

## **Interactive Session on Road Safety: Issues and Challenges**

Symbiosis Law School, Pune (SLS Pune), a constituent of Symbiosis International University, in association with Motor Vehicles Department, Government of Maharashtra organized an Interactive Session on "Road Safety: Issues and Challenges" on 19th October 2024. Hon'ble Justice Mr. Abhay Manohar Sapre, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India, Chairman of Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety graced the event as the distinguished Chief Guest and speaker, Shri Vivek Bhimanwar, Transport Commissioner and Shri Bharat Kalaskar, Addl. Transport Commissioner, State of Maharashtra participated in the interactive session and also addressed the students of Symbiosis Law School Pune.

The event commenced with the watering of Bilva Sapling, symbolizing a commitment to sustainability and growth.

The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Aparajita Mohanty, Deputy Director (Academics). Dr. Mohanty introduced the institution and highlighted its achievement as the 5th Best Law School in India according to the 2024 NIRF Ranking.

The highlight of the event was the inspiring address by the Chief Guest, Hon'ble Justice Mr. Abhay Manohar Sapre. His speech, while maintaining a witty and humorous tone, effectively conveyed the seriousness of road safety issues. A particularly impactful moment was his presentation of a video compilation showing road accidents, which demonstrated the importance of following safety rules and wearing helmets. His emotional appeal to the audience regarding the importance of following road safety norms resonated deeply with all present.

Shri Bharat Kalaskar, in his address, presented crucial statistical data related to road accidents and emphasized their psychological impact on society, concluding with the message that health and safety are of paramount importance. Following this, Shri Vivek Bhimanwar outlined various concerns related to road safety, including issues such as driving without helmets, driving under the influence, and operating vehicles without insurance. He emphasized that commitment to road safety is vital for the nation.

The event included an engaging Q&A session where students participated in an intellectual discussion about innovative solutions for road safety issues. The session concluded with a Vote of Thanks delivered by Dr. Shirish Kulkarni, Assistant Professor, SLS, Pune and Faculty-In Charge for CLCL and Pro-bono Club, SLS Pune. The interactive session proved to be both enriching and impactful, successfully achieving its objective of raising awareness about road safety issues and challenges.

