

2018 UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Day

Gandhinagar, December 15, 2018: Gujarat National Law University, in collaboration with UNCITRAL Regional Center for Asia and the Pacific, towards the celebration of 2018 UNCITRAL Asia Pacific Day organized a Symposium on “Artificial Intelligence in the Digital Age: Issues and Challenges” on 15th December 2018 at GNLU.

The aim of this program was to discuss recent technological developments which has opened new opportunities in fields such as robotics, artificial intelligence, distributed ledgers and the Internet of Things, to name a few. Building on those technologies, the notion of “Fourth Industrial Revolution” has been introduced to describe the emergence of an interconnected world that expands beyond the purely digital domain to interact with the physical and biological ones. The basic commodity of the Fourth Industrial Revolution is data. Data exchanges and flows are indispensable to support the digital economy, feed data-driven growth and innovation and foster data analytics that shape the future of mankind and the planet. This Fourth Industrial Revolution comes with a huge potential for developing and least developed countries and could be leveraged upon to bridge the digital gap and give new impulse to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Course had received an overwhelming response of 56 participants from institutes like Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDU), Gandhinagar; United World School of Law, Gandhinagar; Central University of Gujarat; Nirma University, Ahmedabad; Raksha Shakti University, Ahmedabad and GNLU faculty members, Teaching & Research Associate.

The Hon'ble speakers for the event were Shri. Amit Bhardwaj, National Institution for Transforming India, NITI Aayog, and Government of India, wherein he discussed about challenges in healthcare, agriculture, smart cities, and mobility and education sector and emphasized that data protection shouldn't be at the cost of the privacy. His discussion was focused around AI age would create new disruptions, Are we AI Ready.....?? He was skeptical about that Many traditional career professions would be at stake....Many businesses will become obsolete with very low life cycle.....Nations would be under threat of attack by machines.... And the World becomes a much smaller place than now with serious threat to privacy.....Prof. Vipin Aggarwal, Principal at VBA Associates, accentuated that “Are we really enjoying Right to Privacy in the 4th industrial revolution of Artificial Intelligence” and Dr. Nachshon (Sean) Goltz, Senior lecturer at Edith Cowan University School of business and law shared his views that “Governments around the world are very active with regard to the legislation on AI. Technology's agenda and people's agenda shall go hand-in-hand”.

The Hon'ble speakers talked about the reality that India is a prominent player in the field of technology and innovation. Discussing related legal issues comes as a natural development. We are confident that the views of Indian lawyers will significantly contribute to forming a global opinion on how to address emerging issues best and fully enable the digital economy for the



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benefit of all. We therefore welcome this event on artificial intelligence organized by GNLU as timely and relevant and we look forward to reading its findings and conclusions.

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