



INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM

2 DAY

**LEGAL REFORMS IN BIMSTEC
MEMBER-STATES: LOOKING
AHEAD BY DRAWING
LESSONS FROM THE PAST
AND THE PRESENT**

9TH-10TH MARCH, 2024

**VENUE
THE WESTIN, KOLKATA**

**ORGANIZED BY
THE WEST BENGAL NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY OF JURIDICAL
SCIENCES, KOLKATA**



ABOUT THE COLLOQUIUM

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) has now completed twenty five years since its inception as a multilateral regional organisation established with the aim of accelerating shared growth and cooperation between littoral and adjacent countries in the Bay of Bengal region. Comprising the seven member countries of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand, this regional group plays a key role by offering the institutional basis through which efforts for enhancement of connectivity between nations and economies, as well as establishing meaningful networks of linkages may be undertaken. By facilitating dialogue and creating opportune environments for cross-border cooperation, organisations like the BIMSTEC are uniquely poised to further economic interactions and contribute to the shaping of regions, which are more integrated and are better able to cope with global transformations that inevitably affect each and every country.

In recent times, a resurgent Asian continent is increasingly facing disruptions such as the fourth industrial revolution and free movement of financial capital across economies. In such a backdrop, BIMSTEC, as an organisation focused on sector-specific cooperation, allows scope for combating threats and reaping opportunities that require a transboundary regional approach.

The latest BIMSTEC Summit conducted in March, 2022 has witnessed the signature and adoption of a slew of instruments having socio-legal, security, technological and economic implications, such as the BIMSTEC Charter, the BIMSTEC Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, the Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Cooperation between Diplomatic Academies/ Training Institutions of BIMSTEC Member States, the Memorandum of Association on the Establishment of the BIMSTEC Technology Transfer Facility in Colombo and the BIMSTEC Master Plan for Transport Connectivity. In addition, India has also committed to be the ‘security pillar’ of the BIMSTEC.



In the light of such developments, it is imperative that the legal systems of the BIMSTEC countries attain greater familiarity with each other, so as to draw lessons from the prevailing best practices, recommend solutions and cooperative exercises to meet each other's socio-legal needs, as well as generate synergy via common programme-based steps forward, on multiple domains including trade, technological growth, national security, education and access to justice. Keeping in mind the ongoing geo-political scenario and complex international relations prevailing in this region, such initiatives may hold considerable strategic significance towards framing a holistic national policy for India and its foreign relations with the other BIMSTEC member-states.

It is with this objective in mind that the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences proposes to organise a two-day International Colloquium based on the theme 'Contemporary Legal Reforms in BIMSTEC Member-States: Looking Ahead by Drawing Lessons from the Past and the Present'. The colloquium will feature a host of domain experts from the various BIMSTEC member-states including representatives of the governments, academia, industry and other stakeholders, who will bring to the table a wealth of inter-disciplinary experience and expertise, thereby enriching the process of symbiotic learning and cooperative progress that form the aim of the colloquium. It is also expected that the outcome of the colloquium can be converted into a comprehensive report that can be submitted by the university to the respective BIMSTEC member-states as a blueprint for future cooperative measures and reforms in the legal arena. The event will therefore be the first of its kind, with a law university taking the initiative to meaningfully contribute to the growth of transnational relationship and strategic and tactical socio-politico-legal reforms, thereby benefitting the countries and the entire BIMSTEC region in the process.

ABOUT THE WEST BENGAL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES, KOLKATA

The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences was established under the WBNUJS Act, 1999 (West Bengal Act IX of 1999) adopted by the West Bengal Legislature in July, 1999. The University was notified under Clause (f) of Section 2 of the UGC Act, 1956 in August 2004 and has been granted permanent affiliation by the Bar Council of India in July 2005. On 28 October 2002, the university's present-day permanent campus was inaugurated by the then Chief Justice of India, B. N. Kirpal. The NUJS, Kolkata, along with the GNLU and NLSIU, Bengaluru, remain the only three national law schools which have the honourable Chief Justice of India as the Chancellor. This set-up provides an aura of exclusivity and rare stature to these National Law Schools in India.

The university has been recognised under sub-section 2 (f) and section 12B by the UGC. The BA LL.B and BSc. LL.B are affiliated by the Bar Council of India. Hon'ble Chief Justice of India is the Chancellor of the University and Chairman of its highest governing body - the General Council. In its relatively short existence, NUJS has firmly established itself as one of the premier national law universities in India. NUJS ranked 4th in NIRF India Ranking 2023 under Law category. It has consistently been ranked amongst the top law schools in India in reviews conducted by the likes of Outlook India, Mint and LexisNexis Halsbury's Law Monthly. The University had received the prestigious SILF-MILAT INSTITUTIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD 2015 for its overall excellence in the field of Legal Studies.



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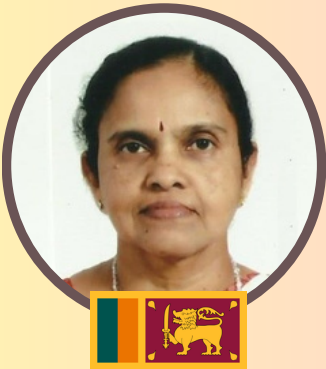
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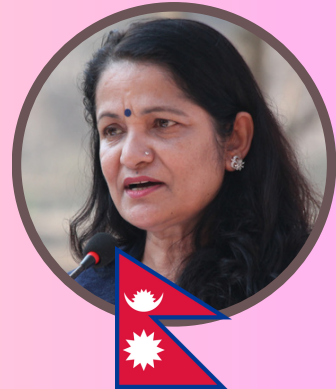
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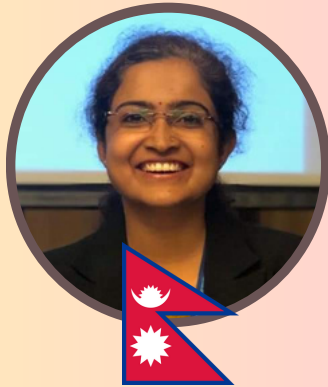
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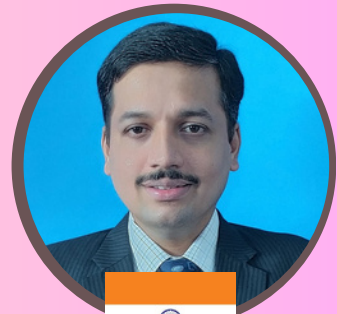
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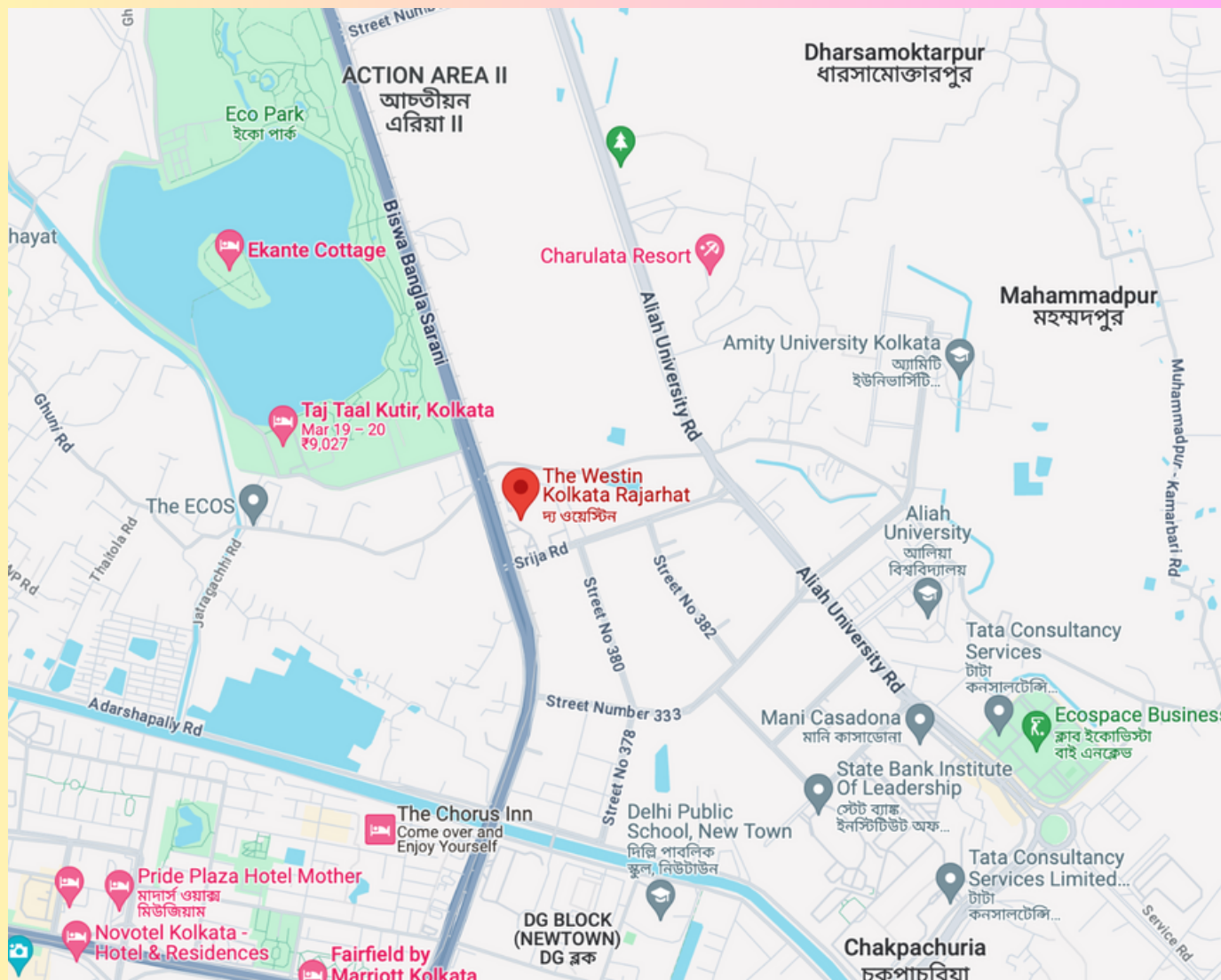


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THE WESTIN KOLKATA RAJARHAT
PLOT NO. CBD/2 ACTION AREA - II, NEW TOWN,
RAJARHAT, WEST BENGAL- 700156, INDIA
PHONE: 033 4037 1234

For further inquiry mail at vcoffice@nujs.edu

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Dakshineswar Temple



Birla Temple



Jain Svetamber Dadajika Temple



Kalighat



Princep Ghat



Howrah Bridge



Eden Garden Stadium



Eco Park



Science City



St. Paul's Cathedral



South Park Street Cemetery



Victoria Memorial