

FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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It is with immense pride and scholarly anticipation that we present the inaugural issue of the National Law University Tripura Journal of Law and Policy (NLUT–JLP). Conceived as a platform to foster critical legal scholarship and informed discourse on issues of law, policy, and governance, this journal reflects the ethos of National Law University, Tripura — rooted in academic rigor, democratic engagement, and a commitment to social justice.

This first issue brings together an exceptional collection of articles and case comments, written by esteemed jurists, scholars, and emerging voices in the field of law and public policy. Each contribution explores timely and significant legal questions through diverse lenses — doctrinal, empirical, philosophical, and interdisciplinary.

We are honored to feature Justice Deepak Gupta’s authoritative article on “*Rule of Law and the Role of the High Court*,” which sets the tone for this issue by reaffirming the constitutional mandate of judicial review and institutional independence. In a compelling and poignant reflection, Justice S.G. Chattopadhyay questions whether “*the victim remains a forgotten party*” in our criminal justice system, a concern that resonates deeply in the current climate of justice reform.

Dr Krishan Mahajan addresses a crucial tension in “*Environmental Laws: Ruling Politicians v Citizens*,” revealing how environmental jurisprudence often clashes with political and economic agendas. In a deeply contextual and experiential analysis, Dr Afroz Alam offers insights into “*Political Dynamics in Telangana*” through the lens of the 2023 Assembly Election, adding a unique dimension to our understanding of electoral politics.

Dr Ayaz Ahmad’s critique of the EWS judgment in “*Judicial Liquidation of Social Justice*” calls for a deeper examination of the judiciary’s role in shaping the future of affirmative action. Meanwhile, Dr Ashit Kumar Srivastava, Ms Priyanshi Jain, and Ms Pragya Richa Tiwary delve into emerging frontiers of law in their provocative piece on “*Structuring Neural Rights*,” bridging neuroscience, human rights, and technology law.

Dr Akshya Verma’s timely article, “*The New Law of Evidence in India*,” evaluates the recent legislative overhaul, raising critical questions about simplification, modernization, and the challenges of legal transition. In the area of international trade law and policy, Utkarsh K. Mishra and Dr Surendar Singh co-author a detailed exposition on “*India’s Policy Conundrum in E-Commerce*,” mapping global shifts and domestic dilemmas.

Lastly, Prasad R. Singh and Nitika Jain present a balanced inquiry into the intersection of justice and technology in “*Balancing the Scale: Justice Assisted, Not Automated*,” cautioning against over-reliance on artificial intelligence in judicial processes.

This issue also features two insightful case comments that engage with contemporary constitutional debates. Satish Padhi has analysed recent Supreme Court’s decision in *Vijaya Bank v Prashant B.* which established the enforceability of employment bonds with liquidated damages clauses in India, particularly in public sector undertakings. Nehru and Harsh Singh has delved into “*The State of Tamil Nadu v The Governor of Tamil Nadu & Others*,” highlighting the evolving dynamics of federalism, constitutional conventions, and executive-legislative relations.

We are grateful to all contributors, reviewers, and the editorial team whose commitment and intellectual labor have brought this inaugural issue to life. It is our hope that NLUT–JLP will serve not only as a forum for critical scholarship but also as a catalyst for progressive legal thinking and policy reform.

We invite readers, scholars, practitioners, and students to engage with the ideas presented herein, to question, to critique, and to build upon them.

—Prof. (Dr.) Yogesh Pratap Singh
Editor-in-Chief, NLUT–JLP