by Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Maharashtra as the Chief Guest, carried the momentum further with a spectacular opening dance followed by the Fallen Beauty, a dramatization of *Budhadev Karmaskar v. State of West Bengal*, 2011 case, that addressed issues pertaining to sex workers and the violation of their human rights. The fest received a massive footfall this year touching 50 thousand, truly living up to the expectations of a decennial edition. On 23rd February, Symbhav witnessed an electrifying performance by Farhan Akhtar Live. On 24th February, renowned comedian Varun Thakur tickled our funny bone, following which the crowd was treated to a soul stirring performance by 'The Local Train'. 25th February, the last day of the fest saw various events, hence the air of anticipation was all around until artists, Candice Redding and Zaeden - took to stage! Truly, the fest was grander than ever before.



LAW DAY & 8TH JUSTICE Y.V. CHANDRACHUD MEMORIAL PUBLIC LECTURE

A long-standing tradition at SLS, Pune, 'Law Day' is celebrated to remember the most important goals of the legal profession. This year, it was organised on 4th March, 2018. Adv. Ashutosh Kumbhakoni, Advocate General, Bombay High Court, Maharashtra delivered the Justice Y.V. Chandrachud Memorial Public Lecture on 'Legal System Reforms (Beta Version : ∞)'. The speaker opined that law is a living organ, and it is impossible to come up with an absolute legal system. Law will always have infinite trial versions with in-built defects. Adv. Ram Jethmalani, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, Professor Emeritus, SIU, the Chief Guest for the occasion, administered the Law Day Oath. He also spoke about the highlights of his career, including anecdotes from the period of emergency and the famous Nanavati case. He reiterated his love for the law, and his words truly inspired every student listening to him.



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THIRD SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION (SICTA), 2018.



SICTA was organised from 23rd to 25th March, 2018 at SLS, Pune. The three- day competition hosted teams from 24 law schools including 6 foreign law schools namely University of Sussex, United Kingdom; Nepal Law Campus, Tribhuvan University, Nepal; Kuwait International Law School, Kuwait; University of Sultan Zainal Abidin, Malaysia; Peking University School of Transnational Law, China and University of Gdansk, Poland. SICTA is an endeavour on the part of SLS, Pune to encourage dispute adjudication through the medium of International Criminal Court. The Chief Guest for the

occasion was Prof. (Dr.) S.C. Raina, Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh NLU, Shimla. The Guest of Honour for the event was, Amb. (Dr.) Gudmunder Eiriksson, Executive Director & Professor, Jindal Global Law School, Sonipat, Former Ambassador of Iceland. The Chief Guests were, Professor (Dr.) Siobhan Mullally, Vice Head, University of Business and Law, University College Cork, Ireland, Commissioner, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission and Council of Europe Expert Committee. The event was a grand success and a brilliant learning experience for all present.

CELL REPORTS

CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CELL

Various training initiatives were undertaken by the placement cell this year. The Teach for India fellowship programme for LLM students left a fierce emotional impact on the prospective applicants. A lecture about the future of legal education was also given by Dr. Adish Aggarwala, President of the International Council of Jurists and Chairman of the All India Bar Association. The highlight of the event was the felicitation of various faculty members of SLS, Pune, and the granting of a five year membership to the International Council of Jurists. Adv. Rahul Kothari also delivered a lecture regarding the daunting task of contract drafting. There were several informative lectures on various topics including Mergers & Acquisitions, RERA, Competition law, Insolvency and Bankruptcy code & Online Career and Leadership Development, GST etc.



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INTERNATIONALISATION

The ILSA chapter of Symbiosis Law School, Pune is instrumental in broadening horizons of the students by offering the students various opportunities like European Union Legal Studies Certificate Programme (EULS), MUN (Model United Nations), Guest Lectures and Workshops. Symbiosis Law School, Pune has the distinction of developing area study centers like South Asian Legal Studies, European Union Legal Studies, etc. It hosted the International Association for Law Schools Conference from 8th to 11th November, 2017. The Cell in collaboration with Herbert Smith Freehills organized the HSF-Oxford International Lecture



Programme in the month of January. On March 30, 2017, Ms. Sandra Duffy Delegate from Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights, University College, Cork, Ireland delivered a lecture as a part of the EULS Certificate Programme. Many of our students have also been involved in a number of student exchange programmes. They were a part of the Semester Exchange Programme with University College Dublin, Berlin School of Economics and Law, and also Leibniz University in Hannover, Germany.

COMMUNITY LEGAL CARE AND LITERACY CELL (CLCLC)

Symbiosis Law School, Pune won the 1st prize in Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam International Socio Legal Film Making Competition. Its prize money was used for the benefit of the inmates of Yerwarda Central Prison Women Cell as part of its social responsibility agenda. The other initiatives of the Centre included, providing legal assistance in filing a divorce petition on behalf of Ms Sukanya Gaikwad. The CLCLC members also participated in the National Lok Adalat organized by the Pune District Service Legal Authority. The students got exposure to work as panel judges which in turn benefited in settling approximately 74,019 cases. One of the highlights of the year was that our Director, Dr. Shashikala Gurpur and Adv. Sangram Chavan provided consultancy and legal assistance to many under trial prisoners, such consultancies lead to release of two prisoners on bail by the court. Also a team of doctors from SCHC and SCOPE along with Director, faculty members and student volunteers of CLCLC, SLS, Pune visited Yeravada Central prison for a follow up medical camp on skin diseases and legal aid camp.





LUMINARIES
STORIES OF SUCCESS

ALUMNI NEXUS

SHATARUPA MISHRA

About yourself

I graduated from Symbiosis Law School, Pune in the year 2013. I hail from Bhubaneswar, Odisha. I am an Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer working in Delhi. I am passionate about dancing and love to read in my free time.

Your fondest memories at Symbiosis Law School, Pune

Spending half a decade in a law school gives one a lot of memories, so it is difficult to choose a few. However my fondest memories would be just hanging out with my friends and chit chatting, teaching kids from underprivileged background as part of Human Rights Cell, researching for hours together in the library. My two very special moments in law school were when I was awarded the Adv. S.K. Jain scholarship for topping BA LLB in 4th year and the Chancellor's Gold Medal for topping BA LLB in 5th year.



SHATARUPA MISHRA
IRS-OFFICER
BATCH 2013

About your professional journey

I am currently posted as the Assistant Commissioner, Income Tax in New Delhi after clearing the Civil Services Examination in 2015. I was encouraged since childhood to take up this examination as I came from a family of civil servants. The interest in this exam subsequently strengthened when I studied law. The fact that the syllabus interested me a lot, was also a motivating factor for me to prepare for the examination. My hurdles were more emotional than material. I gave the examination in 2014, hence took a year off to prepare before sitting for this examination. I stayed away from my family and friends, almost as if I was a hermit and plunged into preparation. Sometimes, loneliness used to bother me. Considering the fact that CSE is a competitive examination with no guarantee of success, I sometimes had thoughts like "what am I doing in my life without a job". However, at the end of the day, it was all worth it when I cleared the exam in the very 1st attempt.

Future plans and goals

I am just beginning my career in civil services. So I hope to be a better officer and more importantly a better person with each passing day. I plan to resume my training in Odissi - classical dance and hopefully continue performing on stage. And though I haven't given it much thought yet, I do plan on an LLM someday.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

MICHAEL RONALD



MICHAEL RONALD
FOUNDER, THE HIPPIE HERALD
BATCH 2010

About yourself

I graduated from the batch of 2010, and currently reside in Pune. I'm an entrepreneur with two companies, a marketing agency and a digital publication.

Your fondest memories of Symbiosis Law School, Pune

I loved the 'Symbi' college life with its plethora of opportunities and inherent diversity. Our culturally and geographically diverse batch, coupled with the cosmopolitan exposure of Pune certainly molded my perspective and skills. The first three years of college were a blur, filled to the brim with meeting people, discovering the city of Pune and developing nascent abilities and talents. We had some unforgettable experiences at numerous college festivals. Though I knew I would miss my college life and was excited to enter the workspace. Ironically, in the fifth year, I decided to diversify from the legal world and go into entertainment.

Information about your place of work, what motivated you to take this path and the hurdles you overcame

Following the conclusion of my fourth year, I started facing serious doubts about pursuing law since I wanted to expand my skill set and work in an industry that offered more diversity. While defying the conventional path, I was inspired to put in a work ethic and dedication I did not know I possessed until then. After 8 months of working as an assistant to an agent, India's largest talent agency, CAA Kwan, hired me and I worked there for about 2.5 years. Following which, Walt Disney India hired me as a senior sales executive in their film distribution business. Later, I began my own marketing agency, Dreambox India, with a friend that focused on digital and social media marketing.

In 2016, I began The Good Gobble - a delivery kitchen with a homemade cuisine. It provided an avenue for victims of domestic abuse to attain financial independence, coinciding with my innate belief that businesses must be the harbingers of change. I had also acquired a publication, Thehippieherald.com, which led my attention to be constantly divided between these three businesses. In hindsight, this was an error, as I neither had the time nor the resources to devote adequate attention to one business, and while all three companies ran well, they were far short of the required standards of progress. With a painful realisation, I closed down the Good Gobble in January 2018 to focus on our marketing agency and publication.

Future plans and goals

Our marketing agency and publication are well on their way to becoming self-sustaining businesses with plenty of growth opportunities. Having lived my twenties in different fields with a plethora of experiences and lessons learned, I should dedicate my talents and experiences to achieve a higher level of proficiency and repute in them. I would also consider going abroad to pursue these skills, considering the advancements of the West in the field of digital marketing and promotion.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

PRASHANT KATARA

About yourself

I graduated from Symbiosis Law School, Pune in the year 2009, pursuant to which I established a law firm, Equity Law Chambers (ELC) in Delhi.

Your fondest memories at Symbiosis Law School, Pune

Time I spent at Symbiosis is etched in my heart forever. Lectures of Rawandale Sir were never limited to curriculum, rather any issue faced could be raised without any hesitation. Atmaram Sir's classes not only gave a deep insight into the subject but also prepared us for future times in a thorough manner. Aghav Sir is the person behind my expertise in drafting and pleadings. And lastly and most importantly, Dr. Gurpur Ma'am has worked tirelessly towards taking this college to great heights, benefits of which can be reaped even today. The NCC canteen was a regular hangout, remembered for the "last minute" revisions.



PRASHANT KATARA
FOUNDER, EQUITY LAW CHAMBERS
BATCH 2013

Information about your place of work, what motivated you to take this path and the hurdles you overcame

ELC mainly focuses on litigation and was incorporated in the year 2009. Since its inception, it has grown multifold. So far it has successfully represented various high profile clients ranging from Tata Group and Haryana City Gas, Shalimar Builders to the government on behalf of Delhi Wakf Board, National Film Development Corporation etc. The firm also assists victims of domestic violence and grants them immediate reliefs without waiting for the domestic incident report. Further, we have worked pro bono and represented rape victims and the interests of various restaurant owners. We have helped journalists by praying the implementation of the Majithia Boards recommendations for salary revisions of working journalists. ELC has assisted the Supreme Court in the fixation of fees for Medical colleges and successfully challenged the interpretation of the amendment in the Companies Act 2015 (Section 164 & 167). We also aided the court in construing a harmonious interpretation between the Protection of Women against Domestic Violence Act vis a vis Muslim Personal Laws.

The main hurdle we face is financial constraint, however the key to overcome the said issue is to associate yourself with people having different skill sets than your own. The field of litigation is vast, and in order to be successful, various different divisions are to be looked into. One must remember that despite having all the said skills, the hours in a day and days in a week are numbered, one can simply not do everything by himself/herself despite being competent to do so.

Future Plans and Goals

I plan to expand the firm beyond Indian borders, and further aim at making immediate legal assistance (within the country) accessible to all. In my opinion "pro bono", is a term that advocates quality legal representation to anyone and everyone as a matter of right immaterial of the finances involved. However, few people have the required mindset to yield good results. Another far-fetched dream is to provide stipend and assistance to fresh law graduates interested in pursuing litigation. Due to financial instability, certain deserving individuals are forced to look for other avenues, thereby, directly impacting the quality of advocates appearing before the courts. I aspire towards maintaining and increasing the standards of the legal assistance provided in India.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

SHIVANGI MISHRA



SHIVANGI MISHRA
LEGALS & COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER,
LAWYERS COLLECTIVE
BATCH 2015

About yourself

I am a graduate of Symbiosis Law School, Pune, batch 2015 BBA LLB (Hons.). Currently I am working with the firm, Lawyers Collective under the supervision of Advocate Indira Jaising as a Legal and Communications Officer. I am predominantly passionate about Human Rights Law, Constitutional Law and Anti-Discrimination Legislation. I am also an avid reader of feminist ideologies and enjoy scrolling through journals on political theory, and of course articles on sci-fi. In my free time, I report sexist pages on Facebook!

Your fondest memories of Symbiosis Law School, Pune

Well, SLS is in fact SB Road for me! I can still vividly recall the never-ending discussions coupled with immeasurable time. My fondest memories constitute the moments with my friends, who were an inalienable part of my content life at Symbiosis. Pune would always be my safe haven, it would always be everything

Delhi is not - calm, peaceful and safe. I can gladly state that I am proud to have grown up in the comfort of Symbiosis and thrived in the tender arms of Pune.

Information about your place of work, what motivated you to take this path and the hurdles you overcame

Subsequent to my graduation from SLS, Pune, I worked with an NGO for six months in Delhi, which was soon followed by a three-month internship with the UN Headquarters in New York. In the following months, I returned to join Lawyers Collective (LC). I am an ardent promoter of Human Rights, hence, LC, a firm focused on protecting the rights of vulnerable communities fitted as the perfect choice. It allowed me to associate myself with a wide range of campaigns that sponsor legislative advocacy for victims of HIV, feminist agendas, oppose death penalty and criminalization of drug use, rights of specially-abled people, LGBTQ community, and sex workers, along with sexual and reproductive rights. On a parallel note, I continued authoring research papers, book chapters, ensuing I was recently appointed the Advisory Board Member of UC Berkeley's Anti-Discrimination and Equality Law Study Group.

I feel most lawyers either focus on practicing law or running for law firms, which in turn causes them to miss out on the wholesome experience of working on a broad range of issues in different capacities. I advise young lawyers to broaden their horizon and shift their focus to academia and advocacy, something I wish I would have done during my college days.

Future plans and goals

I plan to join the LLM programme at University of California, Berkeley by the Fall Semester of 2018, to specialise in Equality and Anti-discrimination Law.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

NAR HARI SINGH

About yourself

I pursue litigation in the Supreme Court, Delhi High Court, TDSAT, NCDRC, NCLT and various other courts and tribunals. I am also serving as the Additional Advocate General for the State of Jammu & Kashmir in the Supreme Court.

Your fondest memories at Symbiosis Law School, Pune

When I go back to my campus days, I feel so happy. It was a period of absolute freedom for me. I was never discouraged from taking part in different versatile activities in the college, primarily because of the support from my family. The campus was vibrant and encompassed several political, law & literary discussions and meetings. I always had keen interest in law, political literature and much more. Looking back, I strongly feel that, Symbiosis Law School, Pune, had played a significant role in moulding me, be it as an Advocate, a counselor or a human being. I feel extremely honored to be a part of such a great and esteemed institution.



Information about your place of work, what motivated you to take this path and the hurdles you overcame

My primary place of work is the Supreme Court, other than the High Court and other Courts and Tribunals. By virtue of being a first generation lawyer, my initial days of profession were not easy in the least. However, I was passionate about law and that kept me going. Therefore, I believe, you do not need influence but passion, to reach the pedestal of success to the Supreme Court. There is a misconception that small town lawyers can never make it to the Supreme Court. Strangely, this motivated me to work hard so I could disprove this theory. It was strong will power, patience and unconditional support from my family that gave me strength to sustain in Delhi and in this profession. I became an Advocate on Record in 2014 owing to my 13 years of working experience in litigation, and got appointed as the Additional Advocate General for the state of Jammu & Kashmir in 2015. Yet, the struggle and urge to learn still continues to exist.

Future plans and goals

I do not have a title or role selected for myself in the future. It's not easy to accurately determine where I would be in the future years to come. Life never remains constant and keeps changing. What is important for me is to continue to learn new things, get better at what I know and prosper in my career at a reasonable pace.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

CHAITRA BEERANNAVAR



CHAITRA BEERANNAVAR
ASST. PROFESSOR, CHRIST UNIVERSITY
BATCH 2012

About yourself

I completed my post-graduation from SLS, Pune in 2012, and currently reside in Bangalore. I'm currently working as an Assistant Professor at School of Law, Christ University, Bangalore.

Your fondest memories at Symbiosis Law School, Pune

Symbiosis Law School, Pune gave me the opportunity to cross roads with Prof. Dr. Shashikala Gurpur, who is a legend in Indian Legal academia. She not only gauged the students by her teaching methodology but also shaped impactful mentor relationship with them, that is the greatest gift a professor can give a student. Professor Gurpur did the same repeatedly, not only for me but for so many others, over so many years. She guided my adult professional life. Her legend only grows, as she

sets the standard for excellence and dedication that all Law students and professors can and should definitely learn from.

Information about your place of work, what motivated you to take this path and the hurdles you overcame

Growing up, I interacted with several lawyers. My father suggested I take the judicial exam, but at that particular phase in life I wasn't very sure of choosing any particular field and did not have much idea about the same, beyond choosing law because I was sure that law as a career opens up the possibility of embarking upon one of the most dynamic and challenging careers available.

My interest in choosing my career as a law professor began while working as a Research Scholar at Symbiosis Law School, Pune. During my Ph.D., my rigorous doctrinal courses covering a number of fields, serving on law oriented student law journals and in depth intellectual and research relationship with my professors attracted me towards teaching law. Most of all, the relationships students form with their professors allow students to observe how to become and thrive as scholars.

Future plans and goals

According to me, one of the best ways to learn a field is to teach it and engage in basic research, and this should apply to everyone getting a doctorate in law. Down the line, I would want to pursue my legal research and writing in a more prominent way because as a student and professor of law it is very important to critically examine existing legal philosophies and decisions of courts and legislations from the point of philosophic principles.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

NIRANJAN REDDY

About Yourself

I graduated from Symbiosis Law School, Pune in the year 1992. Currently, I am working as a senior counsel in the Hyderabad High Court, on criminal, civil, company, arbitration and various other matters. I staunchly believe that tools of advocacy are of far greater importance than any particular specialization.

Your fondest memories of Symbiosis Law School, Pune

Symbiosis during my time used to be located on Senapati Bapat Road. The law school co-existed with an MBA programme, communications college and even a pre-school. One of the few universities to believe in cultural diversity, Symbiosis always had large influx of international students visiting each semester. The exposure and global networking undoubtedly lead to my holistic development. Symbiosis, a pioneer in liberal growth, opened the horizons towards a politically, economically and socially evolved world. I can confidently claim to have turned into a better version of myself during my years spent at the university.



NIRANJAN REDDY
SENIOR COUNSEL, HYDERABAD HIGH
COURT
BATCH 1992

Information about your place of work, what motivated you to take this path and the hurdles you overcame

Litigation is not only exhilarating but also an exciting field. As a young lawyer, I would often doubt the seemingly mundane routine of the court. However, after having devoted twenty-six long years into this profession, I can positively declare that there is nothing ordinary about litigation. Every day is a fresh journey, and no two days are the same. I believe that motivation arises directly from commitment. Working under the supervision of an experienced lawyer is imperative to discover an area of work which is not only professionally stimulating but also intellectually fascinating. Therefore, one must always dig and clutch on to opportunities as and when they come. The inherent learning in this profession is based on the flow of knowledge from one generation of lawyers to another. Senior Judges can be awfully strict towards junior lawyers; however, it is extremely vital to not lose faith, and to not be deterred because hard work is always rewarding.

Future plans and goals

It has been a perpetual goal of mine, to maintain a balance between personal and professional life. We can often see young lawyers being absorbed in their careers to the extent of becoming workaholics. This balance I speak of is extremely important so one does not burn out and is able to stay fresh. As for my goal, it continues to be guided towards ameliorating myself into a concerned lawyer and a conscious human being.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

KIRAN REDDY



KIRAN REDDY
DIRECTOR, STARTUP GRIND
BATCH 2013

About yourself

After graduating from Symbiosis Law School, Pune, in 2013, I began exploring voluntary, not-for-profit and for profit projects and took initiative. I was exploring the startup and entrepreneurship ecosystem for the youth, and am currently the Director of the Mumbai Chapter of Startup Grind, a global startup community designed to educate, inspire, and connect entrepreneurs.

Your fondest memories at Symbiosis Law School, Pune

During my time at Symbiosis, I enjoyed public speaking activities and would frequent the MUN circuit. I also experimented with debating, and participated in a few leadership & development programmes. I enjoyed volunteering with NGOs and dabbling with public policy and learning more about the social impact space.

Information about your place of work, what motivated you to take this path and the hurdles you overcame

In 2015 I set up Risevertise Media along with two other partners as a branding and marketing agency. Risevertise has its name inspired from Uprising + Advertising. The first model was disastrous and the partners exited the business in early 2017. I inherited a debt ridden, process-less company, with zero clientele that had stretched itself too thin with demonetization looming the market sentiment. In the last 4 quarters, we have managed to lean the model, go back to fundamentals, and nurture the company back to life where we are at break even with a team of 10. Risevertise pivoted towards a design centric approach that enabled brands to communicate stories and create user experiences across desired mediums.

Future plans and goals

Risevertise

In terms of Risevertise, we plan on expanding our knowledge, experience and market exposure. By the end of 2018-2019, we hope to double our team size and work with conscious brands with challenging mandates to create a memorable user experience.

Helm of Eight

We organically started working towards a vision of designing and creating space to engage with every identity of an individual and the collective. 'Helm of Eight' started in January 2017. We exist in the cross pollination of Arts & Culture, Human Resource Development, Holistic Living, Design & Technology, Social Enterprise and Civic Engagement. Helm of Eight is an ecosystem - equal parts a playground and a movement to better the human condition. We collaborate with artists, curators, resource persons and organizations to create meaningful experiences. Over the course of 2018-2019, we aim to expand to other cities and locations, to grow the size of our community and endeavor to build and sustain safer and braver communities.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

VIKRANT SINGH

About yourself

I graduated from Symbiosis Law School, Pune in 2010. I am a Judge Advocate General officer (JAG), currently serving as Deputy Judge Advocate in Indian Navy at Western Naval Command, Mumbai. Before this, I have served for 5 years at Integrated Head Quarters, Ministry of Defense, New Delhi.

Your Fondest memories of Symbiosis Law School, Pune

Walking down the memory lane of my time at Symbiosis fills me with nostalgia. I shall cherish every single moment spent in this college for the rest of my life. This college not only ingrained in me the required confidence but also empowered me with courage to excel in the professional world. The unmatched friendships and loyal acquaintances I built over the years have undoubtedly remained an integral part of my life.



VIKRANT SINGH
JUDGE ADVOCATE GENREAL OFFICER
BATCH 2010

Information about your place of work, what motivated you to take this path and the hurdles you overcame

Unlike any other field in law, life as a JAG officer in Navy is quite adventurous. As part of the training, you are required to run, swim, dive and handle a variety of weapons like any other combat cadre of Navy. You get a chance to serve on board of various Naval War Ships and witness the combat exercises from close quarters. One of the primary duties of a JAG officer is to sit as a Trial Judge Advocate in a Court Martial. An officer of JAG Cadre is expected to render legal advice to Ships/ Shore establishments/ Units of Indian Navy in dealing with disciplinary matters, court cases/litigations in various courts. In addition, it also includes advising on various segments of diverse laws, such as Naval Laws, International Maritime Laws, salvage, piracy, International Humanitarian Laws including Rules of Engagement/War, Commercial Contracts and arbitrations, Civil and Criminal Laws including Personal Laws. On a personal note, being a JAG officer has been a matter of national pride for me, as it has supported and fulfilled my ultimate dream of serving my country. I would urge the upcoming lawyers to consider law as not just a profession but as a noble service geared towards justice for the people and the nation.

Future Plans and goals

Nothing can beat a career that is aimed at serving the country. It is an amalgamation of crucial responsibilities that have the potential to garner respect from all sections of the society. I wish to continue to evolve professionally in this field and to pursue my service with utmost Honesty, Pride and Honor.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

SUPRATIM CHAKRABORTY



SUPRATIM CHAKRABORTY
ASSOCIATE PARTNER, KHAITAN AND CO.
BATCH 2008

About yourself

I graduated from Symbiosis Law School, Pune in the year, 2008. I hail from Calcutta and I am currently an Associate Partner in Khaitan & Co. We specialize in corporate and commercial law with most of our attention going to mergers, joint ventures, acquisitions and even technology laws like, data protection. Personally, my hobbies include painting, and music.

Your Fondest memories of Symbiosis Law School, Pune

I remember I was always sketching and drawing caricatures, sometimes even during class hours. One such time, Professor Sameer Gupte had been observing me during his class and when I realized it, I thought he'd question me and scold me, but instead he was so impressed with my skills that he asked for a copy of the drawing. My second most special moment at SLS Pune, was when I won the Microsoft IPR Scholarship. I distinctly

remember how my parents were invited when the trophy was handed over to me. This moment will truly be etched in my heart forever.

Information about your place of work, what motivated you to take this path and the hurdles you overcame

I have always been a workaholic, and I think my motivation arises from the fact that I absolutely love what I do. It is very important to love your profession; else one cannot go on for three-fourth of their life. It is also extremely Imperative that one loves their organisation. I believe my organisation, Khaitan & Co. has one of the most unique and different cultural perspectives. Equal weightage is given to how one is as a human being. Unethical, aggressive and rude behaviour is highly discouraged and these practises have largely impacted the way I have developed as a human being. My journey has been rather smooth and I believe that if we keep on working with consistence and perseverance, nothing can stop us from reaching our goals.

Future Plans and goals

It will be a perpetual goal of mine to better myself as a lawyer and to keep climbing up the corporate ladder. I also hope to pick fields in which I can further specialize. Personally, I believe that it is extremely important to live a fully enriched life and for that it is very important to maintain a work life balance. I admittedly struggle with the same but I have promised myself and my three-year old daughter that I shall improve. At the end of the day, every milestone I achieve, is solely to make people around me happy.

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ALUMNI NEXUS

HALL OF FAME 2017-2018



FARAZ ALAM
SAGAR



SAURABH AJAY
GUPTA



NEHA
SINHA



MAHESH PRAVIR
SAHAY



SARTHAK
MAGGON

BAR AND BENCH

- Anirban Sen is admitted to the New York State Bar Association and American Bar Association.
- Mr. Joel cleared the Advocates-on-Record Examination, 2017.
- Anush Raajan cleared the Advocates-on-Record Examination, 2017.
- Deepak Kumar cleared the Advocates-on-Record Examination, 2017.
- Rohit Kumar cleared the Advocates-on-Record Examination, 2017.
- Adeeba Mujahid cleared the Advocates-on-Record Examination, 2017.
- Rony O'John cleared the Advocates-on-Record Examination, 2017.
- Mareesh Pravir Sahay cleared the Advocates-on-Record Examination, 2017.
- Purvish Malkan contested elections of Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association for the position of Joint Treasurer.
- Saurabh Ajay Gupta contested elections of Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association for the position of Joint Secretary.
- Abhinav Ramakrishna contested elections of Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association for the position of Member Executive.

LAW FIRM

- V.C . Mathews became an Associate Partner in Sujata Chaudhri IP Attorneys.
- Amit Bhandari became an Associate Partner at Vaish Associates, Mumbai (heads real estate practice).
- Kunal Arora became an Associate Partner at Alpha Partners.
- Divaspati Singh became an Associate Partner at Khaitan & Co.
- Subhayu Sen became an Associate Partner at Khaitan & Co.
- Varun Sriram became a Partner at VB Legal.

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LAASYA VADANA
BEVISETTI



VINAY
AHUJA



JOEL



HARSHITA
SRIVASTAVA



AMIT
BHANDARI

- Harshita Srivastava became the Head of Venture Capital Investment/ StartUps Practice at Nishith Desai Associates.
- Arjun Anand became a partner at Singhanian & Partners, Delhi.
- Vinay Ahuja became the partner head at DFDL, India Desk and Deputy Head at head regional B&F Practice, Bangkok.
- Faraz Alam Sagar became a partner at Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas in 2017.
- Sunando Mukherjee became a new general corporate partner at Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas.
- Neha Sinha became a partner at Luthra and Luthra Law Offices, New Delhi in October 2017.

ENTREPRENEURS

- Rahul Machevar Nayan owns Legal Consultancy firm in Bhopal.
- Sarthak Maggon is the founder at Sarthak Maggon & Co. at law offices, Delhi.
- Utpal Kant started a corporate and litigation firm 'Sequitur' in NOIDA.
- Karanvir Singh Shekhawat is an Entrepreneur & Investor and recently founded Stealth Investment Fund.
- Ankur Kashyap has established his own chamber 'Chambers of Raja & Kashyap', New Delhi.

OTHERS

- Rahul Dev Singh has been appointed as Additional Advocate General.
- Amit Chopra has been appointed as a government advocate for Youth Services and Sports, Technical Education, Department of Culture, JK Academy of Art, Culture and Languages.
- Rajat Mukherjee is one among the five in the list of the 'brightest legal minds in the region' released by Asian Legal Business, an entity of Thomson Reuters.
- Laasya Vadana Bavisetti became Indian Airforce Officer, Agra.

ALUMNI NEXUS

THANK YOU!

Dearest Alumni,

You have always played a crucial part in the growth of this Institution. The management, staff, and students of Symbiosis Law School, Pune thank you for your support and we look forward to a continued association. We would especially like to thank the following alumni for their invaluable assistance in moots, funding, advisory, placement and we would like to extend our gratitude to, Adv. Sampath Bulusu, our Alumni Convener.

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Anand Venkatrammi	Nithin Patil	Tanya Shree
Anuj Kapoor	Pranav Khatavkar	V M Kannan
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Harshad Bhadbhade	Sachin Ravi	
Hussain Patel	Sagar Rahurkar	
Jyotsna Banerjee	Saurabh Raman	
Madhav Mallya	Shraddha Bhosale	
Manavendra Mishra	Shravanth Arya	
Maya Ramesh	Sonakshi Arora	
Monica Kasturi	Srikar	
Murtaza Cherawala		

ALUMNI NEXUS

Do Keep us Updated with all your Milestones at:

alumni@symlaw.ac.in

We request you to pay a visit to the newly revamped Alumni Portal made in collaboration with SRV Media

alumni.symlaw.ac.in

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