INDIAN LAW INSTITUTE
BHAGWAN DAS ROAD
NEW DELHI

Workshop

on

DECODING THE DIGITAL PROJECT

March 3-4 , 2017

In recent years, technology has come to occupy a central role in interpersonal interactions as well as the interaction between individuals and the state. The emerging trends of technological use in diverse sectors and the advent of the age of the digital have been celebrated with an uncritical zeal. The digital, it is imagined, will usher in an era of transparency and "transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy." However, the implications of the interface of digital with state policy are little explored or understood.

The Unique Identification Project (UID), with its use of biometrics and the seeding of the UID number in multiple data bases, constitutes one starting point in interrogating and understanding the digital project. In the last few years, the UID has widely permeated the relationship of citizenry with the state as well as private entities. Besides the UID, the National Population Register, DNA data basing proposal, National Intelligence Grid and the GST Network are some other projects which need to be located within these developments. It is important to decode multiple aspects of the digital project in order to situate and understand the process which has, for instance, produced the experiments with financial inclusion and cashless or less-cash economy. What are the concerns raised by "faceless, paperless, cashless" economy? How are the impoverished and vulnerable situated in this phenomenon? What do we lose when we lose the right to privacy? What do these mean for national security, and the liberties of the person? What is the imagination that drives these projects?

The two-day workshop organised by the Indian Law Institute on 3rd and 4th March, 2017, seeks to provide an extensive introduction to the digital project, and develop a critical understanding of the emerging issues and concerns. During the course of the workshop, the participants will be introduced to these issues through cases and materials.

The workshop will be conducted by Dr. Usha Ramanathan along with other experts in the field.

A detailed schedule will be circulated shortly. A participation certificate will be awarded to participants in the workshop.

Registration is open till 28th February, 2017. There is no registration fee. Participants will be provided tea and lunch.

Please send the registration form to the ILI Registrar, Mr Shreenibas Chandra Prusty at registrar@ili.ac.in. For any other information, please write to: workshop_digitalproject@ili.ac.in.

Organizers: *Venue:*

Jyoti Dogra Sood and Latika Vashist   Plenary Hall, ILI