



**BENNETT**  
UNIVERSITY  
THE TIMES GROUP

**NAAC**  
**GRADE A+**  
ACCREDITED UNIVERSITY

# SCHOOL OF LAW INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

— on —

## FROM WELFARE TO RIGHTS: REIMAGINING DISABILITY JUSTICE IN INDIA

📅 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> September 2026 🌐 Mode: Hybrid



Organized by:  
**Centre for Disability Rights, School of Law,  
Bennett University**

in Collaboration with  
**Dharmashastra National Law University,  
Jabalpur**



**SCC**<sup>®</sup>  
**ONLINE**



Venue: School of Law, Bennett University, Greater Noida, U.P.

Campus: Greater Noida, UP, India





# THE TIMES GROUP

A 186+ YEAR JOURNEY OF LEADERSHIP,  
INNOVATION & GROWTH MARCHES ON!

1835-95

**1838** The original precursor of The Times of India (TOI) is launched as The Bombay Times and Journal of Commerce.



**1861** The paper acquires The Telegraph and Courier to form Bombay Times & Standard & is then renamed as The Times of India. A truly national platform is born.

**1892** TJ Bennett partners with FM Coleman to form Bennett, Coleman & Co Ltd (BCCL).

1940-86

**1946** Ramkrishna Dalmia buys BCCL & the paper passes from British to Indian hands.



**1947** Launch of Hindi newspaper Navbharat Times & the Delhi edition of The Times of India

**NBT**  
नवभारत टाइम्स

**1952** Movie industry magazine Filmfare is launched.

**FILMFARE**

**1954** First edition of the iconic Filmfare Awards, to honour artistic & technical excellence in the Hindi-language film industry. These became an institution with the upgradation and broadcast of not just the national Filmfare Awards, but also their regional variants.

**1955** Sahu Shanti Prasad Jain buys BCCL from his father-in-law Ramkrishna Dalmia.



**1959** Femina, magazine for women, is launched.

**FEMINA**

**1961** The Economic Times, No. 1 business newspaper in India, is launched.

**1962** Marathi newspaper Maharashtra Times is launched.

महाराष्ट्र टाइम्स

**1964** The first Miss India pageant is held. This became a pathbreaking platform for women's empowerment, especially when it was telecast across the country in later years.



1987



In 1987, a brand new era began with **Vineet Jain** joining the BCCL Group, transforming it from a newspaper and magazine company into one of the largest media and education conglomerates, with leadership across **Print, Radio, Digital, TV, and Out of Home Media.**

1988-2004

**1990** Times School of Marketing is launched. It, along with Times' Media School (which was set up earlier), emerges as a major source of talent for the media industry.

**1991** BBC features The Times of India among the world's six great newspapers.  
BCCL ventures into TV programme production for Doordarshan under the brand Times TV.



**1993** Vineet Jain launches India's first private FM radio entity under the brand name Times FM for FM radio programming on a single channel shared by many media companies.

**1994** Vineet Jain conceives of and launches TOI's trailblazing entertainment and lifestyle supplements namely Bombay Times, Delhi Times, etc. They were the first of their kind in the world and became a template for others.

**1996** Launch of economicstimes.com - ET's news website and timesofindia.com - TOI's news website- the Group's first foray into the Internet, as conceived of by Vineet Jain, followed by Indiatimes.com a year later.

**1998** In a major initiative for a media company, the group launched Times Music which currently owns ~45,000 musical tracks across genres.



**1999** Vineet Jain incorporated Times Internet Limited - India's biggest digital media entity.

**2001** Radio Mirchi - Nationwide private FM broadcasting company is launched by Vineet Jain.



**2004** Group enters TV broadcasting with the launch of Zoom, a Bollywood & Lifestyle channel.



**2004** JV with BBC to form magazine publishing company Worldwide Media. Subsequently, the Times Group bought BBC's share to make WWM a wholly-owned company.

2005-15

**2005** Times OOH, the No.1 Out of Home advertising company in India, is established by Vineet Jain. The Times of India is acclaimed as world's No. 1 selling English daily broadsheet newspaper.



**2006** Vineet Jain conceives of and launches leading property services entity Magicbricks.com  
Launch of leading TV news channel Times Now.



**2007** Launch of Junglee Music, a brand of Times Music dedicated to film music, with acquisition of music rights of Akshay Kumar starrer 'Welcome'.



**2009** Launch of ET Now business news channel.



**2010** Launch of English movie channels Movies Now & Romedy Now 3 years later.



**2013** Vineet Jain conceives of and launches Times Pro, an award-winning EdTech initiative, for Indians who want to advance their careers; tie-ups with IITs/IIMs for executive education courses.



**2014** Vineet Jain expands Times Group into film production and distribution with the launch of Junglee Pictures, whose first movie (Dil Dhadakne Do) was released in 2015. It has released 10 award-winning movies till 2024 including Talvar, Bareilly ki Barfi, Raazi, Badhaai Ho, Badhaai Do, Doctor G, etc.

**2014** ET Panache, the lifestyle supplement of The Economic Times conceived of and launched by Vineet Jain.



**2015** Inaugural edition of India's leading business summit - ET Now Global Business Summit (GBS); graced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as Chief Guest & in subsequent years.



2016



**BENNETT UNIVERSITY**  
THE TIMES GROUP

**A PEERLESS LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION IS LAUNCHED** - With the vision to nurture and empower the youth, Vineet Jain launches Bennett University - in the multi-disciplines of **Engineering, Applied Sciences, Management, Law, Media and Liberal Arts.**

2017-24

**2017** Radio Mirchi expands to a total 74 stations in 64 cities and becomes the No. 1 radio company in India by revenue and number of stations. Extension of English news channel space through the launch of Mirror Now & Times Now World.



**2021** Launch of Hindi general news channel (Times Now Navbharat) and Hindi business news channel (ET Now Swades).



**2023** Times Music forges long term equity partnership with Primary Wave, USA-based music publishing company & home to legends like Bob Marley, James Brown, Whitney Houston, etc.



**2023** Launch of Maverik Movies, a film production house focussing on South Indian languages. Mirchi expands its digital offering by acquiring Gaana.



**2024** Entry into sports on global scale: Major presence in new age & fastest growing sport - Pickleball- with the launch of Pickleball World Rankings (PWR), the PWR World Series, PWR World Tour, PWR India Tour & League in partnership with Pickleball Asia.



# ABOUT BENNETT UNIVERSITY

Extending the core journalistic principles of Trust, Knowledge and Public Service, Bennett, Coleman and Co. Ltd. (BCCL) established over 178 years ago, has continually undertaken initiatives for the betterment of Indian society. The group established its footprint in the education sector by launching Bennett University with multi-disciplinary education to make students life and industry ready. It then launched Bennett University, a state private university in Uttar Pradesh with the aim of providing Ivy League quality of education to undergraduate and postgraduate students making them life and career ready'. Bennett University is committed to provide global exposure with excellent faculty members, infrastructure, international collaborations, trailblazing research and vibrant campus life consisting of a magnificently constructed sports complex, skill- enhancing clubs and myriad activities and amenities to participate and indulge in. The university features six schools with 30+ programs and 70+ leading specializations in Engineering, Management, Media, Law and Liberal Arts, and has positioned itself as one of the top universities in India.

<b>14,500+</b> STUDENTS	<b>70+</b> STARTUPS LAUNCHED	<b>20+</b> CORPORATE COLLABORATIONS	<b>₹125 Cr+</b> FUNDS RAISED BY STARTUPS	<b>16+</b> SPORTS FACILITIES	<b>68</b> ACRES FUTURISTIC CAMPUS
<b>120+</b> INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS	<b>40+</b> STUDENT LED CLUBS & SOCIETIES	<b>50+</b> UNDERGRADUATE, POSTGRADUATE & DOCTORAL PROGRAMS	<b>10,000</b> HOSTEL CAPACITY	<b>90%+</b> PH.D. FACULTY	<b>1200+</b> COMPANIES FOR PLACEMENTS



## ABOUT THE SCHOOL OF LAW

Bennett University ventured into the domain of higher education in Law and established School of Law in 2017 with a vision to strive for excellence in teaching, research, and advocacy towards Justice for all by shaping thought leaders in public policy of national and international dimensions. The school imbibes the best practices of national and international law schools in terms of curriculum, pedagogy, innovation in teaching methods and to add new interfaces addressing emerging new issues. Invested and promoted by the largest media enterprise, which is a natural ally in voicing people's rights, has envisaged this school to educate and train the future thought leaders in the field of Law. The School of Law, Bennett University is a knowledge space not only to acquire a professional degree but also to shape the compassionate individual under the professional robe.

## ABOUT DHARMASHASTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, JABALPUR

Established by the Government of Madhya Pradesh in 2018, Dharmashastra National Law University (DNLU), Jabalpur, was founded with the vision of advancing excellence in legal education, research, and advocacy in India. Inspired by the rich traditions of Indian jurisprudence and constitutional values, the university is committed to nurturing competent legal professionals, scholars, and policymakers equipped to address contemporary national and global challenges.

Situated in the historic city of Jabalpur, DNLU provides a vibrant academic environment that combines rigorous legal education with interdisciplinary learning, innovation, and professional ethics. The university emphasizes holistic development through a carefully designed curriculum, experiential learning opportunities, moot court activities, legal aid programmes, research initiatives, seminars, and internships that bridge the gap between legal theory and practice.

DNLU Jabalpur strives to cultivate socially responsible individuals who uphold the ideals of justice, equality, and the rule of law. With distinguished faculty members, modern infrastructure, and a growing culture of research and academic engagement, the university seeks to create thought leaders capable of contributing meaningfully to the legal profession, public policy, judiciary, corporate sector, and society at large. Committed to academic excellence and value-based education, Dharmashastra National Law University continues to emerge as one of India's promising institutions dedicated exclusively to the study and advancement of law and justice.



## ABOUT CENTRE

### CENTRE FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS SCHOOL OF LAW, BENNETT UNIVERSITY

The Centre for Disability Rights at the School of Law, Bennett University is an academic, research, and policy-oriented initiative committed to advancing the rights, inclusion, and accessibility of persons with disabilities. Grounded in the constitutional values of equality, dignity, autonomy, and reasonable accommodation, the Centre seeks to engage critically with legal, social, and institutional issues concerning disability and inclusion. It aims to contribute meaningfully to contemporary legal discourse through scholarship, dialogue, and policy engagement. The Centre draws inspiration from India's evolving constitutional jurisprudence, including landmark decisions such as *Jeeja Ghosh v. Union of India* (2016) and *Vikash Kumar v. UPSC* (2021), as well as the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, which collectively affirm the principles of accessibility, inclusion, and equal opportunity.

The Centre aspires to bridge the gap between legal recognition of disability rights and the lived realities of persons with disabilities by promoting research, sensitisation, and inclusive institutional practices. It seeks to create an accessible and supportive environment for students with disabilities on campus while fostering greater awareness and allyship among students, faculty, and staff. Through academic programmes, conferences, workshops, public events, and policy initiatives, the Centre endeavours to strengthen institutional sensitivity and advance a culture of accessibility and inclusion. Through its activities, the Centre for Disability Rights seeks to emerge as a meaningful academic platform advancing equality, dignity, accessibility, and justice for persons with disabilities.

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

India's disability discourse has undergone a significant transformation from a welfare-oriented model to a rights-based framework grounded in equality, dignity, autonomy, and inclusion. This shift has been shaped by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), 2006, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, and landmark judicial decisions such as *Jeeja Ghosh v. Union of India* (2016) and *Vikash Kumar v. UPSC* (2021). Together, these developments recognize persons with disabilities as rights-bearing citizens entitled to accessibility, reasonable accommodation, and equal participation in all aspects of life.

Despite this progressive legal framework, persons with disabilities continue to face substantial barriers in education, employment, healthcare, digital access, public infrastructure, political participation, and access to justice. Social stigma, structural inequalities, and institutional shortcomings further hinder the effective realization of their rights, particularly for those at the intersection of disability with gender, caste, class, and rural marginalization.

In this context, the proposed international conference, "From Welfare to Rights: Reimagining Disability Justice in India," aims to provide an interdisciplinary platform for scholars, legal practitioners, policymakers, activists, and students to critically examine the evolving landscape of disability rights. The conference will explore current challenges and innovative legal and policy responses to advance substantive equality, accessibility, independent living, and full participation. This initiative reflects the School of Law, Bennett University's commitment to constitutional values, inclusive scholarship, and socially engaged legal research.



## OBJECTIVES:

The conference seeks to:

- Critically examine the transition from welfare-based approaches to rights-based disability frameworks in India.
- Analyse the legal and policy developments in disability rights following the enactment of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.
- Explore the challenges in the implementation and enforcement of disability rights, including accessibility, reasonable accommodation, and institutional accountability.
- Encourage interdisciplinary research and dialogue on disability justice involving law, policy, technology, education, healthcare, and social sciences.
- Provide a platform for academics, researchers, policymakers, and civil society organisations to exchange ideas and develop innovative approaches toward inclusive governance.
- Strengthen the university's engagement with contemporary human rights and social justice debates.

## CALL FOR PAPERS

The Conference invites well-researched original papers amongst professionals, academicians, practitioners, research scholars, administrators, students, social activists and the representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations for presentation on the following themes:

- Disability and Substantive Equality under Article 14
- Non-Discrimination and the Expanding Scope of Article 15
- Dignity and Personal Liberty under Article 21
- Reasonable Accommodation as a Constitutional Obligation
- Reservation for Persons with Disabilities: Scope and Limits
- Judicial Interpretation of the RPwD Act, 2016
- Legal Capacity, Guardianship, and Supported Decision-Making
- Mental Health Law and Constitutional Autonomy
- Accessibility as a Justiciable Right
- Disability and the Right to Education
- Employment Rights and Labour Law Protections
- Disability and Access to Justice
- Constitutional Remedies and Enforcement Mechanisms
- Disability within Criminal Law and Fair Trial Standards
- Intersectional Discrimination and Disability
- India's Obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Comparative Constitutional Approaches to Disability Rights
- From Welfare Constitutionalism to Transformative Justice
- Institutional Accountability under Disability Law
- The Future of Disability Jurisprudence in India

## ELIGIBILITY

Participation is open for students, research scholars, academicians and industry experts from law and other social sciences stream.

Note: For UG/PG/ Ph.D. students, there is no bar on the number of participants from the same College/University/Institution.

## GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS

The abstract should not exceed 500 words and must indicate the theme of the proposed research with relevant keywords. It must be accompanied by a cover page which should include:

- Sub-theme of the paper
- Title of the Paper
- Name of the author(s)
- E-mail address
- Postal address and Contact Number

### *Note:*

- All Abstract submissions are required to be mailed to [cdr@bennett.edu.in](mailto:cdr@bennett.edu.in) before the last date of Abstract Submission.
- Subject Line of the Mail should be [Abstract Submission for International Conference on From Welfare to Rights: Reimagining Disability Justice in India].
- Document Name must be in the following format: [Author Name\_Title of the Paper].

## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR FULL LENGTH PAPER SUBMISSION

- Full paper must have a word count of approximately 5000-8000 words.
- Originality, coherence, thoroughness and contribution to discourse and knowledge will be taken into consideration for selecting papers.
- All papers will undergo rigorous “double blind review” process. The full paper must be submitted in MS Word (.doc or .docx) format only.
- The mode of submission of full paper shall be communicated via our official email with the participants whose abstracts shall be accepted.
- Co-authorship is allowed. (Maximum two authors.)
- Full Paper must contain a cover page inclusive of the following details: -
- Name(s) of the author(s),
- Designation, - Institutional affiliation,
- Email ID, - Contact number(s) of the author(s) Authors are requested to adhere strictly to the following abstract formatting guidelines:
- Title: Font: Times New Roman | Size: 16 | Alignment: Center; Bold
- Heading: Font: Times New Roman | Size: 14 | Alignment: Left; Bold
- Sub- Heading: Font: Times New Roman | Size: 12 | Alignment: Left; Bold
- Main Text: Font: Times New Roman | Size: 12 | Spacing: 1.5 | Alignment: Justified - Footnotes: Font: Times New Roman | Size: 10 | Spacing: 1.0
- Referencing: Bluebook (21 Edition) style Citations.

- Co-authorship is permitted (maximum of 2 authors).
- Selected full papers will be published by reputed publishers with an ISBN.
- Plagiarism in any form and use of AI is strictly prohibited and would render the submission disqualified. All references used must be duly cited and a similarity index of up to 10% is permissible.
- Best Paper Presentation: Certificate of Best Paper Presentation
- All participants who successfully present their paper shall be issued a certificate of Paper Presentation
- \*Note: Only E- Certificates shall be issued to online participants.

## IMPORTANT DATES AND TIMELINES

Last Date of Abstract Submission	1st July, 2026
Notification of Abstract Acceptance	3rd July, 2026
Last Date of Registration and Payment	14th July, 2026
Full Paper Submission Deadline	8th August, 2026
International Conference	7th-8th September 2026

## REGISTRATION FEES

- Academician, Faculty based in India (Single Authorship – INR 1500 and Co-Authorship- INR 1000 per author). International Academician: USD 30
- Research Scholar, NGO Authors based in India (Single Authorship– INR 1000 and Co-Authorship INR 800 per person). International Scholar: USD 15
- Student - Undergraduate and Postgraduate based in India (Single Authorship– INR 600 and Co-Authorship INR 500 per person). International students: USD 10

## AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES

- The best paper in each theme shall be awarded with “Best Paper Presenter Certificate.”
- Selected papers will be published in an ISBN Book.
- All presenters will be awarded with a certificate of presentation.
- All attendees will be awarded with a certificate of participation.

Note: The organising committee reserves the right to terminate the participation of any participant in case if the latter is found to be indulging in any sort of nuisance.

SCAN TO PAY



<https://rzp.io/l/RNRWjkJ>

# BENNETT UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP



**Mr. Vineet Jain**

Chancellor, Bennett University,  
Managing Director, BCCL

Awarded Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2013 for  
transforming BCCL into India's Most Respected and  
Largest Media Group



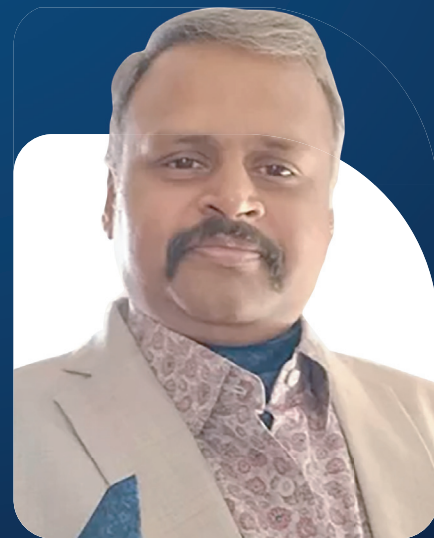
**Ms. Revati Jain**

Pro Vice Chancellor  
Bennett University



**Dr. Raj Singh**

Vice Chancellor  
Bennett University



**Mr. Senthil Kumar**

Chief Operating Officer  
Bennett University



## CONFERENCE ORGANISING HEAD

**Prof. (Dr.)  
Pradeep Kulshrestha**

Dean, School of Law, Bennett University  
Honorary Doctorate, National American University  
South Dakota, M.A, LL.M., Ph.D., P.G.P.M



## CONFERENCE CHAIR

**Prof. (Dr.) Versha Vahini**

Professor, School of Law  
Bennett University

## FACULTY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



### Convenor

**Mr. Ramendra  
Singh Sengar**

Assistant Professor  
School of Law,  
Bennett University

### Co-Convenors



**Dr. Gunjan  
Sharma**

Assistant Professor  
School of Law,  
Bennett University



**Mr. Abhishek  
Srivastava**

Assistant Professor  
School of Law,  
Bennett University

### Members



**Dr. Shraddha  
Sharma**

Assistant Professor  
School of Law,  
Bennett University



**Ms. Neha Shree  
Bhatnagar**

Assistant Professor  
School of Law,  
Bennett University



For more information contact:

**Mr. Ramendra Singh Sengar**

Assistant Professor

School of Law, Bennett University

[ramendra.sengar@bennett.edu.in](mailto:ramendra.sengar@bennett.edu.in)

+91-9532353521

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Call: 1800 103 8484 | WhatsApp: 8860 309 257 | Web.: [www.bennett.edu.in](http://www.bennett.edu.in)

**Campus: Tech Zone-II, Greater Noida**

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