

Viva took place in front of faculty & family members of the candidates

The first public defense and viva-voce of the first batch of PhD candidates of GNLU was held on November 23. In a first, three candidates appeared for viva voce in public at GNLU campus and were conferred with the degrees subsequently. The viva was conducted in the presence of not only the expert panel, but also faculty, students and family members. This was the first batch of PhD students that passed out from GNLU having started their PhD in the year 2010.

Bimal Patel, director of GNLU said, "This was the first batch of PhD students in GNLU and thus I wanted it to be open. A degree like PhD is considered to be a very important achievement in one's career."

He added, "I wanted to uplift the standard of PhD starting from selecting the candidates to the award of notification. Usually it is only limited to the examiner and examinee but we have set new standard by including the faculty, students and also the family members of the candidates."

He feels that family plays an important role and it is also necessary for the candidate to answer the questions in front of people from all walks of life.

Nidhi Buch, one of the candidates who received her PhD degree said, "Initially there was a lot of stress but by the end of the viva, we felt good with a sense of achievement. The whole viva was very well planned and it was just like mini-convocation for me.

Akil Ali Saiyed did his PhD in 'Public private partnership and legal education: A critique of policies and practices in India', with special reference to State of Gujarat. He said, "It was definitely a different experience but we were trained for such a public defense, two months ago where questions were thrown at us. So I was prepared for the actual viva."

Candidates

Fakkiresh Sakkarnaikar

Topic: An analytical study of the jurisprudential development of 'employee' and 'employment injury' under the employees state insurance act, 1948

Nidhi Buch

Topic: A study of jurisdictional issues in the post TRIPS IP regime in India with particular reference to trademark violations