THE WEST BENGAL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES, KOLKATA



The NUJS Centre for Law and Technology

Director: Dr. Anirban Mazumder (Professor of Law)

Assistant Director: Dr. Paramita DasGupta (Assistant Professor of Law & Technology)

Assistant Director: Dr. Shouvik Kumar Guha (Associate Professor of Law)

VISION: The Centre strives towards adopting a critical interdisciplinary approach to ensure that ideas, views, arguments and opinions in the domain of law and technology are not only culled from the spectrum of legal academia, but carefully curated from across all avenues of the scholarship, industry, art, and all relevant entrepreneurial pursuits, to put forth an uniquely holistic point of view – underpinned by our core conviction that sharing and collaboration in thought, deed and spirit are indeed the keywords that shall succeed in driving this new decade forward.

MISSION: The Centre looks forward to serving not just as a platform for launching new initiatives reaching out to assist and to learn from the vast and multi-faceted horizon of scientific and artistic endeavors, – but to also eventually blossom into a mother-ship and an incubator of an exciting, optimistic and forward-thinking home for crucial, locally and globally relevant interdisciplinary research and scholarship within this domain.

RESEARCH WORK:

- Science in a Post-Pandemic Global Society An Investigation into the Justifications for Open-Source Vaccine Development' with the aim to: re-examine the true nature of the pharmaceutical patent regime, specifically focussing on open source vaccine development; revisit the jurisprudential and philosophical fundamentals that said regime owes its ideological origins; to critically analyse the statistically borne out realities when juxtaposed against the proverbial ideal paradigm; and to then proceed to make such policy recommendations as may be best suited to usher in a fresh perspective and thereby encourage an inclusive and collaborative ethos of innovation, research and development.
- Conducted collaborative research on: 'Revisiting the scope of Diagnostic and Treatment Process as Exclusion to Patentable Subject Matter: A Critical Appraisal of Pros and Cons', in collaboration with DNLU, Jabalpur, with the aim of delving into the international narrative on patenting of method of treatment and diagnostic processes, wherein we shall be analysing legislations from different nations and the relevant provisions of such legislations relevant to our current discourse. The different approaches of these nations shall be studied in detail with the aim of understanding the definitions, legislative and judicial intent of the countries. This shall be instrumental in the curation the comparative international narrative through which justification and positions of different jurisdictions could be assessed. Since an overwhelming majority of countries exclude method of treatment and diagnostic processes from the purview of patentable subject matter, it would be apt to first discuss the positions and justifications of the handful of countries which do indeed provide some form of protection to the aforementioned subject matter followed by the countries that exclude the patenting of method of treatment and diagnostic processes.

SEMINARS & GUEST LECTURES: Hosted guest lectures and seminars on:

"Emerging Issues in Technology and Law and Technology", held over 18th * 19th September 2019 by Mr. Supratim Chakraborty (Partner, Khaitan & Co.), Mr. Arindrajit Basu (Centre for Internet and the Society), Professor Mahendra Kumar Bhandari (Director, ILTES Online Global Academy) and Mr. Nikhil Narendran (Partner, Trilegal) and involving topics such as Issues in Data Protection and Privacy, Conceptualization of India's Digital Policy Vision, Regulatory Framework of Emerging Technologies with Focus on Blockchain Technology and Artificial Intelligence, and Artificial Intelligence and the Law.

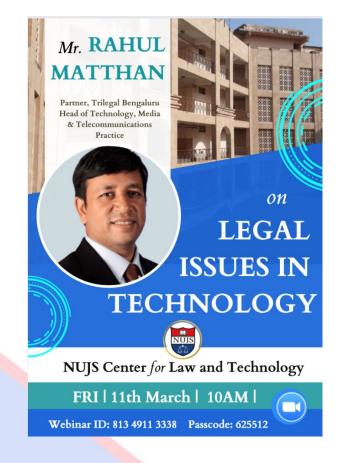




" 'An elucidated analysis of Google v Oracle' by Prof. David Nimmer (Professor of Practice at UCLA, Of Counsel to Irell & Manella LLP in Los Angeles, California, and author of the globally celebrated "Nimmer on Copyrights") on 23rd December, 2020.



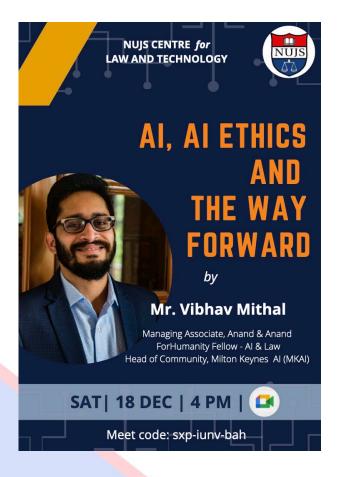
» 'Legal Issues In Technology' by Mr. Rahul Matthan (Co-Founder & TMT Practice Head, Trilegal) on 11th March, 2022



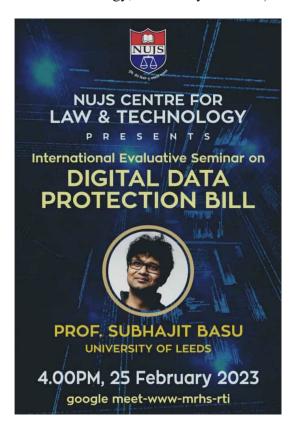
» 'Method of Raising Finance in Blockchain Setup' by Dr. Ann Sofie Cloots (Professor, University of Cambridge) on 15th March, 2022



» 'AI, AI Ethics & The Way Forward' by Mr. Vibhav Mithal (Managing Associate, Anand & Anand) on 18th December, 2022



"Re-imagining AI Governance Beyond Colonial Shadows: Pathways to an Equitable Tech Future' by Dr. Subhajit Basu (Professor of Law & Technology, University of Leeds) on 25th February, 2023.



WORKSHOP: Hosted together with the Intellectual Property and Technology Laws Society a workshop on 'Emerging Trends and Careers in Intellectual Property Litigation in India' on February 28, 2020, delivered by Mr. Vibhav Mithal (Managing Associate, Anand & Anand), and Mr. Anjan Sen (Founding Partner, Anjan Sen & Associates).

EVENTS:

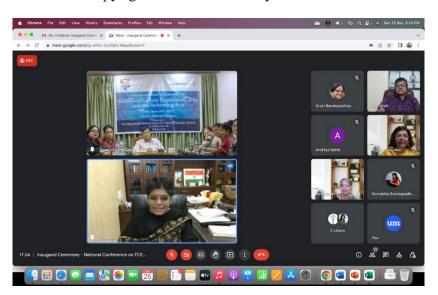
» From IPAB to IPD - The need for dedicated IP Forums in India and Launch of 'MY IP' Primers, a series of IP awareness primers curated by the Intellectual Property and Technology Laws Society in regional Indian languages by Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Prathiba M. Singh (Delhi HC).



» National consultative conference on *Traditional Cultural Expressions, Intellectual Property Rights & the Performing Arts*:



On 26th September 2022, the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences Kolkata, with the support of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) N.K. Chakrabarti, and in collaboration with Unmute.help (a collaborative, artiste-owned, artiste-initiated free-access public platform for legal literacy and broad-spectrum knowledge resources required for performing artists and allied persons/bodies) – put together India's first ever national consultative conference on *Traditional Cultural Expressions, Intellectual Property Rights & the Performing Arts* with a focus on Copyright Law and Ancillary Laws.



The conference, inaugurated by Mrs. Justice Prathiba M. Singh (Hon'ble Judge, Delhi High Court) and closed by Mr. Justice Sanjib Banerjee (Hon'ble Chief Justice, Meghalaya High Court) — was attended by experts from the field of Intellectual Property Law, as well as the performing arts community, and sought to provide a much-needed interface to the many voices from among the performing arts community with some of India's leading legal minds, articulating concerns about rights, responsibilities and protections, with the ultimate aim of bringing about a genuine intersection between the arts and the law, — and opened up hitherto untapped, and more dedicated avenues of policy-level introspection and review.



The deliberations were flagged off by elucidating a few key fundamental concepts regarding both, tangible and intangible traditional cultural expressions (TCEs), and their interplay with Intellectual Property jurisprudence at both, the international and domestic levels. Concerns were raised regarding the perceived silences in the law (and its enforcement) with respect to the issue of equitable attribution of credit and remuneration to the traditional custodians of these art forms. Towards this end, multi-pronged recommendations were made for the way ahead, and for every level from conception to realisation, ranging from generating greater awareness & legal literacy among the masses by demystifying the language of the law, to streamlining the existing system by judiciously inserting in-built checks & balances, to putting together a Creative Commons bespoke for India's needs, to advocating for instituting a National Intellectual Property Enforcement Authority.



The conference closed with a unanimous consensus on the need for re-envisioning the nation's cultural policy, predicated on a foundation of unimpeachable core ethics.

