



CENTRE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT LAW
&
SOUTH ASIAN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC LAW
NETWORK



**PANEL DISCUSSION ON: “SHAPING THE
FUTURE OF WTO”**

AT 5:30 PM, JANUARY 29, 2019
CRIT, NAFED HOUSE, NEW DELHI

A proper functioning of the WTO is in the interest of the international trading community. However, the rise in unilateral trade measures and other mercantilist actions have challenged the effectiveness of the WTO and the principles and values it embodies. On top of it, the continuing impasse in the appointment/reappointment of judges at the Appellate Body has almost crippled the functioning of the dispute settlement system. The crisis in the Appellate Body functioning happens at a time when several fresh disputes are either filed or appealed against. Allowing the impasse to continue can have grave implications for the international economic order.

The discussions seek to explore options that may be helpful in putting the system back on track. Rather than focusing on what happened in the past, the focus of the discussions will be on exploring balanced and viable options in strengthening the WTO and preserving its dispute settlement system. Some of the practical approaches emanating from the trade policy circles and the academic community may have an origin in the GATT, while some of the new proposals may appear “out-of-the box”. More importantly, there is a need to examine how this crisis could affect the current international economic legal order. The CTIL-SAIELN event seeks to brainstorm these issues with an open mind.

PROGRAMME

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Welcome Address: Dr. James Nedumpara, *Head and Professor, Centre for Trade and Investment Law*

Keynote Address: Prof. Colin B. Picker, *Pro Vice-Chancellor (South Western Sydney) and Dean, School of Law, Faculty of Law, Humanities and Arts, University of Wollongong, on "New International Economic Legal Order: Utopian and Dystopian Possibilities"*

Chair: Shri Dammu Ravi, *Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry*

Discussants:

- Shri Sumanta Chaudhuri, *Secretary, Ministry of Coal*
- Dr. V.S. Seshadri, *Former Ambassador of India*
- Prof. Colin B. Picker, *Pro Vice-Chancellor (South Western Sydney) and Dean, School of Law, Faculty of Law, Humanities and Arts, University of Wollongong*
- Prof. Abhijit Das, *Head and Professor, Centre for WTO Studies*
- Dr. James Nedumpara, *Head and Professor, Centre for Trade and Investment Law*

Vote of Thanks: Ms. Apeksha Chauhan, *Research Fellow, Centre for Trade and Investment Law*

FOLLOWED BY DINNER AT 7:30 PM, NAFED HOUSE

RSVP: Apeksha Chauhan

M: 9871678706, E: apeksha.ctil@iift.edu