

## RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB

(Established under Punjab Act No. 12 of 2006) (Accredited with 'A' Grade by NAAC)

RGNUL/PRO/226 Dated: 26 April 2025

## Lecture by Padma Shri MC Mehta on Environmental Action and Responsibility

**Padma Shri MC Mehta,** renowned Environmental Advocate and Padma Shri recipient graced Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab, with his presence on April 25, 2025. Mr. Mehta engaged with the University's Students, Faculty, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar.

The discussions centred around critical environmental law issues and landmark cases where Mr. Mehta has played a pivotal role. These included an in-depth analysis of ongoing projects related to environmental law, effective waste management strategies, the significant Ganga River pollution case, the tragic Oleum Gas Leak Case, and the ongoing efforts to protect the Taj Mahal from environmental degradation.

The talk further delved into pressing contemporary ecological concerns such as the management of coastal areas, the challenges posed by mushrooming landfills, and the urgent need to address animal cruelty. Mr. Mehta also highlighted the vulnerability of sensitive ecological zones, including the Himalayas, the Western Ghats, and the alarming rate of melting glaciers, underscoring the need for immediate and concerted action.

In a call to action, Mr. Mehta emphasized the importance of increasing plantations at an individual level as a Fundamental duty to protect the environment, stressing that collective personal efforts can significantly contribute to environmental preservation. He also raised concerns about the increasing incidence of cancer and its potential link to food adulteration, advocating for greater public awareness regarding this critical health issue.

Drawing upon a holistic perspective, Mr. Mehta spoke passionately about the spiritual connection between humanity and nature, urging everyone to embrace a sense of responsibility towards future generations and the environment. He concluded his address by reminding the aspiring lawyers present about the nobility of their profession, emphasizing the paramount importance of prioritizing social welfare over monetary interests in their future endeavours. He also requested every individual to work for at least one or two hours daily to improve the quality of the environment. Mr. Mehta's visit served as a powerful reminder of the urgent environmental challenges facing the nation and the crucial role that legal professionals and every individual can play in safeguarding the planet for generations to come.

Public Relation Officer RGNUL Punjab



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