

The Faculty of Law at ICFAI University, Raipur, organized a Guest lecture on November 23, 2024, focusing on "Critical and Socio-Legal Approaches to Tackling Child Sexual Abuse in India." The session, conducted via Zoom, featured Dr. Shailesh Kumar, a distinguished Lecturer in Law at Royal Holloway, University of London, as the guest speaker. Around 22-25 participants attended the webinar, which addressed the alarming prevalence of child sexual abuse in India, with over 24,000 cases reported in just six months. Dr. Kumar shed light on the multifaceted nature of this issue, covering various forms of abuse, such as exploitation, pornography, and aggravated assaults, while emphasizing the legislative measures in place, including the POCSO Act, 2012. The Act, a gender-neutral law, aims to provide child-friendly procedures for reporting and investigating offenses, with provisions for strict penalties. However, Dr. Kumar highlighted persistent challenges, including delays in justice delivery, insufficient victim compensation, and the misuse of certain legal provisions. The webinar concluded with a call for coordinated efforts, robust policing, and comprehensive legal reforms to protect children and ensure justice. The session inspired law students to play an active role in creating a safer society and driving positive change for future generations.





