

Date: 09th April 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

International Legal Conference 2024
Theme: "The Legal Dimensions of Global Trade@2047"
Saturday, 20th April 2024
09.00 am to 6.00 pm
Venue: Hall No-5; Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, 110011

Greetings from SEPC!!

Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC), established by the Ministry of Commerce & Industries, Government of India, serves as a vital entity dedicated to advancing service exports. SEPC has been instrumental in facilitating the export of services including manufacturing services, aligning with the government's vision of enhancing India's service sector globally. Mandated to enhance the export competitiveness of all services sectors, SEPC emphasizes the strategic significance of sectors like the legal industry in our nation's economic framework.

In line with its mission, the Services Export Promotion Council is organising the prestigious '**International Legal Conference 2024**' on **April 20th, 2024, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, 110011**. We have invited eminent speakers from legal fraternity and experts from industry, Senior Officers from Ministry of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Ministry of External Affairs.

The theme of the conference—"The Legal Dimensions of Global Trade@2047" is aligned to the Amrit Kaal mission of envisioning **India@2047** with the mantra of "reform, perform and transform" all the sectors to make India a five-trillion-dollar economy. It embodies the essence of our collective vision, wherein we aspire to align the legal landscape with the broader contours of national progress and global relevance. Thus, the event transcends its immediate purpose for shaping the narrative of India's legal evolution, propelling it towards a future imbued with foresight and strategic direction. The focus area of discussions for the conference is as follows:

- I. **Liberalization of India's Legal Sector**
- II. **Evolving Global Supply Chain for Legal Services**
- III. **Artificial Intelligence in Legal Practice**
- IV. **Role of FTA's in promoting Bilateral and International Trade**
- V. **Dispute Resolution- Negotiation, Mediation & Arbitration**

This conference will be conducted under the esteemed guidance of Mr. Lalit Bhasin (Founding Chairman, SEPC), a distinguished luminary renowned for his expertise and profound contributions to the legal arena cutting across all the sectors.

We take this opportunity to kindly invite you to participate as a distinguished delegate. We believe that the Conference will be able to provide valuable insights and networking opportunities.

We kindly urge you to complete your registration today using the delegate registration link: <https://forms.gle/kMysh6RpDJkhWV8g6>

Pre-registration will enable us to organise your delegate badges and ease the entry in Vigyan Bhawan.

For any further details, you may reach out to Ms. Saumya Gupta, Deputy Director at saumya.gupta@servicesepc.org or +91-9354558465.

Please find attached herewith the tentative agenda for your kind reference and use.

With kind regards,



Karan Rathore
Chairman, SEPC

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL CONFERENCE 2024
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Venue: Hall No-5; Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi 110011
Date: 20th April, 2024 (Saturday)

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Timings	Details
09:00am to 10:00am	Registration
10:00am to 11:00am	Inauguration Ceremony
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Remarks Mr. Karan Rathore, Chairman-SEPC • Introductory Remarks Dr. Lalit Bhasin, President- Society of Indian Law Firms (SILF), Founder Chairman-SEPC • Address by Mr. Atul Sharma, Executive Chairman-Dentons Link Legal • Address by Guest of Honor* Mr. Sunil Barthwal, Commerce Secretary- Ministry of Commerce and Industry • Address by Guest of Honor Mr. R Venkataramani, Attorney General of India • Address by Guest of Honor Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General of India • Address by Chief Guest* Hon’ble Dr Justice Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, The Chief Justice of India • Vote of Thanks Dr. Abhay Sinha, Director General- SEPC
11:00am to 11:15am	Tea/ Coffee Break
11:15am to 12.15pm	SESSION 1: LIBERALISATION OF INDIA’S LEGAL SECTOR
	<i>India has indeed been undergoing various reforms, including in the legal sector, to foster economic growth and collaboration. India as a member of WTO has made commitments to liberalize trade in services. This commitment involves opening of various service sector to foreign industries within the framework of the General Agreement Trade in Services (GATS), with this intent to liberalize the legal service sector, registration and regulation of foreign lawyers and foreign law firms was announced by permitting international lawyers and law firms to enter the Indian market. Thus, this session will</i>

cover the Roadmap for Liberalizing Indian legal Service Sector and its Impact on Economic Growth.

Moderator: Mr. Mohit Saraf, Partner-Saraf & Partners

Panelist:

- Mr. Srinivas Kotni, Founder & Managing Partner-Llexport
- Mr. Justice Zaki Ullah Khan-Former Judge High Court of Allahabad
- Ms. Sumes Dewan, Managing Partner Lex-Favious
- Mr. Vivek Jha, Partner-Versit Law
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Karol- Supreme Court of India*

12.15pm to 1.15pm

SESSION 2: EVOLVING GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN FOR LEGAL SERVICE

The corporate legal services sector is undergoing a gradual but noticeable transformation. Legal firms are recognizing the advantages of outsourcing crucial legal services in an increasingly interconnected world. India is becoming a popular choice for clients looking for legal processing outsourcing services, especially those from the US and Europe. Remarkable changes in the legal services sector have led to an increase in the number of clients from developing countries like China, Germany, and Japan. This shift may require law companies to expand their service offerings, embrace new technologies, and extend their reach to clients globally. This dynamic environment opens up opportunities for innovation, collaboration, and a more globalized approach to legal service outsourcing. Thus, the discussion in this session will focus on the global integration of Indian legal services, exploring how the industry is adapting to cater to clients in an increasingly borderless world.

Moderator: Ramya Suresh, Partner- Saraf & Partners

Panelist:

- Mr. Suhail Natahani, Managing Partner-Economic Law Practice (ELP) and Independent Director-Piramal Enterprises Ltd.
- Ms. Raka Roy, Partner- Galadari Advocates & Legal Consultant, Dubai
- Mr. Vishal Gandhi, Partner-Gandhi & Associate
- Mr. Dinesh Pardasani, Partner-DSK Legal India
- Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Bindal, Supreme Court of India*

1:15pm to 2:00pm

Lunch

2:00pm to 3:00pm

SESSION 3: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN LEGAL PRACTICE

In the service sector, the term artificial intelligence (AI) has become more well-known recently for several reasons. The legal industry has embraced AI technology to improve efficiency, streamline workflows, and to give legal practitioners better opportunities. This has resulted in a transformation of the legal sector. Although use of artificial intelligence (AI) brings several benefits for the legal industry, its implementation possesses certain

challenges, including data security and privacy. Because there are not any clear, enforceable laws pertaining to govern the use of AI technologies in sectors, thus it is imperative that law firms in India and around the world address ethical practices when adopting AI technology. In order to prevent potential abuse of AI across industries, this session will address the ethical legal regulations that need to be implemented across the sectors.

Moderator: Mr. Saurabh Bindal, Partner Fox Mandal

Panelist:

- Dr. Menaka Guruswamy, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India
- Ms. Veena Gopalakrishnan, Partner- Trilegal
- Sahil Arora, Partner- Saraf & Partners
- Hon'ble Ms. Justice Hima Kohli, Supreme Court of India*

3:00pm to 4:00pm

SESSION 4: ROLE OF FTA'S IN PROMOTING BILATERAL & INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Free trade agreements drive robust economic activity, foster job growth, and offer significant opportunities for both large and small businesses to thrive through enhanced trade and investment. Beyond tariff elimination, they tackle internal barriers that could hinder trade, stimulate investment, and expand access to diverse goods, services, technologies, and innovative methods. Additionally, these agreements facilitate regional economic integration and cultivate collaborative trade and investment strategies among partner nations. For Indian lawyers and law firms to efficiently serve the legal needs of enterprises involved in foreign transactions, capacity building and long-term strategy, this session will elaborate the importance of understanding the significance of Free Trade Agreements in both bilateral and international trade.

Moderator: Shravan Yammanur, Partner-Dentons Link Legal

Panelist:

- Dr. James J. Nedumpara, Professor and Executive Director, Centre for International Trade and Economics Laws-Jindal Global Law School
- Mr. Pranav Kumar Vice President, International Trade Policy and Compliance-Reliance Industries Ltd.
- Dr. Ram Singh, Professor Head (CDOE)-IIFT
- Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Additional Secretary and DG-DGFT*
- Shri Dammu Ravi, Secretary (ER)- Ministry of External Affairs*

4:00pm to 4:15pm

Tea / coffee break

4:15pm to 5:15pm

**SESSION 5: DISPUTE RESOLUTION—
NEGOTIATION MEDIATION & ARBITRATION**

When it comes to handling conflict and drafting contract in the service industry, arbitration and negotiation are useful instruments. The decision between arbitration and negotiation is influenced by various elements, including the type of dispute, the desired level of formality, the significance of confidentiality, and the parties' continuing commercial links. To handle all facets of their operations and disputes, many organizations in the service industry take a multifaceted approach, deliberately utilizing both negotiation and arbitration. Thus, following topics will be covered in the session: Arbitration & Negotiation about nonpayment for services rendered to settle cross-border disputes, will Indian parties have the option of using a foreign arbitral seat and developing online dispute resolution for settling disputes.

Moderator: Ms. Abhisar Bairagi, Partner Khaitan & Co

Panelist:

- Mr. Ajay Bhargava, Partner Khaitan & Co
- Mr. Arush Khanna, Partner- Numen Law Offices
- Ms. Purnima Kamble, Senior Partner Fox Mandal & Associate
- Dr. Rama Joga Rao Kasibhatla, Additional Legal Adviser, Department of Legal Affairs- Ministry of Law and Justice
- Dr. SB Saraswat, Managing Director- Global e-auction and e-procurement Company
- Justice Hemant Gupta-Former Judge Supreme Court of India*

5:15pm to 6:00pm

Valedictory Ceremony

- Key Takeaway
Mr. Mohit Saraf, Founder and Partner-Saraf & Partners
- Address by
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bhushan Ramakrishna Gavai*
- Closing Remarks
Dr. Lalit Bhasin
- Vote of thanks
Ms. Saumya Gupta, Deputy Director (Policy), SEPC

6:00pm

End of the Program