

'India needs sports lawyers'

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Says Ian Blackshaw, an int'l sports lawyer@ a certificate course on EU & sports held at GNLU

Emphasising on the need to create a demand of sports lawyers in India, Gujarat National Law University (GNLU) had organised a 'Certificate Course on European Union and Sports' from February 15 and 17. The three-day course was conducted by Ian Blackshaw, International Sports Lawyer and a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of England and Wales.

The idea of the course was to comprehend how India could learn and benefit from EU in the field of sport through a social, economic and business perspective.

Blackshaw said, "As professional sport continues to grow in India, there is a need for well informed and trained sports lawyers who understand the dynamics and demands of the sport."

The certificate course had almost 55 s

tudent participants from across the country including Dehradun, Vishakhapatnam, Bangalore, Delhi and Surat. The topics covered by the course included Sports Social and Legal Policy in EU, including the EU 'White Paper' on Sport; the Jean Marc Bosman and other leading EU Sports Law cases and the sale and purchase of Sports TV and New Media Rights in the EU.

Richa Sharma, assistant professor of History, Director, Centre for Sports Law, GNLU said, "This is an attempt to create a new generation of sports lawyers. In India, we need to establish the need of such lawyers as our country doesn't have a concrete sports law."

"Sports is a big industry. A sport does not necessarily mean playing on the field. There are various sports bodies which need to be made aware of the sports law," added Sharma.