

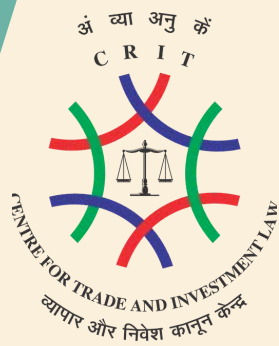


CENTRE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT LAW



Creating Ideas for Better Trade Policy

BROCHURE



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Centre for Trade and Investment Law

About CTIL

The Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL) was established in 2016 by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, in pursuit of its objective of developing international trade and investment law capacity in India. The Centre is a part of the Centre for Research in International Trade (CRIT) at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi. CTIL provides sound and rigorous analysis of legal issues pertaining to international trade and investment law to the Department of Commerce, Government of India and other governmental departments. The Centre functions as a repository of information on trade and investment law, with a wide range of resources at its disposal. It is a leading platform in India for engaging in and influencing the evolving discourse on global economic law issues. The Centre has been consistently providing technical inputs to the Government of India on the issues of international trade and investment law.

Since its inception, a number of advisory opinions have been provided by the Centre to the Department of Commerce on vital trade issues including the planning and implementation of trade promotion schemes under India's Foreign Trade Policy, interpretation and analysis of multilateral and bilateral trade agreements, providing research and inputs to assist India in its ongoing trade negotiations, international trade dispute, matters of international and domestic taxation, and the development of domestic laws that affect India's trade commitments. CTIL meets the Department of Commerce's objective of having a dedicated pool of legal experts who provide technical inputs for enhancing India's participation in international trade and investment negotiations and dispute settlement. The Centre has also established itself as a thought leader in the various domains of international economic law such as WTO law, international investment law and legal issues relating to economic integration, by publishing a variety of books, articles and papers, and by holding and participating in conferences, stakeholder consultations, seminars and training programmes.



Centre for Trade and Investment Law

“CTIL is advising on legal matters whether in respect of bilateral trade agreements or the WTO. It helps in preparing legal texts, provide inputs on WTO Members’ or FTA partners’ text proposals and oversees legal scrubbing related matters.”

- Shri Amit Yadav

Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, and
Former Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce
Government of India

“CTIL has been a trusted knowledge partner for the Department of Commerce over the years. It has been providing legal support to the Department on various trade and investment related agreements. This includes providing comprehensive research and opinion studies; providing assistance in on-going trade negotiations as well as contributing to the Foreign Trade Policy. CTIL’s legal inputs during the ongoing negotiations of the Indo Pacific Economic Framework for prosperity have been very useful and has helped us achieve more clarity on legal ramifications of proposed provisions. The Centre’s support in drafting the SOP for Negotiations under Trade Agreements is a pertinent addition to the Department’s effort towards structuring of our negotiation process. With its increasing strength and growing expertise, I am sure that the Centre will continue to remain a strong pillar of knowledge support to the Department in the years to come.”

- Shri Rajesh Agrawal

Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce
Government of India

“CTIL played an important role in the conclusion of the agreement with the UAE, with its dedicated legal team under the able leadership of Prof. James Nedumpara. The members of the Centre, including Prof. James, participated in almost all areas of negotiations, and provided sound research-based technical inputs. These inputs were quite useful in negotiating the full Agreement, including the new areas that we negotiated for the first time. I thank the CTIL team for their invaluable support during the negotiations and also doing the legal vetting of the Agreement in coordination with the Ministry of External Affairs. Overall, CTIL team played an significant role in concluding the Agreement in a record time of 88 days.”

- Shri Srikar K Reddy

Consul General of India at San Francisco, and
Former Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce
Government of India

Testimonials

What We do

As a think-tank and advisory centre on international trade law and emerging aspects of international economic law, CTIL has grown and emerged as a reliable and capable professional team of lawyers and legal professionals. The diverse profile of lawyers in our team has enhanced the quality of our outputs through the holistic perspectives that we bring in.

Supporting the Negotiation Arm

The period 2022-23 was perhaps the busiest for the Department of Commerce in its recent negotiating history with India's strong push for free trade agreement negotiations with a half dozen countries including some of the major economies. Modern trade agreements present a kaleidoscopic array of topics, some of which will indeed test the negotiating mandate and the manoeuvring capabilities of the negotiators. This is indeed an area where CTIL plays a meaningful and responsible role in highlighting the red flags to avoid and suggesting the strategies to win.

Focus on Clinics and Experiential Learning

CTIL's activities under the TradeLab clinics is perhaps the most extensive in India with leading law schools participating in this initiative. The TradeLab clinics present an opportunity to work on real issues with real clients in the most lively spirit of collaboration. The clinics can attract the brightest talent to this field and can help us build the platform for developing trade law related capacity within our law schools.

Capacity Building Activities

With the stronger role of trade in our economy, there is a greater need for offering training, sensitization and capacity building programmes on trade rules and strategies to trade negotiators, implementing agencies and other allied departments. There is also a need to create awareness on these issues for the stakeholders outside the system. CTIL is well poised to undertake these activities.

Research and Publications

This is, and will remain, our core activity. Reading, researching and publishing will make tough calls on one's spare time, but these activities remain the bedrock of our existence as a knowledge bank and resource centre.



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Other Activities

TradeLab

With the objective of imparting clinical legal education in India, specifically in the field of international trade law, CTIL runs TradeLab clinics, either on a regular or pilot basis with 6 reputed Law Schools in a hub-and-spoke model. CTIL acts as an intermediary and coordinates with the beneficiary (i.e. an entity seeking legal assistance concerning issues of international trade on one hand) and the students of these law schools selected to work at the CTIL-TradeLab clinics during the course of the semester. CTIL has conducted five law clinics with National Law University Jodhpur (NLUJ), Gujarat National Law University (Gandhinagar) (GNLU), Maharashtra National Law University Mumbai (MNLU Mumbai), Gujarat Maritime University (GMU), and Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur (DNLU) during the 2022-23 session and currently a pilot clinic with National Law University Odisha (NLUO) is also being run. The National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR) and Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (RGNUL) will be the newest additions to CTIL's TradeLab network in India.

PMI-CTIL-CTEI MoU

The Permanent Mission of India to the WTO, Geneva (PMI), the Centre for Trade and Economic Integration at The Graduate Institute, Geneva (CTEI), and the Centre for Trade and Investment Law at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi (CTIL) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a view to collaborate and cooperate in the field of international trade and investment law for academic, research, training, and capacity-building activities. As a flagship programme under the MoU, CTIL created an internship programme exclusively for the students from The Graduate Institute, jointly selected by CTEI and CTIL. Given the high number of Indian students studying at The Graduate Institute and an ardent interest shown by them in this opportunity, the CTIL-CTEI Internship Programme began the first batch in March 2022 and runs the programme for a duration of 3-4 months with an expected work requirement of 20 hours per week per intern. CTIL, PMI and CTEI are jointly working towards conducting seminars on contemporary issues on International Economic Law as well as faculty/research exchange cum development program.

Trade Remedies Advisory Cell (TRAC)

Trade Remedies Advisory Cell (TRAC) is set up at the CTIL with the purpose of providing legal, cost accounting, and technical assistance to domestic industry affected by unfair trade practices such as dumping, subsidisation, and circumvention of duties, surge in imports, etc. TRAC provides assistance to micro, small and medium businesses, in dealing with all aspects of trade remedial cases, including product identification, data collection, assistance in filling up of questionnaires and filing application, calculating costs, evaluation of dumping and injury, bridging the data gaps and representation before the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) during the course of investigation, etc., as required to secure the relevant remedy against unfair trade practices or injury attributable to imported goods.



Other Activities

WTO Chairs Programme

The WTO Chairs Programme (WCP), initiated by the World Trade Organization (WTO), is a crucial academic initiative designed to advance research, education, and outreach related activities to international trade and the functions of the WTO. Under the WTO Chairs Programme, participating academic institutions and scholars receive support for research projects, enabling the examination of key trade-related topics. It also encourages the development of courses and teaching materials related to international trade and WTO matters, thereby enhancing the quality of education and training. The program, established in collaboration with select academic institutions worldwide, serves as a conduit for a multifaceted approach to understanding and engaging with global trade dynamics. Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) obtained the India Chair from WTO through a joint application from Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL) and Centre for WTO Studies (CWS).

Dr. James J. Nedumpara is the Chairholder of WCP India Chair. Capacity building is a core facet of the WTO Chairs Programme, strengthening the capabilities of academic institutions and researchers, particularly in developing nations.

WTO CHAIRS PROGRAMME: SIGNIFICANCE

This program strives to deepen the understanding of global trade issues, particularly in developing countries, and bridge the gap between academic research and trade policy. By fostering a global network of expertise, the WTO Chairs Programme along with CTIL facilitates knowledge sharing and cooperation, strengthening the role of academia in shaping international trade policy and promoting a deeper understanding of the WTO's role in the global trading system.





Centre for Trade and Investment Law

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SHARONA MANN
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HARSHITA CALLA
Young Professional



ANANYA SHUKLA
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SAKSHI SINGH
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VANSHIKA SULANIYA
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Administrative Team



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Senior Admin. Executive



SANJEET KUMAR MISHRA
Senior Admin. Executive



SITA
Finance Executive



ROOHI KHAN
Senior Admin. Assistant



VIJAY KUMAR RAI
Admin. Assistant



ANIL KUMAR
Personal Assistant



REENU
Personal Assistant



KOMAL TYAGI
Personal Assistant



SHUBHAM KASHYAP
Personal Assistant



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