

From the Desk of the Director

Dear students,

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to the Indian Law Institute (ILI). The ILI, since its establishment in 1956 always made great strides and charted the uncharted path, with a vision to promote legal research and education in India. The continuous effort and endeavour by all the stakeholders at ILI garnered it the status of premier legal research institution in India and put it among the league of select few research institutions engaged in advancing evidence-based and led the legal reforms. The outstanding NAAC accreditations and continuous surge in the NIRF ranking of ILI in the year 2023 and the past, undoubtedly recognize and tell all the tales of the prowess of ILI in the domain of legal research and education.

The founding principles of ILI i.e., reinvigorating legal research, sustained institutionalized research, and integrated approach to development & reforms to the law are not only kept to this date, but nurtured further by promoting advanced studies and research in law to meet the social, economic and other needs of the Indian people, imbibing research skill through pedagogy, and encouraging Inter and Trans-Disciplinary research in legal and allied subjects. Despite no parallel to the legacy of ILI, we at ILI strive to soar the new heights by imparting learning that can be readily translated into effective action and progressive outcomes, bridging the gaps in the justice delivery mechanism of the country. In order to translate the vision of ‘advancement of advanced legal studies’ into action, ILI offers doctoral program and postgraduate courses.

The Masters Course in Law, i.e., LL.M. (one year) is formulated as per the guidelines issued by University Grants Commission. The program has been envisioned and structured to provide a platform to students to hone their research skills, engage with jurisprudential premises of issues having contemporary socio-legal relevance, and dwell in the spectrum of core and allied subjects of legal studies. The one-year LL.M. course has been continuously re-structured and thoroughly revised to offer a broad spectrum of specialized courses to students. Alongside, the students are also offered a range of elective courses within their fields of specialization. The myriad of research expertise of the faculty adds to the premium research environment that the institute offers. The impetus at ILI is to re-invent legal education through novel approaches in order to impact the discourse on conventional and contemporary social, legal, and political issues.

To cater the needs of working professionals and strengthen the principle of an integrated approach to the development and reform to law, ILI offers Postgraduate diplomas and Online Certificate Programmes in emerging areas of law. These short-term, but engaging, thought-provoking, and upskilling courses are best suited for advocates, civil servants, academicians, diplomats, and others who wish to stay tuned to the latest developments in the domain of law and allied fields. These programmes remain successful

considering the number of applicants from different sectors and the indelible impact they left in the field of teaching, research, and policy-making.

At ILI, it remains a tradition to provide better and wider exposure of contemporary socio-legal developments of national and global significance to students through guest and special lectures by legal luminaries and eminent scholars from India and abroad on regular basis. Further, in order to foster the spirit of critical analysis, imbibe research & drafting skills, hone academic acumen, and continuous engagement with socio-legal challenges, the institute includes in its LL.M. programme, student-driven weekly seminars under the supervision of faculty members. We encourage participative learning by organizing national and international seminars, conferences, colloquiums, and workshops on a variety of legal issues. The Institute in collaboration with various ministries and departments of the Government of India conducts workshops for the upskilling of civil servants, takes up research projects on issues of national importance, and publishes reports on research work carried out. Students, faculty, and researchers from different parts of the country and abroad are encouraged to engage with the institute through doctoral, post-doctoral, and other academic activities.

The core pillar of the institute's academic and research prowess is its library. Stacked with over 80,000 titles in law and allied subjects, the ILI library is a go-to place for students, researchers, academicians, advocates, learned judges, and members of public engaged in advocacy, legal education, and research. The library resources are regularly updated to ensure that our collection reflects the latest research and writings in various fields allied to law. The library receives over 260 legal periodicals from across the world. Its digital wing, i.e., Library Information Resources Centre (LIRC), has access to almost all prominent legal databases, including SCC Online, West Law, Hein Online, JSTOR, EPW, etc. Lately, to enhance the user experience and ensure seamless access to e-resources, the institute launched e-library platform. Through audio-visual software and hardware, ILI library provides an inclusive learning environment for differently-abled persons. The institute in order to promote research initiatives and to facilitate dissemination of quality legal research undertakes the publication of reputed academic journals, which are indexed in all well-known databases as well as the UGC recognised CARE list of journals.

We at ILI, strive to overcome constraints in promoting deserving students from pursuing higher education in law. In order to realize this goal, the institute offers merit-cum-means scholarship to eligible students. At this juncture, we can proudly say that our everlasting pursuit to transform legal education and research is truly in tune with the goals of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 for higher education.

On behalf of Indian Law Institute, I welcome you to this premier institution. I wish you a great time ahead at ILI.

(Senior Professor V K Ahuja)