

Constituent of Symbiosis International (DEEMED UNIVERSITY), Pune Established under section 3 of the UGC Act 1956 Re-accredited by NAAC with "A++" Grade – Awarded Category – I by UGC Founder: Dr. S.B. Mujumdar, M.Sc. Ph.D.

#### Legal Aid Centre

### Report on Mock Parliament Session on Women Reservation Bill at Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur

#### 27th July 2023

The Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur, organized a stimulating event named the "Mock Parliament Session on Women Reservation Bill" on 27th July 2023. The event aimed to provide a platform for students to engage in a simulated parliamentary debate, presenting their viewpoints both in favor of and against the proposed Women Reservation Bill. With more than 80 enthusiastic participants, the event successfully encouraged meaningful discussions and deliberations on the crucial topic of women's representation in legislative bodies. The primary objective of the Mock Parliament Session was to foster a spirit of constructive debate and critical thinking among the law students. Additionally, it sought to raise awareness about the Women Reservation Bill, which has been a matter of significant discussion and contention in the country. The event also aimed to promote gender equality and empower students to articulate their perspectives effectively.

The Mock Parliament Session commenced at 2:00 pm in the Assembly Hall of Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur. Participants were divided into two groups – one representing the Government, proponents of the Women Reservation Bill, and the opposition advocating for its rejection. The students assumed the roles of Members of Parliament and were given ample time to research and prepare their arguments before the session.

The session followed the structure of a typical parliamentary debate, with each side presenting their arguments, raising points of order, and participating in a vibrant exchange of ideas. The participants showcased impressive oratory skills and demonstrated in-depth knowledge of the



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subject matter. The moderator ensured that the proceedings adhered to parliamentary decorum, further enhancing the authenticity of the experience.

The participants/ Government in favor of the Women Reservation Bill put forth compelling arguments citing the need for gender diversity in legislative bodies. They emphasized that women's representation is essential for a balanced decision-making process and to address the underrepresentation of women in politics. Their presentation also highlighted the positive impact of similar initiatives in other countries. On the other hand, the opponents of the Women Reservation Bill presented counterarguments, expressing concerns over potential tokenism, meritocracy, and the effectiveness of the proposed legislation. They asserted that the focus should be on empowering women to participate in politics voluntarily rather than imposing reservations.

The Mock Parliament Session on Women Reservation Bill proved to be an engaging and enlightening event. It provided students with a unique opportunity to comprehend the complexities of legislative debates and experience the challenges faced by lawmakers while defending their stances. Participants honed their research, public speaking, and persuasive skills during the event.

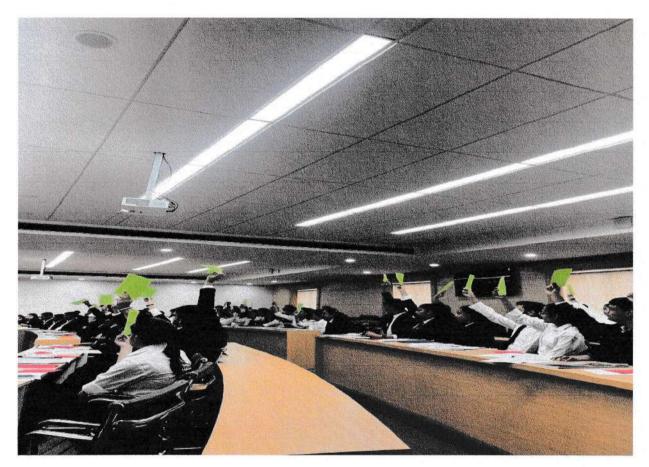
The success of this event would not have been possible without the dedicated efforts of the organizing team from the Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur. Their meticulous planning and execution ensured a seamless experience for all participants. Mr. Ahmer Afaq, an assistant professor at SLS, Nagpur, graced the event as the Speaker of the house. With his vast experience and expertise, Mr. Afaq not only officiated the session with finesse but also motivated and inspired the students to actively participate and present their views confidently.

The successful execution of the program owes much to the guidance and supervision of Dr. Deepti Khubalkar, the Centre Incharge of the Legal Aid Centre at Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur.



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Dr. Sukhvinder Singh, Director SLS, Nagpur provided unwavering support to promoting such intellectually stimulating events which played a pivotal role in ensuring the event's smooth organization and overall success.

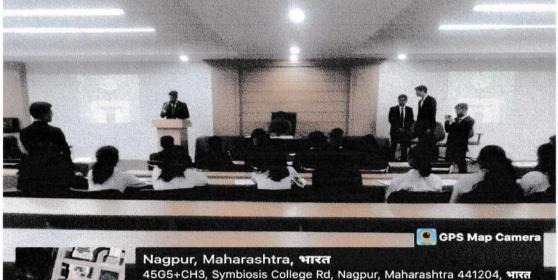


Students raising hands in favour of the bill.



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Mr. Ahmar Afaq addressing the members.

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Director Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur