

## **Consortium of National Law Universities**

### **Press Release**

The Governing Body of the Consortium of National Law Universities met yesterday i.e. September 5, 2020 under the chairmanship of its President V. Vijayakumar, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of NLIU, Bhopal and took some important decisions not only to clarify the position to thousands of CLAT-2020 aspirants but also to ensure smooth functioning of the Consortium. All the Vice-Chancellors of the Member NLUs were present but the Vice-Chancellor NLSIU had left the meeting in the middle.

The Consortium of National Law Universities unanimously reiterated its decision to hold the CLAT on 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 as announced earlier. Except NLSIU, Bangalore, no other Law University is going to hold its test independently as was erroneously reported in the social media. The interview of Professor Sudhir Krishnaswami, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NLSIU, Bangalore, to Bar and Bench was purely his personal opinion. No other member University is neither feeling hard pressed in the Consortium nor has any plans of conducting its own independent admission test for 2020.

The Members of the Consortium unanimously resolved that the recent actions of Professor Sudhir Krishnaswami, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NLSIU, Bangalore, and particularly his unilateral decision of going ahead with his own independent test are in derogation of the Bye-laws and the Objectives of the Consortium.

Since the Vice-Chancellor, NLSIU is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Consortium, in the light of the clear conflict of interest between these the functions of the Consortium and his decision to hold independent test for NLSIU, the Consortium unanimously resolved to divest him of his functions as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Consortium with immediate effect. He is advised not to discharge these functions and not speak for the Consortium in any manner nor represent the Consortium in any proceeding till further decision in this matter is taken by the Governing Body.

To ensure the smooth conduct of CLAT-2020, and to avoid the conflict of interest, the Governing Board unanimously resolved to shift the Secretariat of the Consortium to the NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. It was unanimously resolved that in the interim period Professor Faizan Mustafa, the Senior-most member of the Consortium and Past President shall discharge all the administrative and secretarial functions of the Consortium and Professor K. D. Rao, Last year's CLAT convener and Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, NLU, Odisha, shall discharge the financial functions of the Treasurer of the CLAT Consortium. They will discharge these functions in consultation with the President of the Consortium. It was further resolved that Professor Faizan Mustafa shall immediately take over the control and the handle of the Consortium website.

Moreover special meetings of the Executive Council and General Body of the Consortium shall be held on Tuesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 to consider the necessary amendments in the Bye-Laws and MoU to address such eventualities.

Prof. Balraj Chauhan  
Convener, CLAT-2020

