

## Seminar & Guest Lecture Department

### THEMISIA REPORT

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON “RESERVATION POLICY IN INDIA : PAST, PRESENT AND THE WAY AHEAD : 24<sup>TH</sup> AND 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023.

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DES has set its own standards pertaining to imparting exceptional education and conducting magnum opus events. DES SNFLC’s Seminar Department in collaboration with the Legal Research Cell organized a Two-day National Seminar on “ Reservation policy in India past present and the way ahead” on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023. . The event took place across the board with participants from all over the Nation for the Judgment Analysis Competition and the Legal Quiz. The entire event spread over a time span of three days.

DAY 1 :

24<sup>th</sup> April 2023 :

The Seminar began with the Inaugural Ceremony at the auspicious hands of Dr. T.T Tambe, Principal, New Law College, Ahmednagar. The other Dignitaries were Adv Ashok Palande, Chairman, CDC, Dr. Prashant Bansode, Professor, Dean Faculty of Law, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Adv Shriram Pingle, Advocate on Record, Supreme Court and Dr. Priya Chopde, Officiating Principal.

Dr. T.T. Tambe in his Inaugural Speech addressed the audience on the history of reservation policy in India and the implications of such reservation on the fabric of Indian Society.

Technical Session I : Affirmative Action and Contemporary Discourse on Equality”:  
Speaker: Dr Prashant Bansode.

For the first day of the event, an esteemed social researcher and legal luminary, Dr Prashant Bansode Sir, conducted an educative and introspective seminar on “Affirmative Action and Contemporary Discourse on Equality”.

Dr. Prashant Sir addressed the audience by putting forth his opinions on Affirmative action. He said, “As a social scientist, I am a firm believer in affirmative action. There have been 2000 years of historical injustice that has denied cultural endowment to the disadvantaged communities in terms of access to education, employment and opportunities.”

He also pointed to how a lot of nations—Indonesia, Malaysia, South Africa, United States of America, Europe (for Roma who are discriminated against as well as Jews), Australia (for its native population), Canada, and other countries have enforced corrective measures to battle the severe issues of a caste-based culture, reinforcing affirmative action.

Technical Session II : Analysis of the case: Janhit Abhiyaan V. Union of India : Speaker: Adv. Shriram Pingle

At the very beginning of the seminar, the speaker addressed the audience with the history of Reservations in India.

Adv Pingle quoted Janhit is the need of the hour. It is a medium to eliminate caste criteria from the reservations. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar had inculcated caste in the reservation system due to the then circumstances of the country. Now we are equipped enough to get rid of this caste system and build a new reservation system based on economic criteria entirely which will serve the vision envisaged by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar.

He concluded his lecture by highlighting the importance and usefulness of a class-based reservation policy. Though the current EWS is unacceptable as there are some shortcomings to it, a few modifications are needed. EWS is the future of our country. All reservations will vanish one day and only EWS will exist in the future. Annihilation of the caste system is necessary for the progress of our country.

### **Reservation Policy in India: Past, Present and Future.**

#### **Day 2 :**

25<sup>th</sup> April 2023 : Technical Session III : Practical Perspectives Surrounding Reservation:

Speaker: Adv. Sagar Nevase

According to Adv Sagar Nevase, "Reservation" is a very sensitive topic. Equality, liberty, fraternity and Justice are the 4 pillars of the Preamble. The Preamble serves as the introduction to the Constitution. Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar had an awful childhood which made him believe in the concept of the reservation to serve justice in the country.

Reservation in India has been a contentious issue, and its practical perspectives have been debated and discussed for decades. Those practical perspectives were discussed by Adv. Sagar Nevase.

Technical Session IV : Interplay, Interface And Amendments To Article 15 And 16 Of The Indian Constitution : Speaker: Dr. Nitish Nawsagaray.

Session began with the introduction of the 1st amendment of Indian constitution which took place in 1951 which was on the basis of the Supreme Court judgment of the State of Madras vs Champakam Dorairajan, 1951 followed by various other judicial interpretations till Janhit Abhiyan v Union of India.

It was categorically mentioned that reservation is not a poverty alleviation programme; its aim is to provide reservation to those people who don't have adequate representation in service of state.

In the conclusion, he explained how jurisprudence has evolved from the Champakam Dorairajan case where Supreme Court struck down Schedule Caste reservation saying that they will not enforce Article 46 to the Janhit Abhiyan case where an open category student would get a reservation because it is mentioned in Article 46.

Valedictory Session :

Srimati Snehal Barge, Joint Commissioner, PMRDA , Pune was the Chief Guest for the Valedictory .She presented her thoughtful views on reservation policy with the students.

She began with the history of reservation in India. It has roots in princely States of Kolhapur of Maharashtra where Shahu Maharaj for the very 1st time introduced reservation in education for backward class to provide equality of opportunity to them.

Though reservation is an affirmative action but it has affected people of all categories. People of open category have become sceptical about reservation policy as they feel they miss a lot of opportunities due to reservation. Today, there are immense opportunities in private sector so people can shift towards them.

Towards the end she said that we need to have a look at other's point of view and have a balanced outlook. Such Seminars are really important to have a look at different perspectives. She concluded with "Equality may be a fiction but nonetheless one must accept it as a governing principle" by Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.