



SAMVĀD:
PARTNERS

NLSIR | SAMVĀD: PARTNERS

SYMPOSIUM

**THE SOVEREIGNTY-RIGHTS DICHOTOMY:
EXPLORING MIGRATION, REFUGE, & CITIZENSHIP**

SOLE ASSOCIATE PARTNER

Lexygen[®]
legal consulting

DECEMBER 9, 2018

VENUE: TAJ YESHWANTPUR, BANGALORE

**INVITATION
BROCHURE**





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Tentative Schedule	4
Speaker Profiles	6
Tentative Speakers: To be Confirmed Soon	11
Registration Details	12
Getting to the National Law School of India University Bangalore	13
From the Airport.....	13
From the Railway Stations	13
From the Bus Stand.....	13
The Taj Yeshwantpur, Bangalore.....	14
The Venue.....	14
Contact us	14



INTRODUCTION

As we live through the “*century of people on the move*”, several States are grappling with the challenges posed by large-scale movement of persons. Migrants moving for better opportunities, and refugees fleeing violence and persecution, are often viewed as threats to the national security of their country of destination. As a response, those who emphasize on the need for protection of human rights push for the political, social, and economic integration of these people, and the eventual grant of full membership as citizens. While this is essential, the sovereignty-rights discourse often overlooks the opportunities for economic development that are created due to these large-scale movements. The XII NLSIR Symposium attempts to discuss these challenges and opportunities in the context of India. Its legal framework governing migrants, refugees, and citizenship has become the subject of much debate in light of the changing political and legal landscape. A discussion on these issues is therefore relevant and the need to explore a viable way forward for India is indeed a pressing one.

This Symposium is divided into three sessions. The *first* session places India’s migration policy in the larger context of the international legal framework governing migration. The *second* session seeks to highlight the position of refugees in India and explore the interplay between India’s constitutional guarantees and the obligations under international law for protection of refugees. The *final* session seeks to shed light on citizenship and social, political, and economic integration of persons within India. The questions here shall be viewed in the context of the ongoing National Register of Citizens (NRC) exercise in Assam and the pending Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016, both of which pose crucial constitutional questions.

The deliberations of this Symposium will be reduced to a report which will be published in Volume 31(2) of the National Law School of India Review.



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 9, 2018

WELCOME ADDRESS

MR. SHARAN A. BHAVNANI & MS. NIKITA GARG, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & DEPUTY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, NATIONAL LAW SCHOOL OF INDIA REVIEW AT 9:30 AM

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

PROF. (DR.) R. VENKATA RAO, VICE-CHANCELLOR, NATIONAL LAW SCHOOL OF INDIA UNIVERSITY, BANGALORE

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

HON'BLE (RETD.) JUSTICE S. RAJENDRA BABU, FORMER CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION AT 09:40 AM

SESSION I: INDIA'S MIGRATION POLICY: INSTITUTIONALIZED STIGMA?

10:00 AM TO 12:45 PM

PANEL:

- Mr. Gurucharan Gollerkeri, Director, Public Affairs Centre, Bangalore.
- Ms. Hamsa Vijayaraghavan, Legal Director, Migration and Asylum Project.
- Ms. Madhurima Dhanuka, Coordinator, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative.
- Ms. Seeta Sharma, Technical Officer, EU-India CAMM Project, International Labour Organisation

Lunch Break: From 12:45 PM to 1:30 PM

SESSION II: ON SHIFTING SANDS: INDIA'S REFUGEES AND THE WAY FORWARD

1:30 PM TO 04:15 PM

PANEL:

- Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Senior Advocate, Former Union Minister of Law and Justice.
- Mr. Saurabh Bhattacharjee, Assistant Professor, National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata (NUJS)

THE NLSIR- SAMVĀD PARTNERS SYMPOSIUM



- Dr. Srinivas Burra, Associate Professor, South Asian University (SAU)
- Mr. Prashant Bhushan, Advocate in *Mohammad Salimullah v. Union of India*
- Ms. Roshni Shanker, Founder, Migration and Asylum Project
- Ms. Cheryl D'souza, Advocate in *Mohammad Salimullah v. Union of India*

High Tea: 4:15 PM to 4:45 PM

SESSION III: COURTING ISSUES OF CITIZENSHIP

4:45 PM TO 7:30 PM

PANEL:

- Mr. Alok Prasanna Kumar, Senior Resident Fellow, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy.
- Mr. Arijit Sen, Program Manager, Amnesty International India.
- Ms. Leah Verghese, Senior Campaigner & Researcher, Amnesty International India.

CONCLUDING REMARKS: PROF. GOVINDRAJ HEGDE, FACULTY ADVISOR, NATIONAL LAW
SCHOOL OF INDIA REVIEW AT 7:30 PM

VOTE OF THANKS: MR. SHARAN A. BHAVNANI, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, NATIONAL LAW SCHOOL OF
INDIA REVIEW

Dinner: 7:45 PM onwards



SPEAKER PROFILES

INAUGURAL & KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Prof. (Dr.) R. Venkata Rao is the Vice Chancellor of the National Law School of India University Bangalore. His academic qualifications are B.A.(Hons.) Litt., M.A. (Litt), M.L. and Ph.D and LL.D (Honoris Causa) 2017-Utkal University. He was awarded Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon Best Law Teacher Award for the year 2018. To date, he has 42 years of teaching and research experience. He has served for 31 years in the Faculty of Law, Andhra University in various capacities as the Dean, Faculty of Law, Principal, University College of Law, Chairman, Board of Studies in Law and Head of the Department of Law. He was the Director of Centre of Criminal Justice Andhra University from 1997-2009. He served as the Dean of Student's Affairs, Andhra University and as the Officer on Special Duty, Andhra University. He also served as the Member of Executive Council of Andhra University from 2005 to 2007



**PROF. (DR.)
R. VENKATA RAO**



**HON'BLE (RETD.)
CHIEF JUSTICE
S. RAJENDRA BABU**

Hon'ble (Retd.) Chief Justice S. Rajendra Babu was the 34th Chief Justice of India. He also served as the Hon'ble Chairperson of National Human Rights Commission. During his tenure in the Supreme Court, Hon'ble (Retd.) Chief Justice Babu delivered several landmark judgments in civil law, criminal law, constitutional law, environmental law, taxation, corporate law, and intellectual property matters. Hon'ble (Retd.) Chief Justice Babu analysed the mob psychology in the case relating to anti-Sikh riots, following the assassination of Indira Gandhi. He also interpreted the provisions of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Divorce) Act, 1986. He presently holds the ICICI Chair (Professor) at the National Law School of India University, Bangalore.



SESSION I

INDIA'S MIGRATION POLICY: INSTITUTIONALIZED STIGMA?

Mr. Gollerkeri is the Director of the Public Affairs Centre (PAC), a think-tank based out of Bangalore. Prior to joining the PAC, Mr. Gollerkeri served in the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) for over 34 years. He established the India Centre for Migration (ICM) under the aegis of the Government of India. Based on the research that he undertook at the ICM he co-authored 'Migration Matters: Mobility in a Globalising World', published by the Oxford University Press in 2016.



MR. GURUCHARAN GOLLERKERI



MS. HAMSA VIJAYARAGHAVAN

Ms. Vijayaraghavan is the Legal Director of the Migration and Asylum Project (M.A.P.), which strives to work for legal representation and protection of rights of forced migrants and refugees. She has previously worked with Bail for Immigration Detainees, and Refugee and Migrant Justice, both in London and with UNHCR, India.

Ms. Dhanuka is the Coordinator of the Prison Reforms Programme at the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI). She did her LL.M. in Criminal Justice from the University of Nottingham, UK. She has extensively worked on the prevention of prolonged detention of undertrials and ensuring effective access to legal aid for persons in custody.



MS. MADHURIMA DHANUKA



MS. SEETA SHARMA

Ms. Sharma is the Technical Officer of the EU-India Cooperation and Dialogue on Migration and Mobility, a project of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). Her area of expertise lies in a wide number of issues relating to migration. She finished her masters from the University of Wollongong and holds a Certificate from the University of Oxford in a course on Migration and Refugee Rights.



SESSION II

ON SHIFTING SANDS: INDIA'S REFUGEES AND THE WAY FORWARD

Dr. Kumar is a senior advocate, politician and former Union Minister for Law and Justice (2012 - 2013). He was one of the youngest advocates to be appointed as senior counsel by the Supreme Court, and went on to serve as the Additional Solicitor General of India in 1991. He is among the lawyers representing the petitioners in the Rohingya Deportation case before the Supreme Court.



DR. ASHWANI KUMAR



MS. CHERYL D'SOUZA

Ms. D'souza is a human rights activist and advocate practicing at the Supreme Court of India. She is the Secretary of the Campaign for Judicial Accountability and Reform and is also currently working as an Associate at the Chamber of Advocate Prashant Bhushan. Her interests are in issues of judicial accountability and the use of public interest litigation to safeguard the rights of poor and marginalised sections of society.

Mr. Bhushan is an advocate, activist and politician, who is celebrated for his use of Public Interest Litigation to support causes relating to environmental law, human rights and corruption. He is among the lawyers representing the petitioners in the Rohingya Deportation case before the Supreme Court and had recently also filed the petition before the Supreme Court to stop the deportation of seven Rohingya men to Myanmar.



MR. PRASHANT BHUSHAN



SESSION II

ON SHIFTING SANDS: INDIA'S REFUGEES AND THE WAY FORWARD

Ms. Shanker is the Founder and Executive Director of the Migration and Asylum Project (MAP), which works towards ensuring legal representation for asylum seekers and advocates for the rights of refugees and asylum seekers in India. Before setting up MAP, she pursued her Masters in Law from Columbia Law School where she focussed on international humanitarian law and civil liberties.



MS. ROSHNI SHANKER



MR. SAURABH BHATTACHARJEE

Mr. Bhattacharjee is an Assistant Professor at the WB NUJS. After graduating from NALSAR in 2005, he worked as Programme Coordinator at Civil The Other Media, dealing with a broad range of human rights issues. He was a Grotius fellow at the University of Michigan Law School in 2009. He has widely written on issues pertaining to refugees, asylum seekers, international human rights law.

Dr. Burra is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Legal Studies, South Asian University. He obtained an M.Phil. as well as PhD in Legal Studies from the JNU in 1997 and 2002 respectively. His research interests include international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and refugee law, among others. He has written and published extensively in these areas, especially with respect to the Indian perspective on these issues.



DR. SRINIVAS BURRA

SESSION III

COURTING ISSUES OF CITIZENSHIP

Mr. Kumar is a Senior Resident Fellow and Head of Vidhi Center for Legal Policy, Bengaluru. He holds a B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) degree from NALSAR, Hyderabad and a BCL from the University of Oxford. He writes regularly for the Economic and Political Weekly contemporary issues Indian Constitutional law and theory. He has written extensively on the Rohingya refugee issues and the approach to be taken by the Indian government and the Supreme Court of India.



MR. ALOK P. KUMAR



MR. ARIJIT SEN

Mr. Sen is a Program Manager at Amnesty International India, where he works and researches primarily in the areas of undertrial prisoners' rights and human rights issues in general. He has studied Human Rights Law at the SOAS University of London. He is a regular contributor to national and international media outlets where a large part of his work has focused on issues to do with migration and international refugees, with a special focus on the situation in India.

Ms. Verghese is a Senior Campaigner and Researcher in Criminal Justice at Amnesty International India, where she works across a wide spectrum of issues in this area. She obtained a B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) degree from the NLSIU, Bangalore, in 2005 and a Master of Public Administration degree from Columbia University in 2014. Ms. Verghese has worked across NGOs and political organisations in various in various capacities before joining Amnesty.



MS. LEAH VERGHESE



TENTATIVE SPEAKERS: TO BE CONFIRMED SOON

Given the busy and time bound schedules of our speakers, the following are likely speakers but are yet to confirm their official attendance:

Session III:

- Mr. Derek O'Brien, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha
- Dr. Ranabir Samaddar, Director, Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group



REGISTRATION DETAILS

S. NO.	TYPE	COST	BENEFITS
1.	Accommodation	Rs. 1000	• Confirmed delegate slot • Lunch • High Tea (morning and afternoon) • Dinner • Certificate of Participation • Delegation room at NLSIU's Learning Centre • Complimentary copy of the NLSIR
2.	Non-Accommodation	Rs. 600	• Confirmed delegate slot • Lunch • High Tea (morning and afternoon) • Dinner • Certificate of Participation • Complimentary copy of the NLSIR

STEPS FOR REGISTRATION:

1. Register at <https://goo.gl/forms/SjyG0kWIUpMmAQz92>
2. Upon registration, we will send you details for payment of the registration fee.
3. Once payment is made, your registration will be confirmed.



GETTING TO THE NATIONAL LAW SCHOOL OF INDIA UNIVERSITY BANGALORE

From the Airport

The airport is 42kms away from the campus, and is usually navigated by either bus, or by a cab, taking close to an hour and half. Airport buses are available both from the airport to the Vijayanagar bus stand, and from the Vijayanagar bus stand to the airport (at regular intervals). Either Ola or Uber are the recommended modes of travel. The Airport has designated stands for Ola and Uber.

See - <http://goo.gl/maps/rWxt>

From the Railway Stations

- ❖ **Bangalore City Junction (Majestic)** – This is the central railway station located 8 kms from the campus, which takes around 40 minutes to cover.

See - <http://goo.gl/maps/wQ2M>

- ❖ **Yeshwanthpur** – This railway station is situated at a distance of 11 kms from the campus, further north from the Bangalore City Junction. This distance also takes close to 40 minutes to cover.

See - <http://goo.gl/maps/eUPB>

- ❖ **Bangalore Cantonment** – This station is 14 kms away from the campus, and is further north-west from the City Junction. This distance takes around 55 minutes to cover.

See - <http://goo.gl/maps/4TIS>

From the Bus Stand

- ❖ **Majestic**– This is the central bus stand located 8 kms from the campus, which takes around 40 minutes to cover. It is situated right next to the Bangalore Central Junction railway station.

<http://goo.gl/maps/Orjz>

- ❖ **Satellite Bus Stand** – This bus stand is close to the campus at a distance of only 5 kms. Most buses from Majestic, especially interstate buses, transit through this bus stand as well.

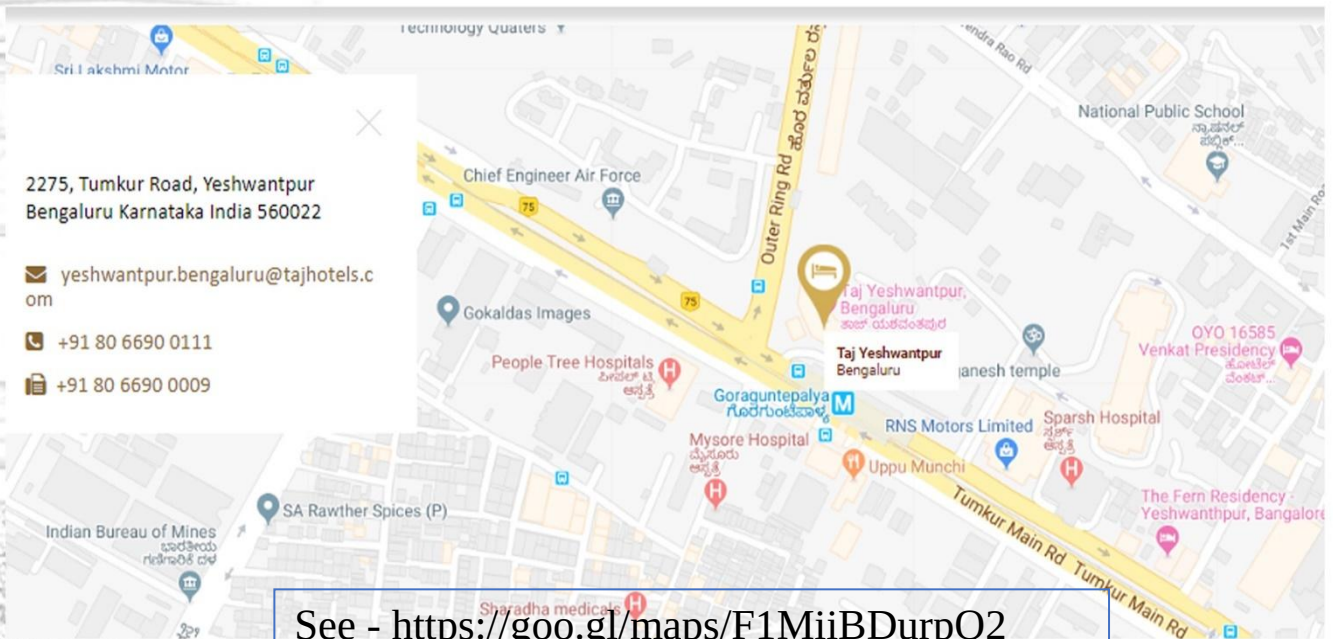
See - <http://goo.gl/maps/l6SM>



THE VENUE



THE TAJ YESHWANTPUR, BANGALORE





Please contact us at:

Editor-in-Chief, National Law School of India Review,
C/o National Law School of India University,
Nagarbhavi, Bangalore - 560072

Mr. Sharan A. Bhavnani,
Editor-in-Chief:
Sharanb@nls.ac.in
+91-9686338767

Ms. Nikita Garg,
Deputy Editor-in-Chief:
Nikitagarg@nls.ac.in
+91-9945767507

Official NLSIR Email: nlsir@nls.ac.in

