

## RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB

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

RGNUL/PRO/2022/77 Date: 30-05-2022

RGNUL Punjab organises Colloquium on LGBTQ+ 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Pro Bono Club the Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (RGNUL), Punjab in collaboration with Nyaya Bandhu Pro Bono Legal Services, Department of Justice and EBC-SCC Online organized colloquium on "Right to Identity of LGBTQ+ & Gender Fluidity" on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2022. In fulfillment of the mandate of the Department of Justice, Pro Bono Legal Services enhance access to justice for marginalized sections of society. With the objective to promote free legal aid to the marginalized, Pro Bono Club, RGNUL held deliberations on the rights of transgenders. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. G.S. Bajpai, Vice-Chancellor, RGNUL focused on the need to recognize the rights of LGBTQ+. "The absence of legal gender recognition has led to several instances of humiliation and violence against the marginalized community," he added. Prof. Bajpai said, "Though there has been a shift towards allowing autonomy to trans people, a lot needs to be done for providing a life of dignity to them."

Mx. Dhananjay Chauhan, trans woman and the first transgender student of Panjab University, Chandigarh recounted her childhood experiences. "Gender division is not between two sexes, it is between two ears," said Mx. Chauhan. While talking about mental and physical harassment confronted by her, Mx. Chauhan emphasized that procedural changes providing dignity to the community on paper must be ensured in practice also. Ms. Kanika Jamwal focused on the concept of gender fluidity. She suggested various legislative, judicial amendments and gender neutral laws to prevent cross-complaints and ensure protection of victims. Mr. Kanmani Ray, Research Associate, Centre for Justice, Law and Society, O.P. Jindal Global Law School, alluded to the importance of citing academicians from trans community. She also talked about humiliation faced by the community. She was emphatic about the need to promote scholarships and fee concessions for the trans people. Mr. Maninderjit Singh spoke about the significance of



## RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB

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

reading queer literature. He highlighted the role of literature in providing myriad understanding about the problems of the LGBTQ+.

The faculty and students of RGNUL attended the colloquium.