



DIGITAL DELHI CONCLAVE - V

JUSTICE FOR ALL

Reforming Institutions Through Innovation
12th-16th Feb 2024



ABOUT Event



The 5th edition of the Digital Delhi Conclave (DDC) was successfully hosted at IIIT-Delhi, focusing on the Sustainable Development Goal of 'Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions.' This year's conclave brought together diverse stakeholders to engage in enriching deliberations through panels, hackathons, and artistic interventions, fostering discussions on institutional reforms aimed at creating a more peaceful and just future.

The conclave highlighted IIIT-Delhi's unique strength in innovation and technological advancements, emphasizing the development of solutions that make governance and the delivery of justice more responsive, equitable, and inclusive. It also explored ideas to enable younger citizens to actively contribute to institutional reforms that meet the demands of the 21st century.

Pre-Event Workshops



Decoding and Creating Context: Inclusive Institutions - Storytelling Workshop by Reshma Tonse and Prakash

IIT-Delhi inaugurated its week-long Digital Delhi Conclave 2025 with an insightful Story Workshop led by the co-founders of 1001 Stories, Reshma Tonse and Prakash. The session, titled "Decoding and Creating Context: Inclusive Institutions," provided participants with a deeper understanding of how context influences perceptions and shapes impactful narratives within institutions.

The workshop shed light on the pivotal role of context in enhancing user-consumer experiences across various domains, while also addressing the importance of crafting inclusive narratives that acknowledge diverse perspectives.

Highlights of the Workshop

- **Understanding Perception through Context:** Reshma and Prakash guided participants in exploring how individual experiences and backgrounds influence the way reality is perceived. This foundational insight emphasized the significance of embracing diverse viewpoints in building inclusive environments.
- **Mastering the Art of Articulation:** The workshop offered practical techniques to help individuals present their perspectives effectively. The co-founders shared strategies for fostering understanding and empathy, enabling participants to communicate ideas that resonate with audiences while promoting mutual respect.
- **Harnessing the Power of Storytelling:** Participants learned how storytelling can act as a powerful tool for bridging gaps and fostering deeper connections. The workshop highlighted how well-crafted narratives can drive transformational change in institutions and societies.

Pre-Event Workshops



Seeing Silicon Valley: Using Photography to Peer Behind the Myth - with Mary Beth Meehan

As part of the Digital Delhi Conclave V, IIT-Delhi hosted a compelling Photography Workshop led by renowned photographer and artist Mary Beth Meehan from Rhode Island, USA. Titled "Seeing Silicon Valley: Using Photography to Peer Behind the Myth," the workshop provided participants with an opportunity to explore the complexities and contradictions of Silicon Valley beyond its popularized image.

Mary, celebrated for her storytelling through photography, text, and public installations, encouraged attendees to challenge preconceived notions surrounding racial, cultural, and social divides. The session emphasized the transformative potential of photography as both an art form and a medium for social commentary and change, inviting participants to uncover the often-overlooked narratives that shape the Silicon Valley story.

Workshop Highlights

- **Exploring Hidden Realities:** Through captivating photographs from her acclaimed book, "Seeing Silicon Valley," Mary provided an intimate look into the lives of people often left out of the mainstream narrative. The workshop demonstrated the value of photography in revealing untold stories and fostering empathy.
- **The Power of Collaboration:** Mary emphasized the importance of collaborating with her subjects, which brought a profound sense of authenticity and depth to her work. She shared her process of building trust with communities, adding a human element to the imagery that resonates deeply with viewers.
- **Rethinking Perspectives:** Participants were inspired to reevaluate their perceptions of Silicon Valley, acknowledging its complexities and the realities faced by those who live and work there. This dialogue-rich session challenged attendees to see beyond the surface and engage with diverse perspectives.

Pre-Event Workshops



Movie Screening of Chaityabhumi (2023) and Discussion with the Director, Somnath Waghmare

As part of the Digital Delhi Conclave V, IIIT-Delhi hosted a screening of the documentary "Chaityabhumi", followed by an engaging discussion with its director, Somnath Waghmare. The event offered attendees a profound exploration of the pivotal role of Chaityabhumi, a site in Mumbai central to the Dalit movement and the legacy of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar.

- **Highlights of the Screening:** The documentary provided a powerful narrative on Dr. Ambedkar's anti-caste struggle and the annual tributes paid at Chaityabhumi, juxtaposing these with the indifference of Mumbai's media and elite. Through vivid storytelling, it illustrated how Dalit communities uphold Ambedkar's teachings while navigating contemporary caste tensions.
- **Post-Screening Discussion:** The director, Somnath Waghmare, engaged in a thought-provoking dialogue with the audience, shedding light on the cultural politics, history, and ongoing struggles for Dalit rights. He emphasized the resilience and activism within Dalit communities and how their fight for equality and dignity remains relevant in today's socio-political context.
- **Impact and Reflections:** Attendees gained valuable insights into the systemic challenges faced by Dalit communities and were encouraged to reflect on societal discrimination and caste-based inequalities. The documentary not only highlighted the struggles but also celebrated the unwavering spirit of Dalit activism in preserving Ambedkar's teachings as a beacon for social justice.

The screening of "Chaityabhumi" and the subsequent discussion served as a meaningful platform for dialogue and awareness, aligning with the conclave's theme of fostering peace, justice, and strong institutions.

Pre-Event Workshops



I draw, hence I am - Art workshop with bakeryprasad

As part of Digital Delhi Conclave V, IIIT-Delhi hosted an engaging art workshop titled 'I Draw, Hence I Am,' facilitated by mixed-media artist Siddhesh Gautam, popularly known as 'Bakery Prasad' on Instagram. The workshop encouraged participants to use artistic expression as a tool for self-reflection and awareness of their personal histories and socio-cultural identities.

Workshop Objectives and Structure

The workshop served as a platform to explore how individuals can utilize their observation skills and creative mediums to provoke thought and document unrecorded practices. It was designed in two interactive phases:

- Exploring Global Self-Portraits: Siddhesh led a discussion on self-portraits by artists worldwide, highlighting the socio-cultural burdens and identities carried by each individual. This session offered a deep dive into the connection between art and lived experiences, shedding light on how personal histories shape creative expression.
- Creating Self-Portraits: Participants were guided through the process of generating ideas and creating their own self-portraits. This hands-on activity encouraged them to delve into self-exploration and reflect on how their personal identities intersect with socio-cultural contexts.

By merging artistic practice with cultural and social awareness, the workshop provided a meaningful starting point for participants to document untold stories and unrecorded practices. Siddhesh's insights and guidance inspired attendees to think critically about their role in promoting inclusivity and justice through art.

The workshop, rich with discussion and creativity, beautifully aligned with the Digital Delhi Conclave's overarching theme of fostering peace, justice, and strong institutions through innovation and dialogue.

Pre-Event Workshops



Dilli Dreams: Poetry Workshop - with Aditi Rao

As part of the ongoing Digital Delhi Conclave V, IIIT-Delhi hosted a thought-provoking poetry workshop titled 'Dilli Dreams' led by renowned poet and author Aditi Rao, celebrated for her works *The Fingers Remember* and *A Kind of Freedom Song*.

The workshop encouraged participants to reflect on the idea of inclusivity within the context of urban spaces like Delhi. Using the city's response during the pandemic—particularly its rejection of migrant laborers—as a starting point, the session aimed to inspire young poets to imagine a more inclusive future.

The goal was to use poetry as a medium for envisioning a city that accommodates and values diversity and offers opportunities for all, regardless of background or origin.

Workshop Highlights

- Exploration of the City's Contradictions:
- Through discussions and guided prompts, Aditi Rao encouraged participants to examine the contrasting realities of Delhi, from its vibrancy and dreams to its systemic exclusions.
- Work-in-Progress Submissions:
- Young and aspiring poets were invited to share their work-in-progress pieces reflecting on the workshop's central theme. This collaborative space allowed participants to refine their poetic voices while engaging with broader questions about urban inclusivity and shared belonging.

Impact and Reflections - The workshop created a safe and inspiring environment for participants to delve into emotional, social, and creative dimensions of what it means to live in a city like Delhi. It also provided a platform to discuss the intersection of poetry, technology, and social justice, aligning seamlessly with the conclave's broader focus on peace, justice, and strong institutions.



Main Event

PANEL 1: SOCIAL JUSTICE AND DIGITAL SPACE



Siddhesh Gautam
(Bakery Prasad)
Independent Multidiscipline,
Mixed Media Artist,
Ambedkarite



Priya Thuvasser,
Khabar Lahariya



Sunita Prajapati,
Khabar Lahariya



Dr. Aqsa Shaikh
Associate Professor
Hamdard Institute of
Medical Sciences
and Research



Dr. Ravikant Kisana
(buffalo intellectual)
Associate Professor,
Woxsen University

PANEL 2: JUST TECHNOLOGY: CAN DIGITIZATION OF LAW BE INCLUSIVE?



Ashwin Varghese
Assistant Professor
Jindal School of Liberal Arts & Humanities,
O.P Jindal University



Mrinalini Ravindranath
Lawyer
Criminal Justice and Police
Accountability Project



Jai Vipra
Incoming CyberBRICS Fellow



Main Event

PANEL 3: JUST INSTITUTIONS FOR AI GOVERNANCE



Kazim Rizwi
The Dialogue
(Policy Think Tank)



Amber Sinha
Independent Activist
and Author of
Networked Public



Theresa Zuger
Public Interest AI



Leon Morenas
Associate Professor,
School of Planning and
Architecture

KEYNOTE LECTURE BY
JUSTICE S MURALIDHAR (RETD.)
(Former Chief Justice, High Court of Orissa)

Technology as a tool for better systems of justice: Possibilities and Challenges





01

Panel

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND DIGITAL SPACE

As part of Digital Delhi Conclave V, IIIT-Delhi hosted an insightful panel discussion titled 'Social Justice and Digital Space' featuring a diverse panel of esteemed speakers:

- Siddhesh Gautam (Bakery Prasad): Independent Multidisciplinary Artist and Ambedkarite
- Dr. Aqsa Shaikh: Associate Professor, Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences and Research
- Dr. Ravikant Kisana (Buffalo Intellectual): Associate Professor, Woxsen University
- Priya Thuvasser and Sunita Prajapati: Journalists from Khabar Lahariya

Discussion Highlights

The panel explored the intersection of social justice and digital platforms, focusing on how digital spaces are reshaping the narratives around self-expression, knowledge-sharing, and community empowerment.

1. The Role of Digital Media in Self-Expression:

- Siddhesh Gautam shared how digital platforms have become a space for marginalized voices to assert their identities and express resistance, particularly in addressing socio-political injustices.
- Dr. Aqsa Shaikh highlighted the challenges faced by underrepresented communities in accessing digital spaces and the urgent need for inclusive digital policies.

2. Bridging Knowledge Gaps through Digital Platforms:

- Priya Thuvasser and Sunita Prajapati from Khabar Lahariya, India's first rural digital news platform, shared their experiences of using digital journalism to highlight issues often ignored by mainstream media. Their work has been instrumental in bringing attention to rural voices, gender issues, and local governance challenges.
- Dr. Ravikant Kisana emphasized the potential of digital tools to democratize knowledge and empower individuals to challenge hegemonic systems of thought, particularly in academia and public discourse.

3. **Social Media as a Tool for Justice and Awareness:** The panelists reflected on how social media can amplify grassroots movements, spark meaningful conversations, and challenge power structures. However, they also acknowledged its limitations, including algorithmic biases and the spread of misinformation, which can further marginalize vulnerable communities.

Key Takeaways

- Digital platforms are both an opportunity and a challenge for promoting social justice. While they enable the amplification of marginalized voices, there is a pressing need for greater inclusivity and ethical accountability.
- Efforts to bridge the digital divide must address systemic barriers, including access to technology, literacy, and representation in digital spaces.
- Creative expression, such as visual art, journalism, and academic critique, plays a vital role in reshaping narratives and fostering equitable participation in the digital age.

Conclusion

The panel left the audience with a deeper understanding of the complex relationship between technology and social justice. By spotlighting voices from diverse fields, this discussion underscored the potential of digital platforms to serve as catalysts for positive change while highlighting the ongoing work required to ensure they are truly inclusive and equitable.





Panel

02

JUST TECHNOLOGY: CAN DIGITIZATION OF LAW BE INCLUSIVE?

As part of Digital Delhi Conclave V, IIIT-Delhi hosted an engaging panel discussion titled "Just Technology: Can Digitization of Law Be Inclusive?" featuring experts in law, policy, and technology:

- Ashwin Varghese: Assistant Professor, Jindal School of Liberal Arts & Humanities, O.P. Jindal University
- Mrinalini Ravindranath: Lawyer, Criminal Justice and Police Accountability Project
- Jai Vipra: Incoming CyberBRICS Fellow

Discussion Highlights

The panel delved into the intersection of technology, law, and inclusivity, exploring how digitization can transform legal systems while ensuring equitable access and representation for all.

1. The Promise of AI in Legal Processes:

- Ashwin Varghese emphasized the potential of AI-powered tools to enhance efficiency in legal decision-making. However, he raised critical questions about algorithmic governance and the importance of ensuring fairness and inclusivity in the design and implementation of AI systems.
- He highlighted the dual challenge of optimizing decision-making while avoiding biases inherent in AI infrastructures.

2. Inclusive Digitization of Law:

- Mrinalini Ravindranath underscored the need for inclusive digitization efforts, especially in marginalized communities. She pointed out the barriers to accessing digital legal tools, such as lack of infrastructure, digital literacy, and systemic inequities, which often exclude vulnerable groups from benefiting fully from legal reforms.
- She also discussed the implications of digitization on police accountability and the importance of using technology to promote justice and transparency.

3. Governance and Regulation in Digital Legal Systems:

- Jai Vipra explored the global implications of digitization, drawing attention to the need for robust governance frameworks to ensure that digital legal systems are equitable and effective.
- She highlighted examples of how regulatory frameworks for AI and digitization are being developed globally, particularly in emerging economies, and the lessons India can learn from these initiatives.

Key Takeaways

- The digitization of legal systems holds immense promise, but it must be approached with caution to avoid replicating or amplifying existing inequalities.
- Algorithmic governance needs to be transparent, accountable, and inclusive to prevent systemic biases in legal decision-making.
- Bridging the digital divide is critical for ensuring equitable access to legal resources, especially for marginalized communities.
- Collaboration between lawmakers, technologists, and civil society is essential to create an inclusive and just digital legal ecosystem.

Conclusion

The panel provided thought-provoking insights into the potential and challenges of legal digitization, urging stakeholders to prioritize fairness, accessibility, and inclusivity in the development and implementation of legal technologies. The discussion reinforced the importance of a balanced approach that combines technological innovation with ethical and social considerations.





03

Panel

JUST INSTITUTIONS FOR AI GOVERNANCE

As part of Digital Delhi Conclave V, IIIT-Delhi hosted a stimulating panel discussion titled “Just Institutions for AI Governance,” featuring distinguished experts in AI, policy, and public administration:

- Kazim Rizwi: The Dialogue (Policy Think Tank)
- Amber Sinha: Independent Activist and Author of Networked Public
- Theresa Zuger: Public Interest AI
- Leon Morenas: Associate Professor, School of Planning and Architecture

Discussion Highlights

The panel focused on the critical role of just institutions in overseeing AI governance, particularly its integration into public administration and the need for effective regulatory frameworks to ensure fairness and accountability in AI applications.

1. AI and Public Administration:

- Kazim Rizwi highlighted the growing integration of AI in public administration and how it could enhance decision-making, efficiency, and service delivery. However, he pointed out that such integration must be carefully regulated to avoid reinforcing existing power structures and biases in government systems.
- He emphasized the necessity of inclusive policymaking to ensure AI technologies serve all citizens equitably, with a focus on accessibility for marginalized groups.

2. Building Just and Inclusive AI Governance Frameworks:

- Amber Sinha discussed the challenges of creating fair AI governance structures and highlighted the role of activism and public discourse in ensuring that AI systems are used ethically. She stressed the importance of community engagement and the need for open-source, transparent systems that can be publicly scrutinized.
- She also raised concerns about the centralization of power in AI development and stressed the need to democratize AI governance, ensuring it is shaped by diverse voices and interests.

3. Role of Academic and Institutional Expertise:

- Theresa Zuger brought attention to the role of public interest AI and how AI can be used for social good if managed properly. She urged for collaborations between governments, universities, and civil society to create frameworks that prioritize human rights and dignity in AI governance.
- Leon Morenas offered a perspective on the importance of urban planning in AI governance, discussing how AI systems, when integrated into cities and urban infrastructures, must consider long-term social impacts and be governed by fair, accountable institutions.

Key Takeaways

- AI governance requires the creation of robust institutions that are not only efficient but also transparent, inclusive, and accountable to the public.
- Public administration can benefit significantly from AI, but careful attention must be paid to ethical implications and potential risks, such as discrimination and loss of privacy.
- Regulatory frameworks for AI should prioritize equity and justice, ensuring that AI technologies serve the public good and are not co-opted by powerful interests.
- Collaboration between policy think tanks, civil society, activists, and academia is essential for developing a governance structure that is both effective and just.

Conclusion

This panel provided important insights into the challenges of AI governance, stressing the need for inclusive and accountable systems that are capable of managing the complexities and ethical issues arising from the use of AI in public administration. It was clear that to build a just society, the governance of AI must be approached with collaborative, transparent, and equitable frameworks that prioritize public interest and human rights.





KeyNote

04

TECHNOLOGY AS A TOOL FOR BETTER SYSTEMS OF JUSTICE: POSSIBILITIES AND CHALLENGES

As part of Digital Delhi Conclave V, IIIT-Delhi was honored to host a keynote lecture by Justice S. Muralidhar (Retd.), Former Chief Justice of the High Court of Orissa, on the theme "Technology as a Tool for Better Systems of Justice: Possibilities and Challenges." The event was inaugurated by Prof. Ranjan Bose, Director, IIIT-Delhi, who warmly welcomed Justice Muralidhar, acknowledging his esteemed career and contributions to the legal field.

Speaker Overview

Justice S. Muralidhar has a distinguished career in the Indian judiciary. Beginning his legal practice in Chennai in 1984, he became a Judge of the High Court of Delhi in 2006 and later served as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Odisha until his retirement in August 2023. Throughout his judicial career, he made significant contributions across various branches of law, including constitutional, commercial, arbitration, tax, and criminal laws.

Lecture Highlights

In his keynote address, Justice Muralidhar delved into the transformative potential of technology in the Indian judicial system. He explored both the possibilities and challenges that technology presents for enhancing justice delivery. Key points included:

1. Leveraging Technology for Efficiency:

- Justice Muralidhar emphasized the role of technology in streamlining judicial processes, making justice more accessible and efficient. He discussed how digital platforms could assist in reducing the case backlog, expediting hearings, and providing quicker access to legal resources.

2. Enhancing Transparency and Accountability:

- He discussed how technology can improve transparency in the justice system, making court proceedings more visible to the public. The use of digitized court records and online hearings can foster greater accountability, particularly in ensuring that decisions are made fairly and without bias.

3. Access to Justice for Marginalized Communities:

- One of the major themes of his address was how technology can be leveraged to bring justice closer to those in remote areas, who traditionally have limited access to legal resources. Digital solutions like online legal aid services and virtual courts can bridge this gap and ensure that justice is inclusive.

4. Challenges in Integrating Technology:

- Justice Muralidhar also addressed the challenges posed by the integration of technology in the judicial system. These include issues related to digital literacy, the preservation of privacy, and the potential for technology to exacerbate existing inequalities if not implemented with care. He stressed the importance of training judicial officers to use these tools effectively and ethically.

5. Future Prospects:

- Looking ahead, Justice Muralidhar outlined the possibilities for AI and machine learning to assist in decision-making processes, help in case management, and predict case outcomes. He urged that technology be viewed as an ally rather than a replacement, stressing its potential to complement human judgment in the pursuit of justice.

Conclusion

The lecture was an enlightening exploration of the intersection of law and technology, emphasizing the immense potential technology holds in reshaping the Indian judicial system. Justice Muralidhar's insights highlighted that, while technology can serve as a powerful tool for improving access to justice, its implementation must be handled with care and foresight to avoid deepening existing societal inequalities. His call for a balanced, thoughtful integration of technology in the judicial process resonated deeply with the audience.

The lecture successfully set the stage for a deeper conversation on how technology can be utilized responsibly to build more inclusive, transparent, and efficient legal systems.





Ideathon

25 UNDER 25 IDEATHON - DELHI @ 2047

The 25 under 25 Ideathon at Digital Delhi Conclave V provided a vibrant platform for young innovators to showcase their forward-thinking ideas on how technology can shape the future of Delhi by 2047. The event invited young minds to present their visionary solutions for tackling key challenges faced by the city, with a focus on urban sustainability, inclusive growth, and social justice.

Key Highlights:

- **Innovative Solutions:** Teams of under-25 participants presented ideas ranging from AI-driven governance to smart infrastructure solutions, with an emphasis on how technology can foster more inclusive and equitable systems.
- **Impact on Justice:** In particular, the "Justice for All Ideathon" recognized innovative solutions that aimed to leverage digital tools for enhancing access to justice, showcasing how technology can be a force for positive change in the legal and judicial systems.

Recognition:

We are proud to announce that two teams emerged as the top winner of the "Justice for All Ideathon", setting a benchmark for creativity and impactful thinking. Their project, focused on improving digital accessibility in legal processes, demonstrated great potential for transforming justice delivery in the future.

Looking Forward:

The Ideathon not only recognized the best ideas but also provided a space for young people to engage deeply with the future of Delhi, with the power of technology at the heart of the conversation. The ideas presented during this event have sparked important conversations about the role of youth in shaping the future of public systems and governance.

We congratulate all the participants for their hard work and dedication, and we are excited to see how these ideas evolve and contribute to making Delhi a smarter, fairer, and more inclusive city in the coming decades.

OUR TEAM



Aasim Khan
Assistant Professor (SSH)



Soibam Haripriya
Assistant Professor (SSH)



Dr. Praveen Priyadarshi
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THANK YOU



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