

DR. AMBEDKAR INTERNATIONAL CENTRE (DAIC),
IN COLLABORATION WITH
COMMONWEALTH LEGAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
(CLEA)

SECOND PROF. (DR.) N. R. MADHAVA MENON MEMORIAL LECTURE

EVENT REPORT



05TH OCTOBER 2026 , MONDAY

Second Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon Memorial Lecture Held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre

Chief Justice of India Justice Surya Kant inaugurates the Memorial Lecture; Justice Vikram Nath delivers the keynote address on ‘Judging with Compassion’

New Delhi, 5 October 2026: The Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC), in collaboration with the Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA), organised the Second Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon Memorial Lecture at Bhim Hall, DAIC, New Delhi, on 5 October 2026. The programme brought together distinguished members of the judiciary, legal academia and the legal profession to deliberate upon the importance of compassion, empathy and human understanding in the administration of justice.

The Memorial Lecture was centred on the theme “**Judging with Compassion: Human Understanding in the Practice of Law**”, highlighting the need to balance established legal principles with sensitivity towards the lived experiences and circumstances of individuals who engage with the justice delivery system.

Inaugural Session and Welcome Address





The programme commenced at 5:00 PM with the arrival of guests and the lighting of the ceremonial lamp. Col. Akash Patil, Director, DAIC, delivered the welcome address, welcoming the distinguished dignitaries and participants and emphasising the importance of providing institutional platforms for meaningful academic and intellectual engagement on contemporary issues concerning law, justice and society.

The introductory address was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) S. Sivakumar, Senior Professor, Indian Law Institute, President, CLEA, and Member of the 21st Law Commission of India. His address set the context for the Memorial Lecture and highlighted the significance of continuing the academic and institutional legacy of Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon.

Reflections on the Legacy of Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon



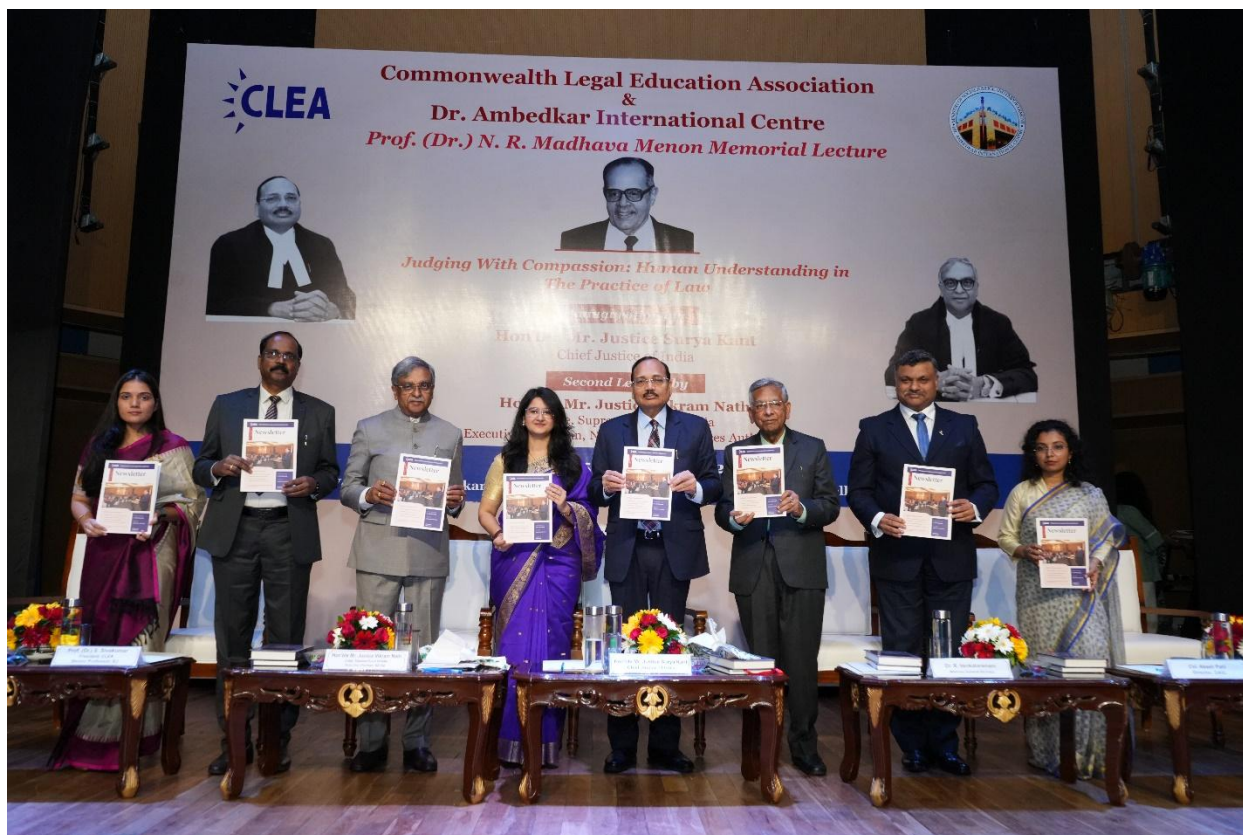
The programme featured reflections on the life and contributions of Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon by Dr. R. Venkataramani, Learned Attorney General for India.

Prof. Menon was a pioneering legal educator and scholar whose contributions played a significant role in shaping modern legal education in India. His vision of academic excellence, professional integrity and socially responsive legal education continues to inform discussions on the development of the legal profession and the administration of justice.

The Memorial Lecture seeks to carry forward his legacy by facilitating dialogue among members of the judiciary, legal scholars, practitioners and students on emerging dimensions of law and justice.

Release of Significant Publications in Law





An important highlight of the programme was the release of two significant publications by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Mr. Justice Surya Kant: *Indian Personal Law: Unity and Diversity* and *Economics and Law in Context*.

Both books were authored by Prof. (Dr.) S. Sivakumar, with *Economics and Law in Context* co-authored by Dr. Sougata Talukdar, Assistant Professor in Law, Government Centre of Legal Education, University of Burdwan.

The books were introduced by Mr. Gowrishankar Natesan, Publisher, Thomson Reuters and Chief Executive Officer, Southshore Innovations Private Limited; Ms. Nabila Zehra, Head, Publication and Research, CLEA; and Dr. Sougata Talukdar, Assistant Professor in Law, Government Centre of Legal Education, University of Burdwan. Adv. Shruti Sakral, DAIC, and Dr. Sougata Talukdar handed over the books to the dignitaries for their release.

The release of these publications added an important scholarly dimension to the programme, highlighting the continuing relevance of legal research and interdisciplinary engagement in understanding the relationship between law, society, personal laws and economics.

[Inaugural Address by the Chief Justice of India](#)



The inaugural address was delivered by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Chief Justice of India. His participation underscored the importance of sustained engagement between the judiciary, legal academia and the wider legal community on questions relating to the administration of justice and the responsibilities of the legal profession.

The address formed part of the programme's broader emphasis on strengthening a justice delivery system that combines legal rigour with an understanding of the social realities and human circumstances underlying legal disputes.

Second Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon Memorial Lecture



The principal address of the programme was delivered by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), on the theme **“Judging with Compassion: Human Understanding in the Practice of Law.”**

The lecture highlighted the importance of a humane and compassionate approach to the administration of justice while remaining firmly grounded in the principles of law, fairness and impartiality.

Compassion in judicial decision-making must not be understood as favouritism or a departure from established legal principles. Rather, it calls for sensitivity towards the circumstances of litigants and an appreciation of the human consequences of judicial decisions. A fair justice delivery system must ensure that procedural rigour is accompanied by dignity, accessibility and respect for every individual.

The deliberations reinforced the principle that compassion and judicial discipline are complementary. The effectiveness of justice depends not only on the correctness of legal outcomes but also on the fairness, accessibility and humanity of the processes through which those outcomes are reached.

Participation of the Judiciary, Legal Fraternity and Academia





The programme witnessed the participation of eminent members of the judiciary, representatives of the legal fraternity, academicians and students. Their participation provided an opportunity for an enriching exchange of perspectives on legal education, judicial responsibility and the evolving relationship between law and society.

The programme was conducted by Ms. Sheenam Thakur, Student Convener, CLEA, and Mr. Sharyaurai Rieng, Media Convener, CLEA, who served as the Masters of Ceremonies.

Dr. Ruchi Sharma D., Joint General Secretary, CLEA, proposed the vote of thanks, bringing the formal proceedings to a close at approximately 6:15 PM. The programme was followed by high tea at Shravasti Hall, providing an opportunity for further interaction among the dignitaries, legal scholars and participants.

[DAIC's Commitment to Legal Education and Constitutional Discourse](#)

The Second Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon Memorial Lecture reaffirmed the importance of compassion, empathy and human understanding as essential dimensions of a fair and responsive justice delivery system. By bringing together the judiciary, legal academia and the legal profession, the programme provided a meaningful platform for reflection on the responsibilities of legal institutions in a democratic society.

Through its collaboration with CLEA, DAIC continues to facilitate intellectual engagement on contemporary legal issues, promote scholarly dialogue and strengthen awareness of the principles that underpin a just and inclusive society.

The programme concluded with a renewed emphasis on advancing legal education, encouraging informed discourse and carrying forward the enduring legacy of Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon.



IN NEWS



Press Trust of India

@PTI_News

...

STORY | Law's first duty is to be understood by people it governs: CJI Surya Kant

Emphasising the role of compassion in judicial work, Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant on Monday said the law's first duty is to be understood by the people that it governs and understand them in return.

READ | ptinews.com/story/national...

WATCH



8:00 AM · Oct 5, 2026 · 216.4K Views



Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

2nd Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon Memorial Lecture Held at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre

Chief Justice of India Justice Surya Kant Inaugurates Memorial Lecture

Justice Vikram Nath Delivers Lecture on 'Judging with Compassion: Human Understanding in the Practice of Law'

Posted On: 05 OCT 2026 9:42PM by PIB Delhi

The Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC), in collaboration with the Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA), organised the **2nd Prof (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon Memorial Lecture** at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in National Capital here, this evening.

The Memorial Lecture, themed '**Judging with Compassion: Human Understanding in the Practice of Law**', brought together eminent members of the judiciary, legal academia and the legal profession to reflect on the human dimensions of the judicial process and the significance of compassion, empathy and sensitivity in the administration of justice.

The programme was inaugurated by **Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Justice Surya Kant**.




Home / National / **CJI Surya Kant stresses compassion and accessibility in judicial process**

News On AIR | October 5, 2026 9:11 PM

CJI Surya Kant Stresses Compassion And Accessibility In Judicial Process



Chief Justice of India Surya Kant has stressed the need for compassion, accessibility and empathy in the judicial process, calling for legal aid at police stations, survivor- and child-friendly spaces for testimony, and judgments written in language that litigants can understand. He said the justice system must consider the human circumstances behind every case, while Justice Vikram Nath emphasised that technology can improve judicial

The FINANCIAL WORLD

www.thefinancialworld.com
thefinancialworld.com/hindi

Read & Lead

fw
Since 2001

NEW DELHI • CHANDIGARH • WEEKLY • SATURDAY • OCTOBER 10, 2026 • VOLUME 16, ISSUE 28 • Rs 5

REGION

2

BANKING & FINANCE

6

POTPOURRI

8

CJI Justice Surya Kant inaugurates the Memorial Lecture; Justice Vikram Nath delivers lecture on 'Judging with Compassion'

KAVITA SHARMA
New Delhi

The Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC), in collaboration with the Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA), organised the Second Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon Memorial Lecture in New Delhi.

The Memorial Lecture, themed "Judging with Compassion: Human Understanding in the Practice of Law", brought together eminent members of the judiciary, legal academia and the legal profession to deliberate upon the human dimensions of the judicial process and the importance of compassion, empathy and sensitivity in the practice



and administration of law.

The programme was inaugurated by Justice Surya Kant, Chief Justice of India. Justice Vikram Nath, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority, delivered the

Memorial Lecture, highlighting the significance of a humane and compassionate approach to the administration of justice while remaining firmly grounded in the principles of law and fairness.

The occasion also featured reflections on the life and con-

tribution of Prof. (Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon by Dr. R. Venkataramani, Learned Attorney General for India. Prof. (Dr.) S. Sivakumar, Senior Professor, Indian Law Institute, President, CLEA and Member, 21st Law Commission of India, also addressed the gathering.

The Chief Justice of India released two significant works in the field of law — "Indian Personal Law: Unity and Diversity" and "Economics and Law in Context". The books were authored by Prof. (Dr.) S. Sivakumar, with the latter co-authored by Sougata Talukdar, and carry forewords by eminent judges of the Supreme Court of India.