



KMC COLLEGE OF LAW

TIRUPUR

Affiliated to the Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai &
Approved by the Bar Council of India, New Delhi

National Seminar on
REFORMING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
Evaluating the Efficacy of India's New Criminal Laws

13th & 14th February, 2026

KMC College of Law, KMC Gardens,
Kanakampalayam Road, Perumanallur, Tirupur, Tamil Nadu – 641 666

1. ABOUT THE SEMINAR

The criminal justice system of India has undergone a historic transformation with the enactment of three new legislations — the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (BSA) — replacing the colonial-era Indian Penal Code, 1860; the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973; and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, respectively. These enactments signify a clear shift from colonial legal philosophy to a framework purportedly better suited to the needs of a democratic, constitutional, and technologically advanced India.

The reforms have been introduced with the stated aim of ensuring rapid justice, citizen-focused approaches, and technological integration into the criminal process. Replacing laws that are over a century old is expected to bring greater efficiency, transparency, and fairness. However, the introduction of these comprehensive legislative tools raises several important questions about necessity, feasibility, effectiveness, and whether the legal system is prepared for their successful implementation.

Given the scale of change and its widespread effects on all stakeholders — from the judiciary and law enforcement agencies to the Bar, academia, and the public — it is essential to establish a scholarly platform for discussion and analysis. A national seminar that unites experts from various fields can play a vital role in exploring the conceptual foundations, structural consistency, and practical viability of these reforms.

Recognising this academic and societal responsibility, KMC College of Law proposes to organise a Two-Day National Seminar on “The Need and Effectiveness of the New Criminal Laws”, which aims to provide an intellectually demanding platform for reflection, critique, and constructive dialogue on the transformative potential of India’s new criminal law regime.

2. CORE OBJECTIVES

The seminar aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. To critically examine the rationale and necessity for replacing colonial criminal laws with the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023; Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023; and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023.
2. To assess the effectiveness of the structural and substantive reforms brought in by these legislations.
3. To deliberate on the practical challenges in implementing the new criminal laws across jurisdictions, particularly regarding training, infrastructure, and technological integration.
4. To analyse the impact of these changes on victims, accused persons, investigating agencies, and the judiciary.
5. To identify areas requiring further reform and suggest constructive recommendations for policymakers and legislators.
6. To foster interdisciplinary dialogue among legal scholars, practitioners, enforcement officers, judicial officers, and students of law.

3. THEMES AND SUB-THEMES

The seminar will revolve around the following broad themes and indicative sub-themes:

Theme I: Rationale and Need for Reform

- Historical context and colonial legacy of Indian criminal laws
- Constitutional morality and the Indianisation of criminal law
- Comparative perspectives: Lessons from global criminal law reforms
- Role of parliamentary reform in modernising justice delivery

Theme II: Structural and Substantive Changes in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS)

- Redefinition and restructuring of offences
- Provisions on mob lynching, organised crime, cyber-crime and terrorism
- Gender justice and protection of women and children under the BNS
- Decriminalisation trends and the balance between deterrence and reform

Theme III: Procedural Innovations under the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS)

- Reforms for speedy trial and technological integration
- Video-recorded statements, digital summons, and e-FIR
- Police reforms and accountability mechanisms
- Balancing due process and state security

Theme IV: Evidentiary Standards under the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA)

- Relevance and admissibility of electronic evidence
- Presumptions, burden of proof, and witness protection
- Transition from colonial evidentiary principles to modern realities

Theme V: Challenges in Implementation and Capacity Building

- Institutional readiness of police, prosecution, and judiciary
- Training needs for legal professionals and law enforcement personnel
- Budgetary and infrastructural concerns in the transition phase
- Role of legal education and continuing legal training

Theme VI: Future Directions and Reform Proposals

- Assessing the effectiveness of the new laws in the coming decade
- Recommendations for harmonising procedural and substantive reforms
- Prospects for further amendment and judicial interpretation
- The role of academia in shaping future discourse on criminal law

4. ABOUT KMC COLLEGE OF LAW

The College is nestled in the city of Tirupur. Tirupur is a city in the state of Tamil Nadu, with a population of 45 lakh and home to around 600 schools. KMC College of Law is the first and only institution in the district to provide for graduation in law. KMC College of Law, Tirupur is a legal institution committed to academic excellence and practical exposure. Affiliated with TamilNadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai and approved by the Bar Council of India, the college nurtures aspiring legal professionals with a balance of theoretical foundations and courtroom skills. Situated in the textile hub of South India, the institution believes in the transformative power of legal education and advocacy.

The College is established with a mission to inspire, innovate, nurture and reinvigorate in the future lawyers of the institution, what it takes to be a true cosmopolitan, an efficient lawyer, a capable human being, and one who aims to better the lives of the unfortunate. Further, it has a mission to pioneer legal education reforms, and to anchor the transformation of the Indian legal system through research and policy interventions.

KMC College of Law endeavors to secure all-round contribution for the betterment of the field of law, to create world-class professionals, to produce committed academicians and law reformers, to train justice dispensers and invigorate community crusaders and, to create a strong watershed of new and upcoming expertise in law relating to business and corporate matters. The College derives its strength and ethos from the highly qualified and dedicated faculty.

Students have the opportunity to participate in moot courts and debates at a competitive level. The numerous guest lectures, events and discussions will help the students acquire the required skills and valuable networks. This is further enhanced by various committees that will instil street-smartness and other managerial skills in the students.

Spread across a sprawling 13-acre campus in Tirupur, the College offers an air-conditioned, Wi-Fi-enabled environment with world-class amenities-including smart classrooms, an extensive library, student housing, and other facilities. Equipped with all the necessary facilities and an effective team to utilise the same for their best advantage, the College is committed to serve as a breeding ground for future leaders.

KMC College of Law, Tirupur, proudly marked a milestone in its academic journey by hosting its *First National Seminar on “Artificial Intelligence and the Law: Ethical and Legal Implications”* on **October 5, 2024**. The event brought together eminent legal minds, scholars, and technology experts to explore the evolving relationship between AI and the justice system. With thought-provoking discussions and engaging sessions, the seminar served as a dynamic platform for participants to delve into how technology is reshaping legal ethics, governance, and accountability in the digital era.

Carrying forward its legacy of excellence in legal education, KMC College of Law, Tirupur, successfully organized its *First National Moot Court Competition* from **September 25 to 27, 2025**. The competition witnessed an enthusiastic participation of **54 teams** from across the nation, all vying to showcase their advocacy, research, and analytical skills before distinguished judges and legal luminaries. The event not only celebrated the spirit of legal debate and courtroom decorum but also reflected the college’s commitment to nurturing the next generation of confident, competent, and ethically grounded legal professionals.

5. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The Two-Day National Seminar seeks to produce the following outcomes:

1. Academic Discourse and Critical Evaluation: The seminar will promote informed debate among scholars, practitioners, and policymakers about the theoretical and practical aspects of the new criminal laws.
2. Policy Recommendations: A comprehensive Seminar Report and Policy Brief will be compiled, including key insights, recommendations, and practical suggestions to enhance the effectiveness of the new legal framework.

3. Publication of Proceedings: Selected papers presented during the seminar will be peer-reviewed and published in an Edited Volume/ISBN Book, contributing to the ongoing scholarship on criminal law reform.
4. Capacity Building and Awareness: The event will raise awareness among law students and young professionals, enabling them to understand and interpret the new criminal laws effectively.

6. TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The seminar is intended to attract participation from a diverse range of stakeholders, including:

- Academicians and researchers from law universities and colleges
- Members of the judiciary and judicial academies
- Advocates and legal practitioners
- Police and prosecution officers
- Law students and research scholars
- Policy experts, NGOs, and civil society representatives

7. SEMINAR SCHEDULE

The Two-Day Seminar will consist of the following sessions:

1. Inaugural Session:
 - a. Keynote Address by a distinguished jurist / Hon'ble Judge / Senior Advocate
 - b. Release of Seminar Brochure and Souvenir
2. Thematic Technical Sessions (I–IV):
 - a. Paper presentations and expert panel discussions
 - b. An eminent academician or legal expert will chair each session
3. Special Round Table Discussion:
 - a. “Assessing the Effectiveness of the New Criminal Laws: The Road Ahead”
4. Valedictory Session:
 - a. Presentation of Seminar Recommendations and Closing Remarks

The detailed seminar schedule will be intimated to the participants later.

8. TENTATIVE DATES

Abstract Submission	9th January, 2026
Notification of Selected Papers	13th January, 2026
Submission of Full Paper	Before 2nd February, 2026
Last Date for Registration	2nd February, 2026

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/bw3iUCYJR7Y97Ass5>

9. CALL FOR PAPERS

Call for Full Academic Paper

Thought provoking and original individual or co-authored research papers giving fresh insights on any one of the seminar's themes or sub-themes are invited from Academicians, Researchers, Legal Practitioners and Law Students to the National Seminar.

Paper Submission Guidelines

- The authors are required to identify the broad theme for their proposed research paper, which will help us allocate the subject expert for the review of their research paper.
- An author may write the research paper with a maximum of two co-authors.
- The submitted research papers will be evaluated based on their relevance to the seminar theme and broad topics, originality, policy significance, and engagement with the broader research area of Criminal Justice System.
- The papers may be theoretical, applied, or policy-oriented.
- The best presented papers will be published as a book with ISBN after the author incorporates the suggestions/changes suggested during the discussion/ questions session and submits the copyright Declaration Form.

Other than paper presenters, any other research scholar or working professionals who wish to participate in the Seminar are welcome to register and attend.

Abstract and Full paper Submissions

The abstract of the full academic paper for the paper Presentation sessions should reach us **on or before 9th January, 2026**. At least two subject experts will review the abstract, and the selected presenters will be notified by **13th January, 2026**. Registration fee should be paid on or before **2nd February, 2026**, the registration fee once paid will not be returned under any circumstances. The accepted presenters should send their full papers by **2nd February, 2026**. Soft copies of the abstracts, full papers and posters should be sent to the email ID: seminar2026@kmclawcollege.edu.in. Scholars, academicians, professionals, and students are invited to submit research papers on any of the listed themes or related areas.

10. ABSTRACT AND FULL PAPER GUIDELINES

1. Abstract/Full Paper should have a cover page containing:

- Full name and designation
- Institution/Organisation/University and professional/educational details
- Email address and mobile number.

2. The submission should be in MS Word, i.e. doc/docx format, with the following specifications:

- Font: Times New Roman
- Line Spacing: 1.5 Points
- Font Size:
 - Title: 16 Points
 - Sub-Title: 14 Points
 - Body Text: 12 Points
 - Points Footnotes : 10 Points

3. OSCOLA/Bluebook Citation method should be uniformly followed for footnotes. References and bibliography are not required.

4. Word Limit

- Abstract: 500 Words
- Keywords: 3-5 Keywords
- Full Paper: 3000 to 5000 Words

5. The submission should contain a disclaimer to the effect that the piece is original and has not been published or is under consideration, for publication, elsewhere.
6. All submissions are subject to a Plagiarism check.

11. CASH PRIZE AND PUBLICATION

A cash prize of **₹10,000** will be awarded to the best presenter and **₹5,000** to the second-best presenter chosen based on evaluations by our esteemed panel of resource persons. **All accepted papers will be presented** during the seminar and **best papers will be considered for publication.**

12. FEE STRUCTURE

Students (Single Author)	₹ 500/-
Students (Two Authors)	₹ 800/-
Research Scholar (Single Author)	₹ 800/-
Research Scholar (Two Authors)	₹ 1,000/-
Faculty (Single Author)	₹ 900/-
Faculty (Two Authors)	₹ 1,600/-
Paper Presenter (Single Author)	₹ 2,500/-
Paper Presenter (Co-Authors)	₹ 3,000/-

The registration fee includes seminar kits, food, and refreshments at the seminar venue. Accommodation will be arranged on a sharing basis upon request. Accommodation will be provided at a cost of **₹1,200 per person from the evening of 12th February 2026 to the morning of 15th February 2026 (inclusive of food).** Early arrival or overstay will attract additional charges of **₹500 per day per person.** Participants are requested to inform their accommodation requirements in advance.

Registration link: <https://forms.gle/bw3iUCYJR7Y97Ass5>

The paper presenters and participants may remit the registration fee into the bank account with the following bank details:

Merchant Name: KMC College of Law

A/c No.: 155005002837

IFSC Code: ICIC0004924

Bank Name: ICICI Bank

Branch: Dharapuram Road, Tirupur



Please Note:

- Prior registration is mandatory for the paper presenters and participants.
- All participants of the National Seminar will receive a certificate.

13. CONTACT DETAILS

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