



General Counsels' Association of India and Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law sign MoU

Aim to promote research and training

New Delhi, 28th September 2021 - The General Counsels' Association of India (GCAI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab (RGNUL) in New Delhi on 27th September 2021. The MoU was signed by **Dr. Akhil Prasad, General Secretary, GCAI** and **Prof. (Dr.) G.S. Bajpai, Vice Chancellor, RGNUL**. The aim of this MoU is to promote academic activities, research and publication, in areas such as aviation, defence, ecommerce.

RGNUL is situated in Patiala and is a centre of excellence in legal studies in Northern India. The University has developed various specialised centres and has now tied up with GCAI to develop professional programmes which will be rendered directly by General Counsels of some of India's largest corporations as subject matter experts.

RGNUL and GCAI will soon launch certificate programmes on Aviation, Space and Defense laws, which aims to train participants on the business, legal and regulatory aspects of a sector, which is a sunrise industry of India.

On the occasion of the signing ceremony, **Prof. (Dr.) G.S. Bajpai, Vice Chancellor, RGNUL** said, "*Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab proposes to set up a Centre for Studies in Aviation, Space and Defence Laws to address the rapid changes in technology, leading to clash of sovereign interests amongst the States. From this session, the University will subsume study in this domain through collaboration with General Counsels' Association of India, (GCAI) New Delhi. This collaboration is a rare blend of academia and industry experts to build capacity and competence of law graduates.*"

Dr. Akhil Prasad, General Secretary, GCAI commented, "*This association with RGNUL fulfils one of the important goals of setting up GCAI, which is to bring together corporate experience and academics for a better learning experience. We look forward to this partnership to develop a curriculum based on the leading sectors of the Indian economy. It's a win-win for the future professionals and students as the programs jointly developed by RGNUL and GCAI, would bring the best in academia and industry together under one Centre of Excellence.*"

The e-ceremony was attended by RGNUL faculty and eminent honorary members of GCAI, Manjaree Chowdhary, President GCAI, General Counsel, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd., C.V. Raghu, President GCAI, Group General Counsel, Samvardhana Motherson Group, Dr. Sanjeev Gemawat, Treasurer GCAI, Executive Director and Legal & Group Company Secretary, Dalmia Bharat Group, Lubinisha Saha, Jt President GCAI, General Counsel, Airbus, Tejal Patil, Jt President GCAI, Senior Legal Advisor, OYO, Neera Sharma, Jt President GCAI, CEO/CLO, Sistema Smart Technologies Limited, Amar Kumar Sundaram, Jt President GCAI, Former Head Of Legal, Corporate Governance & Regulatory Affairs, Royal Bank of Scotland – India.

About Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law

Rajiv Gandhi National Law University (RGNUL), Punjab has been established by the State Legislature of Punjab by passing the *Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law Punjab Act, 2006*. The University comes under Section 2(f) and Section 12-B of the *University Grants Commission Act, 1956*. RGNUL is the first National Law University which has been awarded 'A' Grade by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). Some of the objectives of the university are: to evolve and impart comprehensive legal education including distant and continuing legal education at all levels to achieve excellence; to promote cultural, legal, and ethical values with a view to promote and foster the rule of law and the objectives enshrined in the Constitution of India; and to improve the ability with a view to analyze and present for the benefit of the public, contemporary issues of the public concern and their implications. To achieve the abovementioned objectives, the University has set up several Research Centres to conduct research in the area of Criminal laws, Consumer protection Laws, Humanitarian laws etc. To promote and facilitate research, the University has more than 36,000 books on shelves and subscribes to more than 108 national and international journals along with

reputed electronic databases. The University has over the years established itself as a pioneer in the field of legal education and research and continues to thrive for legal excellence thereby contributing towards policy making and good governance.

About the General Counsels' Association of India

The General Counsels' Association of India (GCAI) is a body formed, managed and spearheaded by General Counsels with a vision to create a distinct professional identity for General Counsels and institutionalise the in-house legal function as a separate specialised stream of legal practice. GCAI aims to be the premier association representing the interests of in-house legal counsel who are qualified lawyers with a law degree. It will work to ensure the statutory recognition of the in-house legal profession, enhance awareness in the industry about the role and contributions of GCs, advance the highest ethical standards in their functioning and thereby strengthen their participation in the justice delivery system and collaborate to bring corporate experience and academics together for enhanced learning.

For further information, please contact

Tushita Sahni | Commwiser Consultants LLP

tushita.sahni@commwiser.com

+91 8588007300