

The ICFAI University, Raipur Faculty of Law

Event Report

Shri N.J. Yasaswy Pro Bono Lecture Series on Law and Justice

Topic: Crime, Morality, and Criminal Law: Intersections, Conflicts, and the Evolution of Justice

Date: 6th September 2025 **Time:** 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM **Venue:** Online (Zoom Platform)

The Faculty of Law, ICFAI University Raipur, successfully organized a session under the Shri N.J. Yasaswy Pro Bono Lecture Series on Law and Justice on 6th September 2025. The lecture was delivered on the thought-provoking topic "Crime, Morality, and Criminal Law: Intersections, Conflicts, and the Evolution of Justice" by Dr. Rupali Debbarma, Assistant Professor, Department of Law, Gauhati University.

The session commenced with a warm welcome by **Dr. Pyali Chatterjee**, Head of the Department, Faculty of Law, who served as the Event Coordinator. She introduced the speaker and highlighted the importance of the Shri N.J. Yasaswy Pro Bono Lecture Series in enriching students' understanding of law and justice beyond the classroom.

Dr. Rupali Debbarma engaged participants with an insightful presentation exploring the dynamic relationship between crime, morality, and criminal law. She emphasized the **conflicts between legal rules and moral reasoning**, citing Professor Michael Sandel's thought experiment to illustrate ethical dilemmas in legal decision-making. Her presentation urged students to critically question the moral foundations of statutes and reflect on whether the law truly serves justice and protects the vulnerable.

Key highlights of the lecture included:

- The evolution of criminal law in response to societal morality and ethical considerations.
- The need to balance Austin's legal positivism, Bentham's utilitarianism, Hart's realism, and Dworkin's integrity while interpreting the law.
- Encouraging students to develop **moral reasoning skills** and apply Socratic wisdom to legal inquiry.

The session witnessed active participation from students and faculty, who engaged in thoughtful discussion and reflection on the topic.



The lecture concluded with a vote of thanks to Dr. Rupali Debbarma for her enriching insights and to the coordinators – Dr. Pyali Chatterjee (Event Coordinator), Dr. Siddharth Deoras, and Mr. Shubharth Shukla (Co-Coordinators) – for their efforts in successfully organizing the event.

Overall, the session provided students with a deeper understanding of the intersection of morality and law, inspiring them to critically analyze legal principles with a sense of justice and ethical responsibility.





