



NATIONAL CONFERENCE

on

NAVIGATING CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES IN DEFENCE AND MARITIME LAW: LEGAL, STRATEGIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVE

organised by

**CENTRE FOR BUSINESS
LAWS AND TAXATION**

**CENTRE FOR ADVANCED
STUDIES IN CYBER LAW AND
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

**15-16 NOVEMBER
2025**

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RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (RGNUL), Punjab, was established by the State Legislature of Punjab by passing the Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab Act, 2006 (Punjab Act No. 12 of 2006). The Act incorporated a University of Law of national stature in Punjab, to fulfil the need for a Centre of Excellence in legal education in the modern era of globalization and liberalization. Recently the University has earned the coveted status of being one of the top-ranking law teaching institutions in the Country. Over 1000 students acquire state of art legal education in a well- furnished and fully developed residential campus which boasts of all necessary infrastructural and manpower facilities for the all-around growth of the students. RGNUL is currently emphasizing research, training, and consultancy in various areas of contemporary interest. It is envisaged to be a research-intensive university in the times to come. It has as many as 19 centers focusing on various areas of social-legal inquiries which includes the Centre for Business Law and Taxation (CBLT). RGNUL publishes 05 journals covering a vast range of subjects of topical interest.

ABOUT CBLT

The **Centre for Business Laws and Taxation (CBLT)** is one of the Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab's flagship centre. The Centre aims to further its objective of bridging the gap between the theory and practice of corporate law. It is established to promote comparative research and discussion in the field of corporate law. It focuses on analyzing current policy approaches in various areas of corporate laws such as corporate governance, insolvency law, mergers and acquisitions, taxation, etc. It plans to streamline the process of learning through academic courses, programs, and publications. It also focuses on identifying the gaps existing between industry and academia by effective joint research. The Centre follows a multi-disciplinary approach to recognizing problems in the field of corporate laws and endeavors to engage in dialogue to facilitate changes in it. It is based on the objective of establishing a culture of discussion on corporate laws in the country by educating the next generation of lawyers and law students.



ABOUT CASCA

At **Centre for Advanced Studies in Cyber Law and Artificial Intelligence (CASCA)**, we strive to bridge the gap between technological advancements and legal frameworks, creating a comprehensive platform for scholars, practitioners, and students to engage with the pressing issues at the intersection of law and technology. Our commitment to fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and promoting academic excellence positions us as a pivotal contributor to the development of effective regulatory policies that address the challenges of the digital era.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

India's maritime domain, given its strategic location and vast coastline, plays a critical role in shaping the nation's defence preparedness, economic strength, and international diplomacy. With the growing prominence of the Indo-Pacific region, increasing maritime disputes, environmental concerns, and the rise of non-traditional security threats such as cyber warfare, cyber piracy, fishing, etc. India must urgently address both legal and strategic aspects of maritime governance.

This two-day national conference aims to provide a platform for comprehensive deliberation on the evolving contours of Defence and Maritime Law in India. It will focus on the intersection of national security, international maritime frameworks, environmental sustainability, and technological developments in the domain. The conference is designed to foster research, discussion, and policy-oriented dialogue on critical legal and strategic issues concerning India's maritime interests and coastal defence mechanisms.

The conference will feature panel discussions involving maritime security experts, defence analysts, academicians, and legal practitioners. It will also include paper presentations selected through a competitive call for papers, promoting academic exchange and policy innovation in the domain.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

- To explore the legal, environmental, and strategic dimensions of India's maritime and coastal security frameworks.
 - To analyse the role of international conventions, regional collaborations (such as the Colombo security conclave), and national laws in shaping India's maritime defence posture.
 - To discuss emerging threats such as maritime cyber warfare, piracy, fishing, and the use of autonomous vessels.
 - To study the evolving jurisprudence and regulatory mechanisms relating to maritime disputes and naval diplomacy.
 - To understand the significance of sustainable development, blue economy, and environmental compliance in India's maritime law.
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SUB-THEMES

- Evolution of national and international legal standards addressing data breaches and digital warfare at sea.
- Constitutional and statutory mandates of coastal state enforcement agencies.
- Defence Laws and Contemporary Challenges.
- Legal implications of Integrated Maritime Domain Awareness (IMDA) and coastal security frameworks.
- Cybersecurity threats to maritime infrastructure and autonomous vessels.
- National and international legal approaches to piracy and maritime terrorism.
- UNCLOS, and India's anti-piracy legislation and enforcement challenges.
- Legal compliance with MARPOL and domestic environmental laws.
- Role of the Indian Coast Guard and the liability regime for marine pollution incidents.
- The legal contours of the blue economy include marine spatial planning.
- Regulation of ocean-based industries.
- Maritime dispute resolution mechanisms under international law.
- Arbitration clauses in port infrastructure contracts.
- Regional defence collaborations and legal harmonisation efforts, examining the Colombo security conclave, the Sagar doctrine, and their alignment with India's maritime security laws.

(Note: the above sub-themes are suggestive; papers outside these themes but relevant to the core topic may also be considered.)

TIMELINE AND OTHER DETAILS

- The two-day conference will be conducted on November 15-16, 2025.
- The two-day conference will be conducted in offline mode at RGNUL, Punjab.
- Last Date for Abstract Submission: 11:59 PM, 15th Sept 2025
- Last Date for Final Paper Submission: 11:59 PM, 15th Oct 2025
- Last Date for Registration: 11:59 PM, 30th Oct 2025
- Abstract Submission Link can be accessed [here](#).

- The fees shall be INR 1000/- + GST for Academicians, Advocates and other practitioners and INR 750/- + GST for Students and Research Scholars.
- INR 500/- + GST shall be charged for co-authors under both categories
- A certificate of participation will be provided to the participants.
- Fee once paid is non-refundable.

PAPER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- The research papers should pertain to any of the sub-themes of the conference.
- Participants shall be required to submit an abstract of around 350 words on or before **September 15, 2025**.
- Abstract shall also contain, name of the author/authors, email Id of the author/s contact number and designation.
- Acceptance of abstracts shall be communicated separately.
- The payment link shall be shared separately if the abstract is selected.
- The full paper shall not exceed 6000 words. It shall be typed in Times New Roman, Font Size 12 on A4 size paper on any of the sub-themes of the conference with a 1" margin on all edges with 1.5 line spacing using MS Word.
- Citation shall be strictly in accordance with Bluebook (20th Edition).
- University may publish selected papers. Selection of papers for publication shall be the exclusive discretion of the University.

Centre for Business Laws and Taxation- RGNUL, Punjab

PATRON

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