



Centre for Trade and Investment Law

CTIL's SECOND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

12 June 2019, New Delhi

The Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL) celebrated its second anniversary on 12th June 2019. Dr. Anup Wadhawan, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India was invited as the Chief Guest on this occasion and Prof. Peter Van den Bossche, Former Chairman of the Appellate Body, World Trade Organization and Director of Studies, World Trade Institute, Bern, Switzerland delivered a keynote speech. Mr. Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Dr. Vijaya Katti, Dean Administration (Academics), Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi also graced the event with their presence.

The welcome address was delivered by Prof. James J. Nedumpara, Head & Professor, CTIL. Prof. Nedumpara emphasised on the purpose of the centre to provide neutral and objective opinion on international trade issues to the Government of India. The Chief Guest, Dr. Anup Wadhawan, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry recognized the invaluable contribution of the centre in government's perspective and addressed the issue of increasing complexities in the field of trade and investment, thereby reassuring the centre to enhance its capacity and resources. Dr. Wadhawan also expressed the importance of legally sound negotiations for trade agreements and mentioned the Appellate Body crisis under the WTO as a challenging and uncertain possibility for the future of the global trading system. In a special address by Mr. Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Mr. Pandey stressed on the bigger role of the centre in the areas of legal education and legal profession along with its primary role of providing legal critique and analysis of complex trade and investment matters.

Dr. Peter Van den Bossche in his keynote speech expressed the need for modernization and reform of the WTO in different and relatively new areas like Intellectual Property and E-Commerce. Dr. Bossche provided a realistic assessment of the ongoing crisis in the WTO, Appellate Body and discussed various proposals to resolve this crisis. Prof. Bossche stressed on the need for developing countries to revisit their status under the WTO. Thereafter, Dr. (Mrs.) Vijaya Katti, Dean Administration (Academics), IIFT, New Delhi concluded the ceremony on an optimistic note by acknowledging the personal contribution of Prof. James in the field of Trade Law for the past two decades and wished the centre best of luck for the future.
