

SYMBIOSIS LAW SCHOOL, NAGPUR

Constituent of Symbiosis International (DEEMED UNIVERSITY), Pune
Re-accredited by NAAC with "A++" Grade – Awarded Category – I by UGC
Founder: Dr. S.B. Mujumdar, M.Sc. Ph.D. (Awarded Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri by President of India)

Workshop on Mastering Research Design and Hypothesis Formulation

Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur, in collaboration with its Research and Publication Cell, organized a two-day workshop on "Mastering Research Design" and "Hypothesis Formulation: Insights for Aspiring Legal Researchers" for the LL.M batch of 2024-2025. The workshop, held on the 7th and 8th of October, 2024, was an integral part of the subject Research Methods and Legal Writing.

The esteemed resource person for the workshop was **Dr. Payal Thaorey**, Head of Department, Post Graduate Teaching, Department of Law, RTM Nagpur University. Dr. Thaorey, a recognized Ph.D. supervisor, shared her vast academic and research expertise, mentoring students in foundational research skills critical for success in both academia and the legal profession.

Day 1: Mastering Research Design

The first day of the workshop was dedicated to understanding the importance of *Research Design*, a fundamental and initial step in any research process. Dr. Thaorey emphasized how research design is not just limited to academic pursuits but is a part of planning our daily actions. Through her interactive teaching, she provided students with a clear understanding of how a structured and well-thought-out research design lays the foundation for effective research.

Dr. Thaorey illustrated the importance of identifying a research problem, determining research objectives, and selecting appropriate methodologies. Students were guided through various types of research designs and were encouraged to apply these principles to their own academic projects. The outcome of this session was a deeper understanding among students of how to approach their research work systematically and effectively.

Day 2: Hypothesis Formulation

The second day of the workshop focused on *Hypothesis Formulation*. Dr. Thaorey discussed the need for a hypothesis in research and its critical role in guiding the research process. A hypothesis serves as a statement that helps researchers validate or negate their findings as the research progresses. The students were introduced to various types of hypotheses and were taught how to formulate clear, testable statements relevant to their legal research topics.

This session emphasized the application of hypotheses in legal research, helping students understand how hypotheses can sharpen the focus of their work and provide a framework for

their research objectives. Dr. Thaorey's insightful guidance ensured that students left the session with the ability to craft hypotheses that align with their specific research projects.

Aligning with Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education

This workshop was a testament to how Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur in collaboration with its Research and Publication Cell, actively promotes the *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs), particularly **Goal 4**—ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning. By equipping students with essential research skills such as formulating research designs and hypotheses, the workshop ensured that LL.M. students are better prepared for both academic and professional challenges. These skills are crucial for success in any legal field, whether in litigation, academia, or other specialized areas of law.

Workshop Outcomes

- **Day 1**: Students gained a comprehensive understanding of research design, which will enhance their ability to approach research work in an organized and effective manner.
- **Day 2**: Students learned to formulate and apply hypotheses in legal research, a skill that will serve them well in future academic and professional endeavors.

Event Coordination and Conclusion

The workshop was meticulously planned and executed by Dr. Shilpa Sharma, faculty for *Research Methods and Legal Writing* for the LL.M batch of 2024-2025 along with Prof. Parth Sharma, incharge of Research and Publication Cell under the able guidance of Prof.(Dr.) Sukhvinder Singh Dari, Director of Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur. The sessions were anchored by **Annanya Deshpande**, and the formal vote of thanks was proposed by **Unmesh Jamdar**, both students of the LL.M. batch.

The workshop concluded with an engaging Q&A session where Dr. Thaorey addressed the students' queries and provided practical solutions to the challenges they faced in their ongoing research projects. Overall, the workshop was highly beneficial for the students, significantly enhancing their research capabilities and fostering an outcome-based approach to legal research and was attended by 28 students on Day 1 and 31 students on Day 2.

Some Glimpses:

(Day 1)



A memorable interaction: Dr. Payal Thaorey addressing the enthusiastic students



Day 2:



Empowering the future: Dr. Payal Thaorey offering guidance and encouragement to aspiring professionals





Together for excellence: Dr. Payal Thaorey joins students and faculty in a memorable group photo.

BEAL SEAL STATE

Director Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur