



Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, Lucknow

**Committee to Organize Seminars,
Workshops, Extra-Mural and Special
Lectures**

is organizing

SYMPOSIUM

On

Judicial Appointments: Transparency and Accountability

Date: 19th October, 2019

Time: 2:00pm – 5:30pm

Venue: F 1, Acad Block, RMLNLU



ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM

Power, in a democracy, is a trust that needs to be accountable. It is correlated with an equivalent liability or accountability as Hohfeldian points out in his analysis. The judicial system deals with the administration of justice through the agency of courts. The manners in which judges discharge their duties build the image of courts and the credibility of judicial system itself. In India, judges have been held in high esteem. It was once said by the former President K.R. Narayan that, “It is not an exaggeration to say that the degree of respect and public confidence enjoyed by the SC is not matched by any other institution in the country.” This trust can be maintained only when the judiciary is a subject to accountability and transparency. Fostering a culture of independence, impartiality and accountability among judges is a vital step towards ensuring the overall integrity of the judiciary.

The tremendous rise of judicial power, insulating itself off from scrutiny, accountability and transparency while discharging its function, primarily in matter of appointments, is antithesis to democratic process and cannot be sustained. Transparency or openness is an accepted principle of democracy and good governance and accountability is a vehicle to achieve it. The distinguished American judge Justice Louis Brandeis had famously said “Sunlight is the best disinfectant and electricity is the best policeman”. The ‘Seven Principles of Public Life’ indicated in Lord Nolan Committee’s report on standards in public life include objectivity, accountability and openness.

Judicial accountability is in fact a corollary to the independence of the judiciary and “an essential pillar of the rule of law”. It is best achieved when one is accountable to law. The growing debate around viability of the current collegiums system and allegation of nepotism in recent time is a matter of concern which needs to be addressed. The question around accountability was first put by Pt. Nehru in a diatribe, “Judges of the Supreme Court sit on ivory towers far removed from ordinary men and know nothing about them.” The image of demigod preceding them has to be reexamined, for a judge cannot be above erring, as proclaimed by courts from time to time.

It is to initiate a dialogue on these complex and varied narratives that the Seminar Committee of Dr Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University invites you to a symposium on “**Judicial Appointments: Transparency and Accountability**”.



SPEAKERS

Hon'ble Justice Vivek Chaudhary (High Court)

Justice Vivek Chaudhary is a sitting judge at Lucknow Bench of Allahabad High Court. He is specialized in civil and constitutional matters.

Dr. Arghya Sengupta (Vidhi Center for Legal Policy)

Arghya is the Founder and Research Director at Vidhi. He has most recently authored a book "Independence and Accountability of the Indian Higher Judiciary" (Cambridge, 2019) which builds on his doctoral work at Oxford University.

Prof. Priti Saxena (BBAU)

Prof. Priti Saxena is Dean, Head department of Human Rights and School of Legal Studies, BBAU.

DETAILS FOR THE PARTICIPATION

REGISTRATION

Registration is open as of now.

Registration Fee

- Student: INR 100/-
- Faculty: INR 200/-
- Professionals: INR 300/-

The fee covers registration, high tea and a certificate of participation.



PAYMENT GUIDE

1. Proceed to the link provided.
2. Select registration fee.
3. Select Seminar/Workshop in the event tab and fill the required details.
4. Proceed with payment and after successful payment, kindly upload the receipt in the registration form.

Payment Link: <https://www.onlinesbi.com/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm?corpID=288415>

Registration Form: <https://forms.gle/u7TN7CjvH1ttQXuR9>

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