

Amita Dhanda

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CURRENT POSITION AND EXPERIENCE

From February, 2021	Professor Emerita NALSAR
From 2008 till date From 2008 till date	Head Centre for Disability Studies Head Centre for Legal Philosophy and Justice Education
From August 1999 to Feb 2021	Professor of Law NALSAR
From 2015- November 2025	Chairperson Doctoral Research Board
From 2014 to 2021	Convener Academics and Exams
From 2011-2013	Dean Academic
From October 1999 to January 2002	Registrar in charge

COURSES TAUGHT

Legal Methods
Law and Poverty
Administrative Law
Jurisprudence
Interpretation of Statutes
Applied Jurisprudence
Law and Literature

EDUCATION

1995	Ph.d, Faculty of Law University of Delhi
1982	LL.M, Faculty of Law University of Delhi
1979	LL.B, Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi
1976	B.A. (Eng. Hons), Miranda House, University of Delhi

AREAS OF INTEREST

Legal Theory
Disability Rights
Jurisprudence,
Human Rights Law
Theory of Interpretation

ACADEMIC HONOURS/AWARDS

- 2013 Invited to teach a course on Pluralizing Inclusion: Equality and Non-discrimination in a Globalizing world at University of Western Ontario, Canada in January, 2013
- 2012 Visited Hungary as a Senior Scholar under Indo Hungarian Educational Exchange Programme, to deepen comparative understandings of disability rights and law from November 8–30, 2012 (sponsored by UGC and Hungarian Scholarship Board).
- 2012 Appointed to National Advisory Council on the Right to Education Act.
- 2011 Invited to teach a course on Law and Poverty at University

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- 2026 Annual Survey of State Laws in India 2023 (NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad)
- 2024 Selected Works of Upendra Baxi Law Justice and Society Vol 1 Human Rights OUP New Delhi ISBN 978-0-19-012474-8
Selected Works of Upendra Baxi Law Justice and Society Vol 1V Legal Education OUP New Delhi ISBN 978-0-19-012474-8
- 2023 NS Bindra Interpretation of Statutes 13th edition Lexis Nexis, New Delhi 978-93-95116-03-9
- 2022 With Faizan Mustafa Annual Survey of State Laws in India 2020 (Nalsar University of Law, Hyderabad)
- 2017 (ed.), *Jain and Jain Principles of Administrative Law*, 7th Edition (Lexis Nexis-Butterworths, 2017).
(ed.), *N S Bindra's Interpretation of Statutes*, 12th Edition (Lexis Nexis-Butterworths, 2017).
- 2016 with Archana Parashar (eds.), *Redefining Family Law in India* (Routledge, 2008, paperback edition with new afterword, 2016).
- 2014 (ed.), *N.S.Bindra's Interpretation of Statutes*, 11th Edition (Lexis Nexis-Butterworths, 2014).
- 2010 Handbook on Legal Capacity in the CRPD for the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner, United Nations, Geneva (2010).
with Rajive Raturi (eds.), *Harmonizing Laws with the UNCRPD*, (2010)

- 2009 with Gabor Gombos, *Catalyzing Self Advocacy: An Experiment in India* (Bapu Trust, Pune, 2009).
with Archana Parashar (eds.), *Decolonization of Legal Knowledge* (Routledge, 2009).
- 2007 with M N Rao (eds.), *NS Bindra's Interpretation of Statutes* 10th Edition (Lexis Nexis-Butterworths, 2007).
- 2005 with Gita Ramaswamy, *On their Own: A Socio-Legal Investigation of Inter-Country Adoptions in India* (Otherwise Publications, 2005).
- 2000 *Legal Order and Mental Disorder* (Sage Publications, 2000).
(ed.) *Moot Courts for Interactive Education* (Gogia and Company, 2000).
- 1999 with Archana Parashar (eds.), *Engendering Law: Essays in Honour of Lotika Sarkar* (Eastern Book Company, 1999).
- 1990 with Upendra Baxi, *Valiant Victims and Lethal Litigation: The Bhopal Case* (Indian Law Institute, 1990).
- 1988 assisted in D.A. Desai, M. L. Jain and Madhava Menon (eds.) *Ratanlal Dhirajlal, Law of Crimes* 23rd Edition (vol.1, 1987) (vol.2, 1988).
- 1987 with O.P. Shukla, *Referencer to Statutory Rules and Orders 1983* (Indian Law Institute, 1987).
- 1986 *Referencer to Statutory Rules and Orders 1982* (Indian Law Institute, 1986).

Book Chapters

- 2025 “Swinging on Windmills of Love, Life and Law the Quixotic Pursuits of Upendra Baxi : <https://repository.nls.ac.in/nlsj/vol18/iss2/1/>”
“Inaugurating a discourse on autonomy and Choice : Suchita Srivastava v Chandigarh Administration” in Navdeep Singh and Shruti Bedi (eds) *Ability Landmark Judgements on Disability Jurisprudence in India* (The Browser< Chandigarh)
“Every Rule is Not Law : the Varied Invocations of the Rule of Law” in Venkatanarayanan Sethuraman et al (eds) *Rule of Law in India Exploring Various Dimensions* (Aakar Books)
- 2024 “The Disability Weave of the Indian Supreme Court – the first 75 Years” in Anurag Bhaskar and Vasudev Devadasan (eds) *Justice for the Nation Reflections on 75 years of the Supreme Court of India* (Thomson Reuters)
With Gabor Gombos “Countering Disability Hierarchy with Cross Disability Solidarity” in Stephen J Meyers, Megan McCloskey and Gabor Petri (eds) *The Routledge International Handbook of Disability Human Rights Hierarchies* (Routledge)
“ The Literature before the Law : My Time at Miranda House” in Devjani Ray (ed) *The Miranda Chronicles Daughters of Independence* (Har Anand Publications)
- 2023 “India Disability Rights in a ‘ Quasi-federal’ Country in Delia Ferri, Francesco Palermo and Giuseppe Martinico (eds) *Federalism and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* (Hart)

- 2022 “Evaluating the Induction of Article 12 Jurisprudence in Indian Law: Is half a loaf better?” in Michael Bach and Nicolas Espejo-Yaksic (eds.) *Legal Capacity, Disability and Human Rights* (Intersentia)
- ‘Legal capacity and the dilemmas of Ableism: Reflecting on the life and work of Dr. Shirish Deshpande’ in Sanjay Jain (ed) *Critical Essays on Disability Rights Jurisprudence : Combating Exclusion Embracing Inclusion* (Bloomsbury)
- 2020 “The process of State Party Reporting to the CRPD Committee: the Indian Experience” E J Karkoulis and K Johnson (ed) *Recognizing Human rights in Different Cultural Contexts* (Palgrave Macmillan 2020).
- “Establishing a Disability Studies Centre in a Law University: Recounting the CDS NALSAR Experience” in Nilika Mehrotra (ed) *Disability Studies in India* (Springer 2020).
- 2019 ‘Legislating on Mental Health in India to Achieve SDG3’ in (ed.) Laura Davidson “The Routledge Handbook of International Development, Mental Health and Wellbeing” (Routledge Publications, 2019).
- The Baxian Bioscope on Indian Judicial Process (ed.,) Salman Khurshid, Sidharth Luthra, Lokendra Malik, Shruti Bedi, *Essays in Honour of Upendra Baxi on Judicial Review, Process, Powers and Problems* (Cambridge University Press, 2019)
- Foreword written to Anindita Mukherjee’s book on *The Legal Right to Housing India*, (Cambridge University Press 2019).
- Foreword written to Astha Saxena’s book *Land Law in India* by (Taylor & Francis group, United Kingdom 2019)
- 2018 “Case for and Against the CRPD Paradigm of Universal Legal Capacity with Support” translated to French in Benoit Eyraud, Julie Minoc and Cecile Hanon (eds.) *Choisir et agir pour autrui?* (John Libbey Eurotext, 2018).
- with Gabor Gombos, “Questions of Criminal Culpability and Persons with Disabilities” in Eilionóir Flynn, Anna Arstein Kerslake, Cliona de Bhailís, Maria Laura Serra (eds.), *Global Perspectives on Legal Capacity Reform: Our Voices, Our Stories* (Routledge, 2018)
- Foreword to R C Jiloha, Perna Kukreti, and Dinesh Kataria, *Forensic Psychiatry: An Indian Perspective* (Jaypee, 2018).
- Foreword to Neha Pathakji, *Corporations and Disability Rights: Bridging the Digital Divide* (Oxford University Press, 2018)
- 2017 “Sizing Up the Opposition: Taking the Comparative Route to Entrench the CRPD Paradigm” in M P Singh (ed.), *The Indian Yearbook of Comparative Law* (Oxford University Press, 2017).
- 2016 “The Criminal Justice Process of India and an Interview with Mr Dinesh Mathur, Senior Advocate High Court of Delhi” in Jane Delahunty and Dilip K Das (eds.) *Trends in Legal Advocacy: Interviews with Prosecutors and Criminal Defense Lawyers Across the Globe* (CRC Press, 2016).

- 2013 “Sameness and Difference: Twin Track Empowerment for Women with Disabilities” in Renu Adlakha (ed.) *Disability Studies in India: Global Discourses, Local Realities* (Routledge, 2013).
- Realising the right to health through co-operative judicial review: An analysis of the role of the Indian Supreme Court” in Oscar Vilhena, Upendra Baxi and Frans Viljoen (eds.) *Transformative constitutionalism: Comparing the apex courts of Brazil, India and South Africa* (Pretoria: Pretoria University Law Press, 2013).
- 2012 “Universal Legal Capacity as a Universal Human Right”, in Michael Dudley, Derrick Silove and Fran Gale (eds.) *Mental Health and Human Rights* (Oxford University Press, 2012).
- “Constructing the New Paradigm of Universal Legal Capacity with Support”, 1 (3–4) *Fogyatekossag es Tasadalom* (2009) 2257- 268.
- 2009 “The Power of One: The Law Teacher in the Academy” in Amita Dhanda and Archana Parashar (eds.) *Decolonization of Legal Knowledge* (Routledge, 2009).
- “What should be the Role of Law in Aids Control?” in Ritu Priya (ed.) *Dialogues on AIDS: Perspectives for AIDS in India* (Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam Publications, 2009).
- 2008 “A Psychosocial Critique of the Law of Adoption in India” in Archana Parashar & Amita Dhanda (eds.) *Redefining Family Law in India* (New Delhi: Routledge 2008).
- 2007 “What does the Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities Promise to Persons with Psychosocial Disability?” *Aaina* (March, 2007).
- 2004 with D S Goel, “Women and Mental Health” in *Mental Health: An Indian Perspective 1946–2003* (2004).
- 2003 “Interface of Law in Mental Health” in *Priorities for Mental Health Sector Development in Gujarat* (Dept. of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Gujarat, 2003).
- 2001 “Women and the Law on Unsoundness of Mind” in Bhargavi Davar (ed.) *Mental Health from a Gender Perspective* (Sage, 2001).
- 1999 “Psychologising Dissent: Psychiatric Labelling and Social Control” in Amita Dhanda and Archana Parashar (eds.), *Engendering Law: Essays in Honour of Lotika Sarkar* (Eastern Book Company, 1999).
- 1998 “Insanity in Law: Dissent Deviance and Disorder” in Satish Saberwal and Heiko Sievers (eds.), *Rules Laws and Constitutions* (Sage Publications, 1998).
- with S.K. Chatrath, “Expenditure for Medical Treatment: A Reexamination of the Deduction Provision,” *The Tax Bar* (March 1998).
- “Law, Gender and Insanity” in Patricia Uberoi (ed.), *Social Reform, Sexuality and the State* (Sage Publications, 1996).
- 1995 “Involuntary Commitment to Mental Hospitals,” *The Lawyers* (November 1995).
- “Law Psychiatry and Human Right,” *Seminar* (June 1995).

- “Why is a Comprehensive Legislation Required for Persons with Disabilities”, *Samadhan News* (March 1995).
- 1994 “Mental Health Law and Policy: Need for Coordination” in P. Mane and K. Gandevia (eds.), *Mental Health in India* (Tata Institute of Social Sciences, 1994).
- “Promotion of Mental Health Care by Courts: The Role of Non Governmental Organisations” *Health for Millions* (1994).
- 1987 “The Plight of the Doubly Damned: The Mentally Ill Women in India” in P. Leelakrishnan and G. Sadasivan Nair (eds.), *New Horizons of Law* (1987).

Journal Articles

- 2018 “Teaching Baxi and Learning from Him: The Symbiotic Relationship between Learning and Teaching” *Jindal Global Review* (October 2018).
- 2017 “Conversations Between the Proponents of the New Paradigm of Legal Capacity” 13(1) *International Journal of Law in Context* (2017) 87–95.
- “From Duality to Indivisibility: Mental Health Care and Human Rights” 32(3) [*South African Journal on Human Rights*](#) (2016) 438–456.
- “Making up the Indian Legal Mind on the Legal Capacity of Persons with Disabilities” 14 *Journal of the National Human Rights Commission* (2015) 53–71.
- 2016 “Unravelling the Poverty Conundrum to Reach the Sustainable Development Goal of Eradicating Poverty”, 15 *Journal of the National Human Rights Commission India* (2016) 93-111.
- 2015 Mental Health, Human Rights Law, *Medico-Friends Bulletin* (February, 2015).
- 2009 “Disability Health and Human Rights” 11 *ILS Law Review* (2009)15.
- 2008 “The Jurisprudence of Inclusion: Book review of Martha Nussbaum’s *Frontiers of Justice, Disability, Nationality, Species Membership*” 7 *Journal of the National Human Rights Commission* (2008).
- “Constructing a New Human Rights Lexicon: Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities” 4 (1) *Sur International Journal of Human Rights* (2008).
- 2007 “Legal Capacity in the Disability Rights Convention: Stranglehold of the Past or Lodestar for the Future”, 34(2) *Syracuse Journal of International Law and Commerce* (2007) 429-462.
- with Thelma Narayan, “Mental Health and Human Rights,” *The Lancet Online* (4 September, 2007).
- “Powering Responsibility, Conscience-Keeping in Public Law: The Scholarship of S.P. Sathe” 1 (1) *The Indian Journal of Constitutional Law* (2007) 1-18.

- 2005 “Civil and Political Rights of Persons with Disabilities” in *Disability Rights Manual* (National Human Rights Commission, 2005).
- “The Right to Treatment of Persons with Psycho-Social Disabilities and the Role of Courts” 28 *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry* (2005) 155–170.
- 2004 “A Participative Evaluation of Rights of Persons with Psychosocial Disability” 3 *Journal of National Human Rights Commission India* (2004) 117.
- 1994 “Mental Health Treatment for Minors: The Problems of an Unproblematic Approach”, *Journal of Indian Law Institute* (September– December 1994).
- “Womb Removal of Women with Mental Retardation: Constitutional Constraints on State Power”, *Samadhan News* (March 1994).
- 1992 “Strategies of Professional Collaboration to Promote the Rights of the Mentally Ill” (Scarf-Lawasia, 1992).
- “Should Mental Illness be a Bar to Marriage or a Ground for Divorce”, (Scarf-Lawasia, 1992).
- “Regulating Mental Health Services through Nodal Mental Health Authorities: A Critical Evaluation”, LIII (1) *Indian Journal of Social Work* (1992).
- “Law Policy for the Mentally Retarded “, XXXX (1) *Indian Council of Child Welfare News Bulletin* (1992).
- “A Plea for a Distinct Legal Regime for Persons with Mental Retardation”, 1 (2) *Vatsalya Darpan* (1992).
- 1991 “Adjudicative Justice for Mental Hospital Inmates” 3(1) *International Bulletin of Law and Mental Health* (1991).
- “Legal Recognition for Mental Health Professionals—An Advocacy”, *Indian Journal of Clinical Psychology* (1991).
- “The AIDS Prevention Bill of 1989—An Agenda for the Joint Select Committee”, 33 (1) *Journal of Indian Law Institute* (1991).
- “Compassion Not Coercion”, XVII (4) *Health for Millions* (1991).
- 1990 “In the Light of Its Non-enforcement: A Critical Appraisal of the Mental Health Act of 1987” 9 *Continuing Medical Education Programme* (Indian Psychiatric Society, 1990).
- 1987 “Daughter's Duty to Maintain Parents: Supreme Court on the Path of Son-Daughter Parity” 29 (1) *Journal of Indian Law Institute* (1987).
- 1985 “Does the Offence of Adultery Accord Protection to Women and Marriage” 12(3) *Ind Bar Review* (1985).
- “A Case of Judicial Fatigue—*Dilsher Singh v. State*” *Crimes* (1985).
- 1984 “A Boon for the Self Occupying Owner—*Shiela Kaushish v. CIT*” *Indian Tax Cases* (1984).

Others

Book Review/Forewords/Blogs

- 2021 With Gabor Gombos “Make the last first: In Triage Policies and to Prevent Denial of Emergency Care Services”
<https://validity.ngo/projects-2/tackling-torture-against-persons-with-disabilities-in-the-context-of-the-covid-19-pandemic-webinar-series-2/>.
- ‘Has there been a Slip between Cup and Lip : Vikash Kumar vs UPSC’”, [Oxford Human Rights Hub,
<https://ohrh.law.ox.ac.uk/has-there-been-a-slip-between-cup-and-lip-vikash-kumar-v-upsc/>].
- 2019 Foreword written to Anindita Mukherjee’s book on The Legal Right to Housing India, (Cambridge University Press 2019).
- Foreword written to Astha Saxena’s book Land Law in India by (Taylor & Francis group, United Kingdom 2019)
- 2018 Foreword to Neha Pathakji, *Corporations and Disability Rights: Bridging the Digital Divide* (Oxford University Press, 2018)
- 1988 “Book review of Vasudha Dhagamwar's Women and Divorce” 30 (4) *Journal Indian Law Institute* (1988).
- 1986 “Book Review of M. N. Srinivas Reflections on Dowry” 28 (1) *Journal of Indian Law Institute* (1986).

Writing in Popular Media

- 2018 “Silence, no longer an option: Need more than the law to oust sexual harassment”, *Deccan Chronicle*, October 7, 2018.
- 2017 “Leila Seth: Striving for Justice in Word and Deed”, *New Indian Express*, May 11, 2017.
- “Supreme Court’s order against Justice Karnan fails the test of law – and compassion”, *Scroll.in*, May 11, 2017.
- 2016 For a Rights Based Approach” *Frontline*, September 16, 2016.
- “Curfews, Bandhs and People's Rights”, *New Indian Express*, August 31, 2016.
- “Reasonable Accommodation for All”, *Café Dissensus*, August 14, 2016.
- “Viklang or divyang: what is in a name?”, *New Indian Express*, June 4, 2016.
- “Warped priorities: Why a law for terminating treatment before providing for it makes no sense”, *Scroll.in*, June 2, 2016.

- “On Protecting the Rights of Women with Disabilities”, *New Indian Express*, May 7, 2016.
- “Why GN Saibaba’s lawyers must take the State to court for the violation of his disability rights”, *Scroll.in*, April 13, 2016.
- “Some Lessons from the JNU-HCU Imbroglio: Policing not as Puppeteering - The Mandate of Rule of Law”, *Legally India*, March 29, 2016.
- “It’s the police, not Hyderabad University students, who must be charged with breaking the law”, *Scroll.in*, March 28, 2016.
- “Certifying Caste Discrimination”, *Legally India*, April 6, 2016.
- “Judicial Indiscipline or a Cry For Help the Interim Stay Order of Justice Karnan”, *Kafila*, February 27, 2016.
- 2014 “A Retrograde and Incoherent Law”, *The Hindu*, February 6, 2014.
- “Will the new Bill benefit the freshly included disabilities?”, *Kafila*, February 10, 2014.
- “RIP Lotika Sarkar: Pioneering Feminist and Lawyer but Teacher Foremost”, *Legally India*, March 8, 2014.
- 2007 “Book review of Martha Nussbaum’s *Frontiers of Justice, Disability, Nationality, Species Membership*” in *The Hindu*, November 29, 2007.

Research Projects

- 2023-25 Co-Investigator for Project by UNFPA project entitled “Making the Invisible Visible in Law Practice and Legal Education
- 2018-2021 Awarded a three-year project by Ford Foundation entitled *Incubating a Discourse for Cooperation, Contentment and Care to Enable Justice for All* (2018–2021).
- 2014-2017 Completed a project on *Knowledge Based Intervention to Strengthen the Realisation of Socio-Economic Rights*. The project produced four publication worthy books and innumerable locally consumable knowledge products. Also undertook numerous conversations with local, national and international players.
- 2013 Prepared a Memorandum on the Mental Health Care Bill, 2013 and then testified before the Rajya Sabha Joint Committee on October 21, 2013.
- 2012 A legal review of Legislations including the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979 as they relate to human trafficking in the Garment and Domestic Work sectors in India” to International Labour Office, Geneva in (September, 2012).
- Prepared the draft Country Report for the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to be submitted to the United Nations Treaty body on the Convention Rights of Persons with Disabilities (May 2012).

- 2011 Legal Consultant to the Committee established by Ministry of Social Justice and empowerment to formulate a new law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The legislation was prepared and submitted with full justification (June 2011).
- Prepared the National Trust for the Legal Capacity and Support and Support for Persons with Disabilities Amendment, Bill of 2011 to bring the National Trust Act in harmony with the UNCRPD (July 2011).
- 2008 Prepared Consultation paper for a Consortium of Non Governmental Organizations suggesting amendments to the Persons with Disabilities Act to bring it in harmony with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and facilitated discussions on the same in New Delhi (March 2008).
- Jointly prepared with Gabor Gombos a consultation paper for the National Trust suggesting amendments to the National Trust Act to bring it in harmony with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and facilitated discussions on the same at Bangalore and Guwahati (July–August 2008)

Annual Surveys of Indian Laws

- 2022 “Annual Survey of Central Legislation 2022-April, Volume 1 [NALSAR]
- 1998 “Annual Survey of Central Legislation 1997-98 in XXXII *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute)
- 1996 “Annual Survey of Central Legislation 1996” XXXI *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute)
- 1995 “Annual Survey of Central Subordinate Legislation 1995” in XXX *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute)
- 1994 “Annual Survey of Central Subordinate Legislation 1994” XXIX *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute).
- 1993 “Annual Survey of Central Legislation 1993”, XXVIII *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute).
- 1993 “Annual Survey of Central Subordinate Legislation 1993”, XXVIII *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute).
- 1992 “Annual Survey on Central Subordinate Legislation 1992”, XXVII *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute).
- 1991 “Annual Survey of Central Subordinate Legislation 1991”, XXVII *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute).
- 1990 Annual Survey of Central Subordinate Legislation 1990”, XXVI *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute).
- 1989 “Annual Survey of Central Subordinate Legislation 1989”, XXV *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute).
- 1988 “Annual Survey of Central Subordinate Legislation 1988”, XXIV *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute).

- 1987 “Annual Survey of Central Subordinate Legislation 1987”, XXIII *ASIL* (Indian Law Institute).
- 1984 “Annual Survey of Central Subordinate Legislation 1984” XIX *ASIL* (Indian law Institute).

Advocacy

Disability Rights Advocacy

- NGO Delegate and Legal Resource-Person in the United Nations Ad Hoc Committee on the Disability Convention to assist in the adoption of a Disability Convention which accords recognition to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Wrote a series of concept papers on legal capacity which substantially contributed to the legal provision finally adopted by the United Nations.
- Intervened as petitioner-in-person as a Founder Trustee of Bapu Trust in *Saarthak v. Union of India* to highlight the perspective of users and survivors and to keep the Court informed with international developments in disability rights.
- **Citizen Bill** Member of a citizens’ group which drafted a Citizen’s bill for Persons with Disability. March–June 1994. This Bill assisted rights advocacy for persons with disability.
- **Supporting People’s Law Reform Initiative** Facilitated from 2004 to 2006 a series of workshops with cross disability organizations on the drafting of the Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities supported by Action Aid India Office.
- In 1997 provided a year-long training to individual experts and civil society groups on the legal status of persons with intellectual disability. The study laid the foundation of lay understanding on the necessity of engaging with the law. The initiative laid the basis for a number of informed law-making efforts from civil society.

Memorandum to Law Commission

- Submitted a Memorandum to the Law Commission of India on the amendments required in Chapter XXV of the Code of Criminal Procedure on the trial of persons of unsound mind. The suggestions have been incorporated by the Law Commission of India in its 154th Report on the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Consultancy

Country Reporting Process

- Prepared the draft Country Report for the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to be submitted to the United Nations Treaty body on the Convention Rights of Persons with Disabilities (May 2012).
- Written a chapter on “The Process of State Party Reporting to the CRPD Committee: The Indian Experience” for Emily Kakoullis and Kelley Johnson (eds.), *Recognising Rights in Different Cultural Contexts* (Palgrave Macmillan, forthcoming).

Legislation Reform

- Prepared a Memorandum on the Mental Health Care Bill, 2013 and then testified before the Rajya Sabha Joint Committee on October 21, 2013.
- Legal Consultant to the Committee established by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to formulate a new law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The legislation was prepared and submitted with full justification (June 2011).
- Prepared the National Trust for the Legal Capacity and Support and Support for Persons with Disabilities Amendment, Bill of 2011 to bring the National Trust Act in harmony with the UNCRPD (July 2011).
- Prepared Consultation paper for a Consortium of Non Governmental Organizations suggesting amendments to the Persons with Disabilities Act to bring it in harmony with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and facilitated discussions on the same in New Delhi (March 2008).
- Jointly prepared with Gabor Gombos a consultation paper for the National Trust suggesting amendments to the National Trust Act to bring it in harmony with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and facilitated discussions on the same at Bangalore and Guwahati (July–August 2008)

Assisting the Executive

- Assisted the National Institute of Mental Handicap Hyderabad in drafting the rules and regulations for the National Trust for Persons with Mental Retardation, Cerebral Palsy Autism and Multiple Disabilities Act of 1999 (November 1999 and May 2000).
- Was a member of the Drafting Committee on National Trust for Persons with Mental Retardation Cerebral Palsy and Autism Bill, which work resulted in the National Act being finalized and subsequently enacted (November–December 1997).

Nominations and Appointment

Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995

Nominated by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment as Chairperson of a high-powered Committee to suggest Amendments to the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunity, Full Participation and Protection of Rights) Act 1995 in August 1998. After extensive consultations with non-governmental organisations and experts, submitted Interim Report in December 1998 and after regional consultations, the Final Report in March 1999.

Court Initiated Reforms

Appointed co-commissioner in June 1992 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the case of *Sheela Barse v. State of West Bengal* W.P. (Crl) No.237 of 1989 to investigate the conditions of persons with mental illness in the jails of West Bengal.

Conducted field studies in jails and mental hospitals of West Bengal in August–September 1992. Submitted report to the Court entitled *Unlock the Padlock: Mental Health Care in West Bengal* in January 1993.

The report was appreciatively commented upon by the court in its order delivered in

Feb. 1993 and provided the empirical basis to the ruling of the Court by which it held the housing of mentally in jails to be unconstitutional in *Sheela Barse v. Union of India* (1993) 4 SCC 204.

Mimeographs

- A Report on National Workshop on Legal Regulation of Hazardous Substances and Processes (Indian Law Institute, December 1998)
- • Judicial Process and Urbanisation: Role of the Supreme Court (submitted by the Indian Law Institute to the National Commission of Urbanisation, 1988)

Documentation

- with Kusum Kumar, Furqan Ahmad and Thomas Paul, *Backgrounder for the International Conference on Global Health Law* (New Delhi, December 1997)
- *Cases and Materials for the National Workshop on Legal Regulation of Hazardous Substances and Processes* (New Delhi, November–December 1996)
- with Kusum Kumar, Furqan Ahmad and Thomas Paul, *Background Materials for International Conference on AIDS and the Law* (New Delhi, December 1995).
- *Study Materials for Regional Workshop on Mental Retardation and the Law* (Bombay, March 1996)

Resource Person

- Resource Person for Training Workshop on *Empowerment of Self Advocates* organized by Vidyasagar in Chennai (November 24–26, 2008).
- Resource Person for Training of Zonal Disability Advocates organized by the National Trust in Hyderabad (November 4–5, 2008).
- Resource Person for the workshop titled, *How has the CRPD Addressed the Question of Forced Interventions* at the International Conference on Risks and Rights organized by ANZPPL in Sydney (October 23, 2008).
- Resource Person for the National Workshop on *Harmonizing PWDA with Disabilities Rights* in New Delhi (March 2008).
- Key Resource Person at Regional Symposium on Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Shishu Sarothi, Guwahati (November 23, 2007).
- Legal Resource Person at Regional Consultation on Legal Capacity & Guardianship under the National Trust Act, Tamil Nadu Judicial Academy, Chennai (June 2007).
- Resource Person for the Northern Region Teacher Training Workshop, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi (January 26–28, 2007).
- Legal Resource Person in Training Programs organized by the Gujarat Legal Services Authority and Bapu Trust, Pune to train judicial officers in Gujarat (January and March 2005).
- Commissioned by the National Human Rights Commission as resource person for a training the trainer program on Disability Rights.

- Commissioned by the National Commission for Women to suggest amendments to the Mental Health Act from a gender perspective.
- Commissioned by the Supreme Court to be the research consultant for the exhibition to commemorate 50 years of the Supreme Court and my work was appreciatively acknowledged by the Chairperson of the Exhibition Committee Mr. Justice G. B. Pattanaik, Judge Supreme Court of India.
- Commissioned by National Human Rights Commission to prepare a status paper on the legal status of persons with epilepsy. The same was submitted in January 1998.
- Legal Resource Person at the National Consultation on Codification of Criminal Laws for Women, Andhra Pradesh Judicial Academy and National Commission for Women, Hyderabad (February 1997).
- Honorary Consultant to Ministry of Welfare and National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped on legislation for persons with mental disability (March–June 1994).
- Legal Resource person in Training Programme on Law and Mental Health for Judicial Officers and Mental Health Professionals, organised by Training Directorate, High Court of Kerala, at Trivandrum, (February 1992, March 1994, February 1995).
- Temporary Consultant on AIDS and Law to the World Health Organisation, New Delhi (November 1991).
- Temporary Consultant on Promotion of Mental Health through Law to the World Health Organisation, Geneva (March 1990).

Research guidance and international teaching

- Provided research advice to innumerable scholars both in India and abroad. Presently, 10 doctoral scholars are formally registered with me. Of the 4 scholars who have completed their research work under my formal guidance, three have undertaken cutting edge work in disability studies and the fourth was the first exponent on the democratic constitution of Bhutan.
- Taught a course on ‘Reconstructing Legal Capacity’ at the Tel Aviv University, Ramat Aviv, Tel Aviv, Israel, November 5–24, 2016.
- Taught a module on Contemporary Challenges in Mental Health Law at the National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland, September 19–22, 2016.
- Taught a course on Pluralizing Inclusion: Equality and Non discrimination in a Globalizing World at University of Western Ontario, Canada in January 2012 and 2013.
- Taught at the invitation of the University a course on Law Poverty and Justice in January, 2010. Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario, Canada.
- Devised and taught courses in Applied Jurisprudence, Jurisprudence, Law and Poverty, Administrative Law, Interpretation of Statutes, Law and Literature. Also offered seminar courses in Judicial Process, Comparative Disability Jurisprudence, Universal Legal Capacity, Law and Psychology and Justice Education and Pedagogy
