



## **CENTRE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT LAW**

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## **THE INDIAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

The Indian Society of International Law (ISIL) is celebrating 60 years of its establishment as a premier national institution for teaching, research and promotion of international law in India with the primary objective to foster nationwide study and development of International Law. ISIL has traditionally received whole-hearted support and cooperation from the Ministry of External Affairs. The Indian Society of International Law in collaboration with the Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL) is organising two expert panel discussions on emerging issues in international trade and investment law coinciding with ISIL's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. The Centre for Trade and Investment Law was established in the year 2016 by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT). The Centre's primary objective is to provide sound and rigorous analysis of legal issues pertaining to international trade and investment law to the Government of India and other governmental agencies.

### **Panel 1: The Unsettling Future of the International Trading System**

The WTO has acted as the pre-eminent institution in the field of international trade for more than two decades. The escalating trade wars and the non appointment of the Appellate Body members have cast shadows on the effectiveness and future of the multilateral trading system. The discussion seeks to examine the reasons and measures that can be taken with regard to deescalating the current trade tensions and stabilising the global trading system.

### **Panel 2: India's Investor-State Dispute Settlement: Recent Challenges and the Way Forward**

India has been an active party in Investor-State dispute settlement system. Some of India's previous and ongoing arbitral proceedings touch upon regulatory, taxation and other administrative aspects of the state. The discussion seeks to identify among other challenges including the backlash against bilateral investment treaties, absence of a global investment treaty and the possibility of having a standing global investment court as a way forward.



## SCHEDULE

DATE & TIME	PROGRAMME
December 7, 2019	
10:30 – 10:35	Introductory Remarks by Dr. James J. Nedumpara, Head and Professor, Centre for Trade and Investment Law.
10:35 – 10:45	Keynote Address by Mr. Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
10:45 – 11:45	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Panel 1</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion on The Unsettling Future of the International Trading System</u></p> <p>Chair: Dr. James J. Nedumpara, Head and Professor, Centre for Trade and Investment Law, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Anwarul Hoda, Former Deputy Director General, WTO. (TBC)</li> <li>• Mr. Pierre Sauve, Senior Private Sector Specialist, World Bank Group.</li> <li>• Prof. Abhijit Das, Head and Professor, Centre for WTO Studies.</li> <li>• Prof. Ram Upendra Das, Head and Professor, Centre for Regional Trade.</li> <li>• Ms. RV Anuradha, Partner, Clarus Law Associates.</li> <li>• Ms. Shiny Pradeep, Assistant Professor, Centre for Trade and Investment Law.</li> </ul>
11:45 – 12:00	<b>Tea/Coffee Break</b>
12:00 – 13:20	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Panel 2</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion on India's Investor-State Dispute Settlement: Recent Challenges and the way forward.</u></p> <p>Chair: Mr. M.K. Rao, Secretary General at ISIL and Former Counsellor &amp; Legal Advisor at the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations.</p> <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Y. Shravan Kumar, Former Legal Consultant, Investment Division, Ministry of Finance.</li> <li>• Ms. Fereshte Sethna, Senior Partner, DMD Advocates.</li> <li>• Mr. Daniel Mathew, Assistant Professor, National Law University, Delhi</li> <li>• Mr. George Pothan, Advocate on International Investment Law matters, Ministry of External Affairs.</li> <li>• Mr. Satwik Shekhar, Consultant, Centre for Trade and Investment Law.</li> </ul>
13:20 – 13:30	Vote of Thanks by Ms. Apeksha Chauhan Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law

Followed by Lunch at 13:30 Hrs at ISIL, New Delhi