

**A REPORT**  
**OF**  
**TWO-CREDIT CERTIFICATE COURSE: LAW OF THE SEAS**  
**(9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST – 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025)**

The Centre for Advanced Studies in International Humanitarian Law (CASH) at Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab, organized an online credit course on the ‘Law of the Seas’ from 9 August to 7 September 2025, which had 122 registrations from law students and professionals nationwide. The course featured distinguished resource persons including Prof. (Dr.) Jai S. Singh (Vice Chancellor, RGNUL), Prof. (Dr.) Anupam Jha (Delhi University), Prof. (Dr.) Jasmeet Gulati (Jindal Global Law School), Dr. Sukhwinder Kaur Virk (RGNUL), Dr. Gurwinder Singh (Banaras Hindu University), Dr. Mohit Gupta (Gujarat Maritime University), Dr. Abhay Singh Thakur (Gujarat Maritime University), and Ms. Pratikalpa Sharma (GNLU).

The programme covered a rich array of topics: it began with the historical development and sources of the law of the sea, delved into the structure and legal regimes of various maritime zones under UNCLOS 1982, and examined both India’s maritime policies and the role of international organizations. The lectures by various resource persons provided in-depth exploration of baselines, internal and archipelagic waters, territorial sea, contiguous zone, continental shelf, and exclusive economic zones, supplemented with analysis of legal cases and the exercise of sovereign rights by coastal states. The common spaces section addressed the freedoms and governance of high seas and deep seabed areas, while another module covered international straits and islands, clarifying protocols for transit and innocent passage and the duties of bordering states using real-world examples. The marine environmental protection segment addressed the obligations of states under international treaties like UNCLOS and MARPOL, offering detailed frameworks for preventing pollution originating from ships, land-based sources, and seabed activity while highlighting research and international cooperation. Dispute resolution was covered through examination of non-judicial and judicial procedures, structure and jurisdiction of ITLOS, the Sea-Bed Disputes Chamber, and the legal mechanisms for vessel and crew release.

The course concluded with discussions on contemporary issues such as piracy, seabed resource exploitation, climate impacts, and case law developments. The last session concluded with a vote of thanks by the Faculty Coordinators and Assistant Professors of Law, Dr. Sukhwinder Kaur Virk and Dr. Sangeeta Taak. The test was conducted on 7 September 2025, and saw the tremendous participation of the attendees. The centre received positive and encouraging feedback for this endeavour from the attendees.

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