



MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, MUMBAI MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

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REPORT ON PROJECT INITIATION CEREMONY

MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY MUMBAI, MAHARASHTRA,INDIA

**Project Initiation
Ceremony 2025
Academic year 2025-26**

Prepared by
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Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai
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Organizer:
Prof.(Dr.) Prakash Chaudhary
Registrar,
MNLU Mumbai,
Maharashtra, India

Project Initiation Ceremony

Academic Year: 2025-26

Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai hosted its 'Project Initiation Ceremony and Special Felicitation of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India', marking a historic milestone in the establishment of the University's permanent campus at Goregaon (W), Mumbai on 5th November 2025. The ceremony was graced by Hon'ble Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Chief Guest, Hon'ble Shri Justice Bhushan R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India and Chancellor of MNLU Mumbai. The event was held in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shree Chandrashekhar, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court and Pro Chancellor, MNLU Mumbai; Hon'ble Smt. Justice Bharati Dangre, Judge, Bombay High Court; Hon'ble Shri Justice Sandeep V. Marne, Judge, Bombay High Court; Hon'ble Shri Shivendraraje Bhosale, Minister of Public Works Department, Maharashtra; Hon'ble Dr. Birendra Saraf, Advocate General of Maharashtra; Hon'ble Smt. Suvarna Kishor Keole, Principal Secretary and RLA, Law and Judiciary Department, Government of Maharashtra, along with senior government officials, members of the Bar and academia.



"Banner displayed during Project Initiation ceremony held on 5th November 2025 featuring Hon'ble Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Chief Guest, Hon'ble Shri Justice Bhushan R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India and Chancellor of MNLU Mumbai"

Schedule for the Ceremony:-

The programme commemorates the Project Initiation Ceremony of Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai, highlighted by the Special Felicitation of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, distinguished addresses by constitutional authorities, and formal academic and ceremonial proceedings.



Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai

Project Initiation Ceremony

Special Felicitation of the Chief Justice of India

Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai Campus Site, Goregaon (W)

Wednesday, 05 November 2025

Minutes to Minutes Programme



03.55 pm	Arrival of Dignitaries at venue & Guard of honour
03.58 pm	Dignitaries assume seats on the Dias
04.00 pm	Commencement of the Programme with National Anthem
04.02 pm	Welcome Address by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
04.08 pm	Reading of the Citation of Honour for the Chief Justice of India
04.10 pm	Special Felicitation of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India
04.12 pm	Felicitation of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra and other Dignitaries
04.15 pm	Project Initiation Ceremony
04.18 pm	Address by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra
04.33 pm	Presidential Address by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India
04.48 pm	Vote of Thanks by the Registrar
04.53 pm	Conclusion of the Programme with National Anthem

Guard of Honour

A ceremonial Guard of Honour was accorded to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India upon arrival, symbolizing the highest respect and dignity of the institution. The salute reflected constitutional reverence, academic esteem, and the solemnity of the occasion



Photo 1: Hon'ble Shri Justice Bhushan R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shree Chandrashekhar, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, Hon'ble Smt. Justice Bharati Dangre, Judge, Bombay High Court, Hon'ble Prof.(Dr.) Dilip Ukey Vice Chancellor MNLU Mumbai, Hon'ble Shri Shivendraraje Bhosale Minister of Public Works Department, Maharashtra

"Ceremonial Guard of Honour accorded to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India on arrival at New campus of Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai, marking the solemn commencement of the Project Initiation Ceremony."

Dr. Abhijit Rohi, Head of the UG & PG Departments, extended a warm welcome to all dignitaries, senior government officials, members of the Bar and academia, and students present at the programme. The programme commenced with the National Anthem



Photo 2 : Hon'ble Shri Justice Bhushan R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shree Chandrashekhar, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, Hon'ble Smt. Justice Bharati Dangre, Judge, Bombay High Court, Hon'ble Shri Justice Sandeep V. Marne, Judge, Bombay High Court; Hon'ble Shri Shivendraraje Bhosale, Minister of Public Works Department, Maharashtra; Hon'ble Dr. Birendra Saraf, Advocate General of Maharashtra; Hon'ble Smt. Suvarna Kishor Keole, Principal Secretary and RLA, Law and Judiciary Department, Hon'ble Prof.(Dr.) Dilip Ukey Vice Chancellor MNLU Mumbai, Prof. (Dr.) Prakash Chaudhary, Registrar MNLU Mumbai

"Dignitaries standing in solemn respect during the rendition of the National Anthem at the commencement of the programme."



Photo 3: Porf.(Dr.) Dilip Ukey,Vice Chancellor MNLU Mumbai delivering welcome address & reading citation of honour (maanpatra)

Welcome Address:- In his welcome address, he appreciated the support of the judiciary and government for granting land to the university in the heart of Mumbai city. He also stated that it is a proud moment for the university to finally initiate its campus project and laid down the vision of the university to be a hub of world-class legal education in India. He also read the citation of honour (maanpatra) for the Chief Justice of India, highlighting his achievements in the legal landscape.



सन्मान पत्र

सन्माननीय न्यायमूर्ती श्री. भूषण रामकृष्ण गवई

महाराष्ट्र राष्ट्रीय विधी विद्यापीठ, मुंबई येथील नवीन शैक्षणिक संकुल प्रकल्पारंभ समारंभाच्या प्रसंगी, भारताचे सर्वन्यायाधीश आणि या विद्यापीठाचे कुलपती म्हणून आपले स्वागत आणि सन्मान करताना आम्हाला अत्यंत अभिमान आणि आनंद वाटत आहे. आपले हे विद्यापीठ आज एका नवीन निर्माणाची सुरुवात करीत असताना, वकील, विद्वान आणि विधी क्षेत्रातील भावी पिढ्यांची उभारणी करत असताना, मानवी मुल्यांची जपणूक करणाऱ्या आपल्या सारख्या विद्वान न्यायतज्ज्ञास हे सन्मानपत्र देताना आमचा आनंद द्विगुणीत होत आहे.

आपल्या उच्च न्यायालयातील १४ वर्षांच्या न्यायसेवेनंतर २०१९ मध्ये सर्वोच्च न्यायालयात न्यायमूर्ती म्हणून आपण रुजू झालात आणि १४ मे २०२५ रोजी भारताचे ५२ वे सर्वन्यायाधीश म्हणून देशातील न्यायिकक्षेत्रातील सर्वोच्च पदावर आपण स्थानापन्न झालात. आपल्या सर्वन्यायाधीश पदाच्या शपथविधी सोहळ्याचे साक्षीदार होण्यासाठी अमरावती, औरंगाबाद, नागपूर, गोवा, मुंबई आणि देशातील विविध भागातील जनसामान्यांनी उत्कृष्टरूपेने केलेली कौतुकान्मय गर्दी आणि आपण त्या सर्वांचे आत्मीयतेने केलेले आदरान्वित हे आपल्यातील अस्सल माणुसकीचे प्रतीक होते.

सामाजिक आरक्षणाचा लाभ अनुभूति जाती प्रवर्गातील गरजू व्यक्तींपर्यंत प्रभावीपणे पोहोचविण्यासाठी अनुभूति जातींचे उपवर्गाकरण करणारा आपला निकाल केवळ क्रांतिकारकच नाही तर प्रचलित न्यायसंस्थास नवीन आयाम देणारा आहे. सर्वोच्च न्यायालय हे सर्वन्यायाधीश केंद्रीत होणे हे योग्य नाही हा आपला विचार संस्थात्मक लोकशाही मुल्यांना बळकटी देणारा आहे. सर्वोच्च न्यायालयाच्या प्रशासकीय नेमणुकांमध्ये सामाजिक आरक्षण लागू करणे हा आपला निर्णय प्रशासकीय आणि सामाजिक सुधारणांचा नवा अध्याय आहे. आपण अनेक घटनात्मक दृष्ट्या महत्वाच्या खटल्यात महत्त्वपूर्ण योगदान दिलेले. आपल्या न्यायालयीन निर्णयांनुसार सातत्याने आपण संविधानवादाचा पुरस्कार केलात. मूलभूत अधिकार आणि व्यक्तीला सन्मानपूर्वक नीत नगण्याच्या हक्कांचाच आपल्या निकालांमधील आग्रही भूमिकेमुळे मानव्याची प्रतिष्ठा संवर्धित झाली.

आपले न्याय निर्णय कायद्याची प्रतिष्ठा, समानता, योग्य प्रक्रिया आणि कायद्याचे राज्य या मुल्यांचे संवर्धन करीत भारतीय संविधानाला आणि डॉ. बाबासाहेब आंबेडकरांना अभिप्रेत असलेल्या न्यायाची प्रतिष्ठापना करतात. या विद्यापीठाचे कुलपती या भूमिकेनून आपण विधी शिक्षणात विविध शाखांच्या अभ्ययन कक्षा विस्तारण्यासाठी अमूल्य मार्गदर्शन करीत आहात. नीती, सर्वसमावेशकता आणि उत्कृष्टतेवर भर देणारे विधी शिक्षणाचे हे विद्यापीठ एक उत्कृष्ट केंद्र आहे अशा दृष्टीने आपण करीत असलेले नेतृत्व आमच्यासाठी एक चिरंमन ठेवा आहे.

नवीन पिढीच्या जडणघडणीत हे विद्यापीठ नव्याने सज्ज होत आहे. भारताची नवी पिढी सामाजिकदृष्ट्या जागरूक, नैतिकदृष्ट्या सबल आणि २१ व्या शतकातील जटिल सामाजिक आणि कायदेशीर आव्हानांना सामोरे जाण्यास सक्षम करण्यासाठी आपण आम्हास सतत मार्गदर्शन करीत असतात, याचा आम्हाला सार्थ अभिमान आहे.

महाराष्ट्र राष्ट्रीय विधी विद्यापीठ मुंबईच्या या नवीन शैक्षणिक संकुलाचा प्रकल्पारंभ समारंभ आपल्या शुभहस्ते व मान्यवरांच्या उपस्थितीत होत आहे याचे आम्हाला फार मोठे समाधान वाटत आहे.

भारताचे सर्वन्यायाधीश व महाराष्ट्र राष्ट्रीय विधी विद्यापीठ मुंबईचे कुलपती या भूमिकांमधून आपण विधी, न्याय, संविधानिक नैतिकता आणि शिक्षण क्षेत्रात केलेल्या उल्लेखनीय कार्याबद्दल आज दिनांक ०५ नोव्हेंबर २०२५ रोजी आम्ही आपणास हे सन्मानपत्र विद्याधी, शिक्षक व शिक्षकेतर कर्मचारी, कुलसचिव, कुलगुरू, कार्यकारी परिषद आणि सर्वसाधारण सभेच्या बतीने कृतज्ञतापूर्वक प्रदान करीत आहोत.

मुंबई
दि. ५ नोव्हेंबर, २०२५

प्रा. डॉ. दिलीप उके
कुलगुरू, महाराष्ट्र राष्ट्रीय विधी विद्यापीठ मुंबई

Photo 4: citation of honour (maanpatra)

Special Felicitation of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India



"Hon'ble Chief Minister felicitating the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India with a ceremonial shawl as a mark of respect and honour."

Photo 5: Hon'ble Shri Justice Bhushan R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra

"On behalf of Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai, the Hon'ble Chief Minister presenting the Citation of Honour (Maanpatra) to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India in recognition of distinguished service and contribution."



Photo 6: Hon'ble Shri Justice Bhushan R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shree Chandrashekhar, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court

"Felicitating the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India with a bouquet"



Photo 7: Hon'ble Shri Justice Bhushan R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shree Chandrashekhar, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, Hon'ble Smt. Justice Bharati Dangre, Judge, Bombay High Court.



Photo 8: "Felicitations by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to the Hon'ble Shri Devendra Fadnavis, Chief Minister of Maharashtra."



Photo 9: Felicitations by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to the Hon'ble Justice Shri Chandrashekhar, Chief Justice, Bombay High Court, and Pro-Chancellor, MNLU Mumbai.



Photo 10: "Felicitations by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to the Hon'ble Smt. Justice Bharti Dangre, Judge, Bombay High Court, and Member of the General Council and Executive Council, MNLU Mumbai."



Photo 11: Felicitations by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to the Hon'ble Shri Justice Marne, Judge, Bombay High Court, and Member of the General Council, MNLU Mumbai.



Photo 12: Felicitations by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to the Hon'ble Shri Shivendraraje Bhosle, Minister, Public Works Department, Government of Maharashtra.



Photo 13: Felicitations by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to Dr. Birendra Saraf, Advocate General of Maharashtra.



Photo 14: Felicitations by the Registrar to Smt. Suvarna Keole, Principal Secretary, Law and Judiciary Department

Project Initiation Ceremony



In the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister and all our distinguished guests on the dais, the project was initiated with the unveiling of a plaque, followed by the display of a model video.



Hon'ble dignitaries viewing the project model video during the ceremonial proceedings.

Address by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra



The Hon'ble Chief Minister emphasised on this project as a landmark moment for MNLU Mumbai and the legal education in Maharashtra. He noted that Maharashtra is the only state in the country to have three National Law Universities and emphasized that MNLU Mumbai, which is the first NLU of the state, will now witness the development of its most advanced and prestigious campus. He recounted the long journey of identifying suitable land and obtaining the necessary clearances for the Goregaon campus, assuring that all permissions and environmental compliances are in place. He assured that MNLU Mumbai's campus would be completed at the earliest with world-class infrastructure which is aligned with the National Education Policy, and strengthens the vision of the upcoming EduCity in Mumbai.

Address by Hon'ble Justice Shri Chandrashekhar, Chief Justice, Bombay High Court, and Pro-Chancellor, MNLU Mumbai.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shree Chandrashekhar, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court and Pro Chancellor, MNLU Mumbai, thanked the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India and the State Government for their vision behind the project. He also stressed that the true purpose of education is to create good human beings who can serve society better.

Presidential Address by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India



Delivering the Presidential Address, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India extended greetings on Guru purab and invoked Guru Nanak's teachings of equality and social justice as guiding principles for legal education. Recalling Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's view that lawyers are social engineers, he stated that students graduating from this university will become torchbearers of social transformation. He expressed deep appreciation to the Government of Maharashtra for allocating a prime land for the university and commended the Chief Minister for ensuring rapid progress of the legal projects in the state. He acknowledged Maharashtra's leadership in providing top-tier infrastructure for courts and law universities, stating that the MNLU Mumbai campus would be comparable to the best international law schools such as Harvard and Cambridge. He emphasized that legal education has evolved from theory to practical training, preparing students as future social engineers committed to constitutional morality and justice. At last, he also gave his best wishes to the students and faculty of the MNLU Mumbai for their future journey.

Vote of Thanks by the Registrar



Prof. (Dr.) Prakash Chaudhary, Registrar of MNLU Mumbai delivered a vote of thanks emphasising the contribution of all the stakeholders in this journey. He also thanked M/s Hiten Sethi and Associates, the architectural company for designing the model of the University.



Landowners, along with esteemed faculty members, staff, and students, who graciously graced the ceremony with their presence.”



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