



Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur (DNLU)



“CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT LAW (CITIL)”

ORGANIZES

ONE DAY ONLINE WORKSHOP ON

“THE WTO AGREEMENT ON FISHERIES SUBSIDIES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR INDIA”

16TH APRIL, 2023

I. About the Workshop

The WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies, adopted at the 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) on 17 June 2022, marks a major step forward for ocean sustainability by prohibiting harmful fisheries subsidies, which are a key factor in the widespread depletion of the world’s fish stocks. The Agreement represents a historic achievement for the membership as the first Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target to be fully met, the first SDG target met through a multilateral agreement, the first WTO agreement to focus on the environment, the first broad, binding, multilateral agreement on ocean sustainability, and only the second agreement reached at the WTO since its inception. For the Agreement to become operational, two-thirds of members have to deposit their “instruments of acceptance” with the WTO. Members also agreed at MC12 to continue negotiations on outstanding issues, with a view to making recommendations by MC13 for additional provisions that would further enhance the disciplines of the Agreement. Implementing the new disciplines will present challenges for many developing country members including India and especially least-developed countries. The aim of this workshop is to expose to the participants to the various conceptual underpinnings of this multilateral agreement and the possible implications for India from policy and practice point of view.

II. About the Centre for Studies in International Trade and International Investment Laws

The Centre for ‘Studies in International Trade and Investment Laws’ is a research and learning centre at DNLU, Jabalpur. The centre aims to bring together the legal academics, professionals, students, researchers etc., with an objective of the dissemination of knowledge and encouraging research in the various realms of International Trade Law and International Investment Laws. It must be mentioned here that, the subjects of International Trade and International Investment Laws are offered usually as Optional or Elective Courses in Law schools. National Law Universities have always been at the cusp of dissemination of knowledge not only in traditional compulsory law courses but also have tried to expose the students to various other fields of law through various activities and events. This Centre would be one of such initiatives of a blooming National Law University to expose the interested students, scholars and academics to this intricate field of law which has interconnected horizons with both domestic law and International Law. Secondly, this is an area which also cuts across disciplines like Political Science and International Political and Economic Relations. Thirdly, there are not many universities in India which have a dedicated Research Centre for these areas of International and National significance. Hence, it would be an honest endeavour for the purpose of developing a medium through which various issues in International economic relations can be discussed, debated, deliberated and appreciated. This Research Centre functions under the leadership of a Director and a group of Student Research Associates who are committed to efficiently contributing to the various activities of the Centre. As on date, the Centre is engaged in two Research projects and also has a publication on the theme of ‘Trade Remedies’ underway. The student research associates are the pillars of this centre.

III. The Target Audience for the Workshop

Students (both undergraduate and postgraduate), Research Scholars, law professionals, advocates and Teachers, interested in the domain of International Trade Law, Maritime Law and International Law.

IV. Details of the Workshop along with the details of the Expert Speakers

The workshop will be held in online mode and will be in the form of three ‘**Technical sessions**’ which will be taken by Experts in the field and which will be followed by one ‘**Discussion-Group**’ session which will be solely addressed by the students and researchers in the domain of Maritime Law. These group of students are from the University have been already identified as a cohort for the same. The Discussion Group session will also be open for participants to raise questions and give their observations. The Basic Reading material will also be sent to all the participants in advance for a fruitful discussion.

Session	Time Schedule (16 th April, 2023)	Details
Inaugural and Introduction	10.00 am to 10.15 am	Welcoming the Experts and Introductory Remarks by Prof. V. Nagaraj, Vice Chancellor, DNLU, Jabalpur

Technical Session 1: Introduction to the Fisheries Subsidies Agreement	10.30 am to 11.30 am	By Professor Sheela Rai, Professor of Law and Dean Academics, NLU, Odisha.
Technical Session 2: The Fisheries Subsidies Agreement and Policy Implications for India	12.00 noon to 1.00 pm	By Professor Prabhash Ranjan, Vice Dean and Professor of Law, Jindal Global Law School.
Technical Session 3: Fisheries Subsidies Agreement and Practice implications	1.30 pm to 2.30 pm	By Mr. Rishabh Saxena, Principal Associate, Bose & Mitra & Co. (A reputed Maritime Law firm in Mumbai, India)
Session 4: The Student Discussion Group	3.00-4.00 pm	Will be Chaired by Professor Sheela Rai, Professor of Law, NLUO & Prof. Shailesh N. Hadli, Registrar, DNLU.

V. About the Experts

Prof. (Dr.) Prabhash Ranjan holds a PhD in law from King's College London. He studied at King's College London on a doctoral scholarship. Prabhash studied at School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) for LLM on a British Chevening Scholarship. He also holds LLB and BA (Hons) in Economics degrees from University of Delhi. Prabhash teaches and publishes in the area of international investment law and international trade law. He was working as an Associate Professor at the South Asian University – an international university established by the SAARC nations – before joining JGU. Prabhash has also worked as an Associate Professor at the National Law University Jodhpur and as Assistant Professor at the National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata. He has been a Visiting Scholar at Brookings India and a Visiting Fellow at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law, Cambridge University. He was member of the team that drafted the 260th report of the Law Commission of India on the 2015 draft model Indian bilateral investment treaty. Recently he was invited by the Parliamentary committee on External Affairs to depose as an expert witness on 'India and bilateral investment treaties'. As a visiting faculty, Prabhash has taught courses on international investment law and international trade law at several prominent universities like the National Law School of India University Bangalore, National Law University Delhi and the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade. He has authored a book, 'India and Bilateral Investment Treaties: Refusal, Acceptance, Backlash' published by Oxford University Press in 2019. Prabhash has published in several leading international journals like the Netherlands International Law Review, ICSID Review, Journal of World Trade, Journal of World Investment and Trade, Asian Journal of International Law, Cambridge International Law Journal, George Washington International Law Review, Northwestern Journal of International Law and Business to name a few. He regularly contributes opinion editorials in India's leading national newspapers like The Hindustan Times and The Indian Express.

Professor Sheela Rai is Professor of Law and Dean Academics at NLU Odisha. She has done her LL.B. from DDU Gorakhpur University, LL.M. and Ph.D. from National Law School of India University, Bangalore. She started her career as Research Assistant (2002) and thereafter as lecturer in NUJS, West Bengal in 2004. She joined HNLU, Raipur as Associate Professor in 2008. She is working in NLUO since 2013. She has also worked in CUTS-International and Amity University Jaipur. She has published four books and articles in national and international journals and edited volumes.

Mr. Rishabh Saxena is Principal Associate at Bose & Mitra and Co., (a reputed Maritime Law Firm in Mumbai). He is an experienced lawyer specialising in commercial litigation and arbitration, with an emphasis on maritime matters and general commercial dispute resolution. Possesses years of experience of working in tandem with foreign lawyers and working for international clients across major commercial jurisdictions around the world.

Brief highlights of his experience include:

- Acting for an Equity Fund across two Indian High Courts in order to secure a USD 23 Million claim.
- Acting for foreign shipowners in defending proceedings with claims totalling USD 32 Million. The case involved regulatory, civil and criminal law aspects.
- Assisted on Indian law for an English High Court proceeding in relation to On-Demand Bond/Personal Guarantee. Acted for Clients in enforcing and executing the English High Court Judgment in India for a claim of USD 4.2 Million.
- Acted for a Danish Tanker Company in securing a favourable arbitration award against a major PSU involving conflicting interpretations of tax clauses in the Charterparty.
- Acting for a leading Greek shipowning company in enforcing and executing USD 70 Million foreign arbitral awards that involves unravelling corporate veils of companies spread across Dubai, Mauritius and India.

VI. Registration for the Workshop

For attending the workshop, registration is mandatory. **The last date for registration for the workshop is 14th April, 2023.**

The Registration Fee for the workshop is as follows:

Rs. 250/- For students

Rs. 500/-For Research Scholars (Ph. D), Law Professionals, Advocates and Law Teachers

The Registration fee is to be paid in the following account:

Account No: 6291000100013591

IFSC: PUNB0629100

Name: Dharmashastra National Law University Research and Seminars

Once the registration fee is paid, an email for registration needs to be sent to citil@mpdnlu.ac.in along with the proof/receipts of registration fee. Without the registration, the participant will not be allowed to join the session.

VII. Reading Material and Certificate of Participation

The Participants will be provided with a reading material before the beginning of the workshop and a certificate of participation to those who have attended all the sessions. Link for the sessions will be send to the participants before the beginning of the workshop.

VIII. Contact Details:

For any queries, following may be contacted:

Organizing Committee:

Director: Mr. Utkarsh K. Mishra, Assistant Professor of Law, Ph No. +91 7905017038

Student Research Associates:

1. Mrinal Shukla (9453030816)
2. Viraj Lahane (8225825333)
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