



# DAMODARAM SANJIVAYYA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY



## DSNLU - CENTRE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

*Presents an International Event*

# "DSNLU - Model WTO Ministerial Conference Simulation"



*Date of the Event - 6th & 7th August 2021*

*Virtual Platform*



*Patron*

**Hon'ble Justice Arup Kumar Goswami,**  
Chief Justice, High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Chancellor, DSNU, Visakhapatnam



*Chief - Patron*

**Hon'ble Sri Justice N. V. Ramana**  
Chief Justice of India and Visitor, DSNU, Visakhapatnam



*Chairman*

**Prof. (Dr.) S. Surya Prakash**  
Vice-Chancellor, DSNU, Visakhapatnam

## **ADVISORY BOARD**

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**Prof. (Dr.) VK Ahuja,** Vice Chancellor, Chairperson, NLUJA

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**Prof. (Dr.) Sheela Rai,** NLUO

**Prof. (Dr.) J. James Nedumpara,** O. P. Jindal Global University

# ABOUT US

## ABOUT DSNLU

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With the growing importance of quality legal education, various national law schools have matured a lot in their innovative ideas of academia.

Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University (DSNLU), was established by the Government of Andhra Pradesh vide the "DSNLU Act, 2008" in Visakhapatnam to impart quality legal education. The university is recognised u/s 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956 and the Bar Council of India. Its mission is to design and deliver legal education, promote academic achievement and excellence in legal research. The University offers 5 years integrated B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) degree and one year LL.M. (Tax Laws, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law and Commercial Law) degree. The University has MOUs for student exchange programs with other National Law Universities in Bangalore, Kolkata, Patna and Patiala. Additionally, University has an MOU with ICADR; NLU Delhi, and is a deemed Study Centre by the IGNOU.

## ABOUT VISAKHAPATNAM

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Visakhapatnam, situated at about 24 m above sea level, is a port city and a major industrial hub in Andhra Pradesh. This 'City of Destiny' is on the East coast of India nestled among the hills of Eastern Ghats facing the Bay of Bengal. It is the largest city in the state of Andhra Pradesh and also home to the Eastern Naval Command. The city has a long coastline with well-developed beaches and resorts. The climate is pleasant during the month of December with expected maximum day and night temperatures of 29 to 19 degree Celsius respectively. Visakhapatnam is well connected by Air, Rail and Road to all major cities of the country and has international connections to many cities worldwide. Interesting Tourist attractions/destinations in and around Visakhapatnam are R.K. Beach, Rushikonda Beach, Holy temple of Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy, VUDA Park, Kailasagiri, Araku Valley and Borra Caves.

# VISION

## BACKGROUND OF THE EVENT

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the novel Corona Virus Disease, 2019 (COVID-19) to be a global pandemic, after having announced a related public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) on 30th January 2020. Given this present context of global emergency, it is important for 164 WTO Members to work together and to ensure that intellectual property rights such as patents, industrial designs, copyright and protection of undisclosed information do not create barriers to the timely access to affordable medical products. There is an urgency to scale up the research, development, manufacturing and supply of medical products such as vaccines and medical equipment essential to combat COVID-19. The COVID-19 pandemic is now widespread, affecting most WTO Members. As of 1 October 2020, there were about 333,722,075 confirmed cases globally with 1,009,270 confirmed deaths. To date, vaccines or medicines currently in use do not show 100% efficacy in preventing or treating COVID-19.

All WTO Members are struggling to contain the spread of the pandemic and provide health care services to those affected. Many developed, developing and least developed countries have declared a national emergency with the aim to curb the growing outbreak, and as advised by the WHO implemented social distancing measures with significant consequences for society and the economy. Notably, developing countries and least developed countries are disproportionately impacted. An effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic requires rapid access to affordable medical products including diagnostic kits, medical masks, other personal protective equipment and ventilators, as well as vaccines and medicines for the prevention and treatment of patients in dire need. There are several reports about intellectual property rights hindering or potentially hindering the timely supply of affordable medical products to patients. It is also reported that some WTO Members have carried out urgent legal amendments to their national patent laws to expedite the process of issuing compulsory/government use licenses.

Beyond patents, other intellectual property rights may also pose a barrier, with limited options to overcome those barriers. In addition, many countries especially developing countries may face institutional and legal difficulties when using flexibilities available in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement). On October 2, 2020, India and South Africa made a proposal that members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) should “work together to ensure that intellectual property rights such as patents, industrial designs, copyright and protection of undisclosed information do not create barriers to the timely access to affordable medical products including vaccines and medicines or to scaling-up of research, development, manufacturing and supply of medical products essential to combat Covid-19”. The proposal was to waive certain obligations of the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement until widespread vaccination was in place globally, and the majority of the world’s population had developed immunity.

In this scenario, there is an urgent call for global solidarity, and the unhindered global sharing of technology and know-how in order to showcase rapid responses to handle COVID-19 cases happening in real-time. On May 5, 2021, the US government, in a historic step, announced that it was in favour of waiving Intellectual Property (IP) protection for Covid-19 vaccines, a measure intended to boost vaccine supplies that will help people around the world.

## **ABOUT THE EVENT**

The Model WTO simulation is a student initiative that provides a unique opportunity for future decision-makers to debate on important global issues like COVID-19 and Vaccines Patent Waiver within the simulation framework of the WTO ministerial negotiations.

## **OBJECTIVE OF THE EVENT**

The patent system highlights the inherent trade-off between innovation incentives and access to affordable medicines, which has been debated on multiple occasions without any clear-cut answers or solutions. It is very difficult to believe that the proposed patent/IP

waiver contains anything significant to resolve this basic challenge that is faced by the patent system. As the proposed patent/IP waiver faces serious opposition within the developed countries, it would be very unrealistic to expect any positive changes with respect to accessibility or affordability to vaccines or drugs. For the moment it appears that the concept of 'vaccine equity' is an elusive dream. In these exceptional circumstances, it is necessary to understand the voices from developed, developing and least developing countries on Patent Waiver for COVID-19 Vaccines.

## **ORGANIZATION OF THE EVENT**

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The upcoming event will be held on August 6th and 7th 2021, through virtual mode. The event is organized by the students of the Centre for Intellectual Property Rights and Technology of Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University, Visakhapatnam who are supported by an advisory board of experts in international trade to ensure the quality of the simulation.

## **TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE EVENT**

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Bonafide Student pursuing Integrated Five Years B.A LLB, B.Sc LLB, B.Com LLB, B.tech LLB, Three years LLB, including LLM and Research Scholar's in law from around the world.

# THEMES

## CENTRAL THEME

- Patent Waiver of Covid-19 Vaccines.

## SUB - THEME

- Patent Waiver vis-a-vis Manufacturing and Distribution of Vaccines
- Technology Transfer issues relating to COVID Vaccines
- Establishment of a Structured Publicly Accessible International Database for all "The Essential IPRs of COVID-19"
- Measures to prevent abuse of IPR by right holders for restraining the trade
- Challenges associated with Financing and Manufacturing of COVID -19 vaccines

# FURTHER INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

## APPLICATION TIMELINE

- Last Date for Registration: 21-07-2021
- Allocation of Countries: 22-07-2021
- Submission of Position Paper: 01-08-2021
- Date of the Event: 06-08-2021, 07-08-2021

## PLATFORM

The event will be conducted via the online platform 'Cisco-Webex'

## REGISTRATION PROCESS

Interested participants are requested to fill the online registration form via the link attached below. The Registration fee for Early Bird registration is INR 500/- and the late registration fee is INR 650/-

## LINK FOR EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSerbMVGhvmUQFD1rw2JCaT9Pjp5QMxw6Dw3wDF62J5dMxvzqA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSerbMVGhvmUQFD1rw2JCaT9Pjp5QMxw6Dw3wDF62J5dMxvzqA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

## LINK FOR LATE REGISTRATION

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdf\\_bz0p4F0HY46RMntyERbfP0olr5qD6011aLmyJhk784ZYQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdf_bz0p4F0HY46RMntyERbfP0olr5qD6011aLmyJhk784ZYQ/viewform?usp=sf_link)

**Note- The link for late registration activates once the required slots for Early Bird gets completed.**



## **PERKS**

Exciting Prizes + Certificate of Merit + Internship opportunities (If any)

## **PAYMENT DETAILS**

Account No: 283710100024089

Account Name: Registrar, DSNLU

Bank Name, Branch: UNION BANK OF INDIA, Sabbavaram branch

IFS Code: UBIN0828378

## **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**

**Faculty Convenor :** Dr. P. Sree Sudha, Associate Professor, DSNLU

**Organizing Secretary :** P. Jogi Naidu, Assistant Professor DSNLU

## **STUDENT COMMITTEES**

### **Event heads**

ShaikKhajaBasha  
Yeshaswini

### **Student Affairs**

Nehal Gupta  
Allaka  
VenuMadhav  
Nandini  
Charisma

### **Public Relations**

Sushree  
Manoj  
RajaSri Reddy  
Prerana

### **Technical Team**

Amrutha Gayathri  
Manish  
Lasya Charitha  
Khadri  
Akhil

## **CONTACT DETAILS**

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