

## PROFILE

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Shailja Singh joined the Centre for WTO Studies (Centre) as a Legal Consultant (Assistant Professor) in December 2011. She completed her Master of Law (LL.M.) from the University of Cambridge, United Kingdom (2010-11). She holds a degree of B.A. LL.B. (Hons.) from the W.B. National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS), Kolkata, where she was ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the university and was awarded the L. Jhunjhunwala Memorial Gold Medal for securing the highest in Corporate Laws I (2004-09). Prior to joining the Centre, Shailja has worked as an Associate at AZB and Partners, Advocates and Solicitors, Mumbai, and as a Management Trainee in the Corporate Legal Group of ICICI Bank, Mumbai.

From September 2014 to June 2015, Shailja completed a secondment at the *Advisory Centre on WTO Laws* (ACWL), Geneva. At ACWL, she provided legal support on a number of WTO-related matters, including disputes that involved developing and least developed Members of the WTO.

Shailja has undertaken research on several issues relating to the World Trade Organisation (WTO), especially on its Dispute Settlement Mechanism. She regularly provides legal opinion to the Department of Commerce, Government of India on issues pertaining to the WTO and free trade agreement rules and negotiations. She is Legal Advisor to the Government of India in several WTO disputes, where India is either a Party or a Third Party, viz.:

- a. *India – Measures Concerning the Importation of Certain Agricultural Products* (DS430);
- b. *India – Certain Measures Relating to Solar Cells and Solar Modules* (DS456);
- c. *United States – Measures Concerning Non Immigrant Visas* (DS503);
- d. *United States – Certain Measures Relating to the Renewable Energy Sector* (DS510).

Shailja is part of India's negotiating team for SPS (sanitary and phytosanitary) and TBT (technical barriers to trade) issues for the proposed *Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement* (RCEP).

She regularly acts as a *Resource Person* in several international training programmes on WTO issues conducted by the Centre under the India Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs. In the past, she has also acted as a Resource Person in country specific training programmes, conducted by the Centre for Afghanistan and Mongolia (in Delhi), and Myanmar (in collaboration with UN-ESCAP in Yangon), in addition to various national training programmes on WTO issues for state government officials and other stakeholders. Shailja has also been a Member (Trade Expert) of the *Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group (MAG) for India Internet Governance Forum (IIGF)*, constituted by the Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

Shailja is the faculty coordinator for the *Joint Academy on International Trade Law and Policy*, a one month summer school for law students and legal professionals, jointly organised with the World Trade Institute, Bern. She is also the Managing Editor of Centre's *Journal of International Trade*.