

CM exhorts students to counter challenges of 21st century

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Gandhinagar. Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani on Monday exhorted the law students to realise and identify their duties as citizens and contribute their might to face the challenges in the 21st Century in nation building.

Rupani said the law students would shortly embark on the role of practising lawyers and they should ensure the common man gets justice as well as work towards further strengthening and empower the nation.

The Chief Minister

was addressing the lecture series on 'Rebuilding the Judiciary - Nation Building' organised by the Centre for Constitutional and Administrative Law at the Gujarat National Law University here with former Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi as the chief guest.

Speaking at length on legislature, judiciary and executive as the three pillars of democracy, Rupani said that, "Our constitutional system is unique in the sense that ours is the world's largest democracy. While all the three pillars independently performed their func-



Chief Minister Vijay Rupani with Former Chief Justice of Supreme Court, Justice Ranjan Gogoi lighting the lamp at the lecture series on 'Rebuilding the Judiciary in Nation Building' in Gandhinagar on Monday.

tions, the independent judiciary is the strength of the country, inseparable from the process of nation building.

He said the country has always respected the judiciary's verdicts. He said the Supreme Court's recent judgment on Ram Jambhoomi "reflects the judiciary's maturity, sensitivity and independence. It might have taken time, but the judiciary has gone into the fineness of truth and untruth in interpretation."

Supreme Court's retired Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi, in his keynote address, recalled Guja-

rat's illustrious son Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's integration of 565 princely states in the Union of India as a best example of his contribution to the nation building. "Had he lived longer, he would have strengthened the nation further," Justice Gogoi said.

A MoU was signed between Gujarat Government's Biotechnology Mission and Gujarat National Law University to jointly develop and start Postgraduate Diploma Course in 'Biotechnology and Law and Public Policy'.

Meanwhile, in another key event, Rupani approved a new city survey

superintendent's office at Gandhidham to provide property cards on the basis of documents of 30,000 lease land holders on the Deendayal (Kandla) Port Trust in the Kutch district.

The work could not be undertaken earlier because when it was allotted to the Gandhidham Adipur twin township around February 1996, the land belonged to the port trust for simultaneous development of the townships and the port. Since the lease conditions were directly under the Central Government, the State Government had no control over that land. **Related Report P10**