

FOREWORD BY JUSTICE SANJAY KISHAN KAUL

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National Law Institute University, Bhopal

NLIU Review Vol. XI Issue I

Foreword

"The only way in which a human being can make some approach to knowing the whole of a subject, is by hearing what can be said about it by persons of every variety of opinion, and studying all modes in which it can be looked at by every character of mind."

- John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*

Legal academia in India has come a long way. It has over time provided a significant impetus to the legal fraternity at large. However, in today's fractious, highly-charged atmosphere, there is a need for legal academia and writing to reinvent itself and assume a newer role. Contemporary issues in law and policy require a fresh perspective and independent analysis to uncover their political and ethical underpinnings. Legal academia embodies the spirit of self-discipline, rigour, and liberation of thought, and is thus in a privileged position to inspire the nation-builders of tomorrow.

Legal journals constitute an important platform in this regard. They are the anvil upon which ideas are forged and their mettle is tested. They are a repository of pioneering thought and have proven to be a huge driver behind many legal reforms. It is thus in public interest that their readership continues to grow, and that they provide a space to voices that have been hitherto marginalised.

The NLIU Law Review is the flagship journal of the National Law Institute University, Bhopal. Published bi-annually, the journal hosts articles on contemporary legal issues that cover diverse fields of law. I congratulate NLIU Bhopal, Vice-Chancellor Dr. (V.) Vijaykumar, and faculty advisor Prof. (Dr.) Ghayur Alam for the continued success of the NLIU Law Review, which has been in publication for eleven years now. Their hard work and dedication has ensured that the journal is consistently regarded amongst the top ten law journals of the country.

Volume XI of the NLIU Law Review covers a number of topics of great contemporary relevance. The first two articles analyse judgments of the Supreme Court and of High Courts on questions of arbitration law and constitutional law. The authors engage with the vexed question of how courts can determine the seat of arbitration, and explore the prescient issue of High Courts reviewing constitutional amendments, respectively. The next two articles concern legal issues raised by the technology of today – social security for gig workers, and the application of blockchain technology to intellectual property rights in the music industry. Fifth is an article discussing the WTO's ability to enforce recommended standards in international

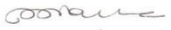
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trade, which is particularly important in the context of the import of faulty PPEs during Covid-19. The sixth and final article is a compelling book review of *Ambedkar's Preamble* by Mr. Aakash Singh Rathore, which offers new insights on Dr. Ambedkar's role in the drafting of our Constitution.

I extend my heartiest congratulations to the authors of the published articles and the members of the editorial team of the NLIU Law Review, and wish them the very best in all their future endeavours.


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