

Two-Day National Conference on “Criminal Justice in India: Shifting Paradigms”

Dated: 20-21’ March, 2025



A two-day National Conference on “Criminal Justice in India: Shifting Paradigms” was organized by the Department of Law, Sikkim University, in collaboration with Sikkim National Law University on 20th-21st March 2025. The conference aimed to explore the evolving criminal justice system in India and ways to enhance its effectiveness.

The inaugural session was graced by the Chief Guest, **Hon’ble Shri Justice Biswanath Somadder**, Chief Justice of the High Court of Sikkim, who spoke about the importance of punishment theories in the Indian criminal justice system. The Keynote Address was delivered by **Hon’ble Shri Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan**, Judge of the High Court of Sikkim, who emphasized the balance between the rights of the accused and societal protection in criminal law and the changes in the new criminal laws.

On the second day, various papers were presented on topics such as bail proceedings, gender perspectives in criminal justice, sedition and importance of forensic science in light of new criminal laws i.e. the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA). These discussions highlighted the challenges and potential improvements in the system, stressing the need for reforms to ensure a fairer, transparent, and efficient criminal justice process in India.

The conference served as an important platform for experts to deliberate on the shifting paradigms in criminal justice and suggested ways to implement reforms for better legal outcomes.