



# INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR ON PATENTING OF LIFE SAVING DRUGS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PANDEMIC

11TH MAY : 3.00 - 5.00 PM



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(Speaker)



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Session Moderator: Ms. Rashmi R., Asst. Prof. KLESLC

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Online Certificate will be provided

# BACKGROUND

It is common knowledge that granting patent rights incentivises inventions. This has been believed to be the primary driving force of the unprecedented breakthroughs in medicine and technology. Yet, at a time when the world has been forced indoors due to a pandemic, and a life-saving drug is the only hope at the end of the dark tunnel, one can't help but wonder, whether it is the reward of monopoly rights or the pressing need to save lives that a drug would finally be created to cure COVID-19.

At the same time another question arises, does discovering medicine and treatments guarantee accessibility to them? It has been observed in developing and least developed countries that numerous preventable deaths occur due to a lack of access to life saving drugs; in India alone, more than 100,000 preventable infant deaths occur from pneumonia every year. This is indicative of a failure of the patent system. Often the public health advocates and scholars argue that monopolies kill, by denying access to life - saving medicines that otherwise could have been available under an alternative system.

With this background, it is imperative to discuss the relevance of the patent regime in the context of life saving drugs.

# ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

## **Dr. Gargi Chakrabarti**

Dr. Gargi is an Associate Professor and Coordinator for DIPP Chair on IPR at National Law University, Jodhpur. She is currently engaged in Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship at Max Planck institute of Innovation and Competition for one year from 1st Jan 2020 till 31st Dec 2020. She did her Ph.D. from NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad and M.Phil. from National Law School of India University, Bangalore, India. She completed her LL.M. in International and Comparative Intellectual Property Law from London Metropolitan University, London, UK and previously completed B.Sc., LL.B. from University of Calcutta, India.

## **Ms. Lakshmi Achuta**

Ms. Lakshmi is a quality and compliance professional with over 26 years of experience having combined knowledge, expertise and skill in implementing, integrating and auditing multiple standards in disparate management systems having worked in Biotechnology, Biopharmaceutical, Clinical Research (CRO), Contract Research and Manufacturing Services (CRAMS) industries. She is engaged as Strategic Advisor with skill enhancement programs (BiSEP, Biocon Academy-Keck Graduate Institute program); workshops and trainings with National Law School of India University; innovation centers / start-ups and the Biotech, Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices industry. She has M.Sc. in Applied Botany (Medicinal & Aromatic plants), Bangalore University and M.S. in Quality Management, BITS, Pilani.