



# 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Sustainable Development Goal 16 focuses on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

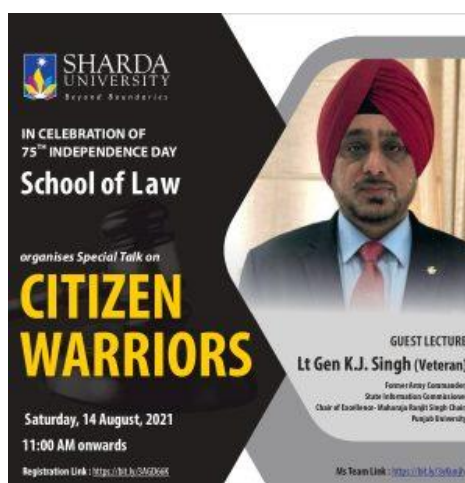
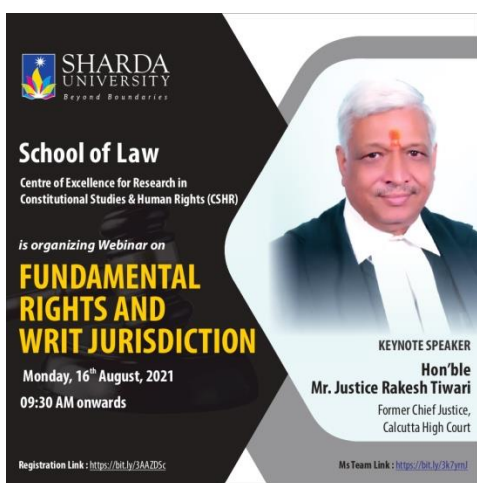
### I. Inclusive Curriculum:

Education and awareness are crucial for creating a more sustainable and equitable world. With a view to advance with the objectives of SDG 16 and building societies that are more peaceful, just and inclusive, a number of related subjects are taught to our students at Sharda University. Some of them are as follows:

- **Concepts of Human Rights (MAL134)**
- **Legal Environment Framework (MCN102)**
- **Cyber Law (MAL123)**
- **Tactical Urbanism (AEJ404)**

**Additionally, a number of related events have been conducted for the overall exposure of the students to the concept of SDG 16 and allied areas.**

- A webinar in collaboration with Association for Transgender Health in India was conducted in the name of **“DEMYSTIFYING GENDER -FOSTERING GENDER FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT”**. The main objectives of the event were
  - ✓ To understand about gender-friendly healthcare
  - ✓ To understand about transgender persons, stigma towards transgender and access to health care
  - ✓ To learn about diseases associated with gender-based differentiation
  - ✓ To gain knowledge about mental health laws for the queer community
  - ✓ To develop understanding about latest changes in the medical curriculum
  - ✓ To encourage active participation of nurses in gender-based healthcare promotional activities
- Another webinar on **"Fundamental Rights and Writ Jurisdiction"** was organized to acquaint the students with the insights of the Fundamental Rights enshrined in Part III of the Constitution of India and to equip them with the knowledge about the powers of Writ courts and drafting fundamentals.



- In order to rejuvenate the feeling of patriotism in students and teachers and to trace and appreciate the role and contribution of our soldiers in protecting our nation, a Webinar on “**Citizen Warriors**” was conducted.
- A radio show on “**Mindsets for Happiness, Success and Fulfillment and language skills**” was organized with a view to educate students about unproductive thinking, self-defeating emotional impulses, and self-defeating behaviors.

Sharda University's unwavering commitment to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions is exemplified by a series of impactful initiatives and events held throughout the year 2022. SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions is crucial for fostering a society where all individuals can live without fear, in a just and inclusive environment, and with strong institutions that uphold the rule of law. Sharda University recognizes the significance of these principles and is committed to addressing the root causes of conflict, promoting the rule of law, and providing access to justice for all.

In 2022, Sharda University made significant strides in its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goal. The year was marked by a series of initiatives and events that showcased the institution's unwavering dedication to promoting a better world through education, community involvement, and the pursuit of peace and justice.

### **1. Academic Excellence and Transformative Social Impact through Conferences, Seminars, and Workshops:**

Sharda University is actively engaged in promoting peace and conflict resolution, and academic excellence through academic research and community involvement. The university hosts seminars, conferences, and workshops that bring together experts, scholars, and practitioners to explore innovative approaches to conflict resolution. Students and faculty members are encouraged to participate in these activities to enhance their understanding.

Throughout the year 2022, Sharda University played a pivotal role in preparing the next generation of legal professionals through preparatory sessions for Judiciary and UGC-NET (Law) examinations. These sessions empowered students with the knowledge and skills required to contribute to a just and legally sound society.

The institution's dedication to promoting justice was evident in various webinars, guest lectures, and panel discussions. One notable event was a webinar on the 'Role of Legal Aid Clinics in Establishing Healthy Democracy.' This highlighted the critical role of legal aid clinics in promoting access to justice, which aligns seamlessly with the principles of justice and strong institutions.

In February 2022, a guest lecture on the 'Right to Education of VIPs (With Special Focus on Marrakesh Treaty)' demonstrated the university's commitment to inclusive education and equal access to knowledge, reflecting its alignment with the principles of justice.

As the world faced economic challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Sharda University took the initiative to host a panel discussion on the 'Revival of the Indian Economy post COVID-19 Pandemic.' This event emphasized economic justice and the importance of maintaining strong institutions during challenging times.

In March 2022, the university organized the 'National Conference on Cyber Crime, Security, and Regulation (CCSR)- 2022,' showcasing its dedication to ensuring a secure digital environment—a vital component of SDG 16. Domestic issues were not overlooked, as evidenced by the 'National

Seminar on Identification of Abusive Relationships & Prevention of Domestic Violence,' reflecting a commitment to building an inclusive and just society.

Sharda University took its commitment to justice further by empowering students with the essential skills required to contribute effectively to the legal field. The 'Workshop on Basics of Research and Writing' laid the foundation for future legal professionals, further solidifying its dedication to a just society.

In March 2022, the 'One Day National Seminar on Gender Ratio Disparity' provided another testament to the university's commitment to achieving gender justice and ensuring equality for all—both core elements of SDG 16.

Finally, in November 2022, the 'Two-Day National Conference on Personal Data Protection and the Legal Framework in India' addressed the legal aspects of data protection, contributing to the creation of a just and secure society.

## **2. Justice & Legal Education**

Sharda University's commitment to justice is evident through its rigorous legal education programs. The university offers a diverse range of courses in law, empowering students with the knowledge and skills needed to become advocates for justice.

The year kicked off with a 'Session on the Trial of Criminal Cases' on February 19th, 2022. This session provided students and legal enthusiasts with insights into the legal procedures and practices necessary for ensuring justice and fair trials, thus aligning with SDG 16's emphasis on justice.

On February 24th, the university hosted a 'Legal Talk on the Protection of Consumer Rights through Online Dispute Resolution.' In an increasingly digital world, the importance of providing accessible avenues for consumers to resolve disputes cannot be overstated. This event underscored Sharda University's commitment to ensuring consumer rights and establishing strong institutions.

The '02 Days Workshop on Process & Skills for Moot Court Competition from February 24th to 25th, 2022, was a vital stepping stone for law students. Such workshops equip future legal professionals with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in their careers, contributing to the development of strong institutions.

The '6th Anand Swaroop Gupta Memorial Virtual International Moot Court Competition' from March 31st to April 2nd, 2022, showcased the university's global outlook and commitment to preparing students for international legal challenges. Moot court competitions play an essential role in fostering the skills required for advocating justice and contributing to SDG 16.

On April 8th, 2022, the university hosted the '4th Mock Parliament Competition' centered on the agenda of a 'Uniform Civil Code.' This event encouraged students to engage in debates and discussions surrounding legal reforms and justice, aligning well with the pursuit of SDG 16.

A 'Guest Lecture on Ambedkar and Social Justice in the 21st Century' on April 13, 2022, paid tribute to the father of the Indian Constitution, Bharat Ratna Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. The lecture delved into the crucial role of social justice and equality in creating a just society.

Sharda University continued its commitment to fostering knowledge and understanding by hosting a 'Webinar on Laws Without Flaws' on April 27th, 2022. This event delved into the nuances of lawmaking, ensuring that strong and just legal frameworks underpin society.

The 'Intra Moot Court Competition, 2022' from August 31st to September 2nd, 2022, was another testament to the university's dedication to nurturing future legal professionals. Moot court competitions are instrumental in preparing students to contribute effectively to the legal landscape, promoting justice and strong institutions.

### **3. Championing Justice and Community Well-being through Legal Aid and Community Connect Initiatives**

Social Engagement lies at the heart of Sharda University's core values. The university passionately encourages its students and faculty to actively engage with communities and civil society organizations. This commitment not only fosters a profound sense of responsibility towards society but also plays a pivotal role in promoting justice. Through a myriad of outreach programs and initiatives, Sharda University tirelessly strives to address pressing social issues and fortify the very fabric of communities. This enduring dedication is evident throughout the various events and endeavors in which the university has partaken in the year 2022.

On May 7, 2022, the university inaugurated a 'Legal Aid cum Health Checkup Camp.' This multifaceted event symbolized the university's unwavering commitment to addressing social and health disparities, a critical element in fortifying strong institutions.

As the year continued, the university further underscored its dedication to SDG 16 with impactful 'Awareness Events.' On October 3, 2022, an 'Awareness Event on Road Safety' was organized, advocating responsible citizenship and emphasizing the role of strong institutions in ensuring road safety. Subsequently, on November 2, 2022, the 'Awareness Event on National Lok Adalat' exemplified the university's active involvement in alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

Moreover, Sharda University celebrated 'National Legal Services Day' on November 9, 2022, with a special visit to Village Gulavali, promoting justice and legal services accessibility. This commitment continued with a visit to Luksar Jail on November 10, 2022, emphasizing rehabilitation, reintegration, and strong institutions. The year culminated with a 'Nukkad Natak MF Fest' on November 23, 2022, where the power of street theater was harnessed to raise awareness about critical societal issues, aligning with the core values of SDG 16.

### **4. Family Dispute Resolution Clinic: A Transformative Force for Peace and Justice in Collaboration with Gautam Budh Nagar Police and Sharda University School of Law**

FDRC, the Family Dispute Resolution Clinic, stands as a remarkable initiative born from a collaborative partnership between the Gautam Budh Nagar Police and the School of Law at Sharda University. Dr. Ritu, the visionary founder and coordinator of FDRC, has been at the helm for the past three years, leading this unique endeavor since its inception in July 2020. The clinic's track record is nothing short of inspiring, having positively impacted over 900 families to date and remaining steadfast in its commitment even during the tumultuous times of the three waves of the Covid-19 pandemic. This unwavering dedication earned FDRC recognition as one of the innovative initiatives by the Uttar Pradesh Government.

Under the guidance of Dr. Ritu, the clinic has conducted an impressive 3500+ counseling sessions, achieving a remarkable success rate of 86% and above for three consecutive years. Dr. Ritu's exemplary performance has not gone unnoticed, as she received commendations twice in 2020, 2021, and 2022 from the Commissionerate of Police, Gautam Budh Nagar. Her contributions have extended beyond regional boundaries, with accolades from the National Commission for Women and the prestigious ITC Nari Shakti Award. Her dedication also earned her appreciation from luminaries like CJI Justice N.V. Ramanan and Law Minister Kiran Rijiju. The Family Dispute Resolution Clinic operates diligently, providing counseling services every Friday and Saturday, and even the challenging circumstances posed by the Covid-19 pandemic did not deter the team's commitment to their duty. Remarkably, the clinic boasts an 83.44% success rate in resolving family disputes over the past two and a half years. The team's dedication and exceptional results have garnered attention and praise from various quarters, making FDRC a prominent and influential entity in the field of family dispute resolution.

In conclusion, Sharda University's multifaceted efforts in 2022 underscored its holistic commitment to making a positive impact on society and the world. These activities demonstrated the institution's dedication to creating a world marked by peace, justice, and strong institutions.









