



**THE INDIAN LAW INSTITUTE  
BHAGWAN DAS ROAD  
NEW DELHI**



**CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF LAW  
AND GOVERNANCE,  
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY**

***National Conference  
on***

***Fifty Years of Basic Structure Doctrine (1973 - 2023):  
In Retrospect and Prospect***

**Speakers:**

Prof. (Dr.) Upendra Baxi  
Emeritus Professor,  
University of Warwick and  
Delhi.

Prof. (Dr.) Kamala Sankaran  
Professor and Ford  
Foundation Chair in PIL,  
NLSIU, Bangalore.

Dr. P. Puneeth  
Associate Professor, CSLG,  
JNU, New Delhi.

The most profound and entirely unique contribution of the Indian judiciary to constitutional jurisprudence is the development of the doctrine of basic structure. It was designed to save the essential form and spirit of the Constitution, but it also conferred unparalleled power on the Indian judiciary to strike down constitutional amendments. Ever since its invention on April 24, 1973, the question – is it a boon or a bane has been a subject matter of discussions and academic writings. How might we address this binary today? Or what kind of constitutional promise does the judicial interpretation of the basic structure doctrine hold for the future? As the doctrine completes 50 years of its existence, it is important to revisit the question and to, particularly, look at how well it worked in the past 50 years and is it still efficacious to preserve the Constitution even today when its core values are diluted not through formal constitutional amendments but through other means.

**Date and Venue:**

April 24, 2023 @ 4 PM  
Plenary Hall,  
The Indian Law Institute  
New Delhi.

**Coordinators:**

Jyoti Dogra Sood  
Pratiksha Baxi  
P. Puneeth

**ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED**