

Profile

Immediately after completing her post graduation in law from Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kerala, India with specialisation in Environment Law and Consumer Law, Simi had the opportunity to join CUTS. Since then (December 2004), she has been with CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment (CUTS CITEE). Her research area is trade and development issues.

To be precise, her focused research is in the field of trade and development from a South Asian perspective, albeit having a special interest in trade and environmental issues with a thrust on analysing the efficiency and efficacy of current and proposed trade related environmental policies. Besides, having a keen interest & working knowledge in the related field of trade disputes.

All her research on these issues are from the perspective of developing countries and has published various papers and articles, apart from having got the opportunities to speak at international conferences on these issues. She has also prepared memoranda's containing comments/suggestions on various legal topics that include preparing policy briefs weighing the pros & cons of a proposed legislation in a simple language to help the busy Members of Parliaments in India understand the issue.

Experience and Skills

Asst Policy Analyst & Researcher (Intl Trade Law): Jan 2007 – present, CUTS CITEE

Research Assistant: Dec 2004 – Dec 2006, CUTS CITEE

In the capacity of Asst Policy Analyst, she has been engaged in research on WTO related trade issues for providing policy inputs. Apart from research she is also involved in a couple of projects related to trade and environment and WTO issues from South Asian perspective.

Selected Projects

i) As a National Project Manager she is coordinating a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) four year project entitled the “Enabling developing countries to seize eco-labelling opportunities”. The overall objective of this action is to increase the environmental efficiency of key export products and related industrial processes in the target countries supporting their industry and government active contribution to the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production.

ii) Involved in the Phase II of the project “WTO Doha Round & South Asia – Linking Civil Society with Trade Negotiations”. This project aims to establish linkage between the civil society organisations and research institutions in South Asia while conducting advocacy with the governments.

iii) Involved in the implementation of the project on “Identification of hurdles faced by independent Indian Health Service Personnel in selected countries under GATS Mode IV”. This project was designed to identify the barriers faced by Indian independent health service providers under Mode IV of GATS.

Supplementary Information

Other than various publications for CUTS, her publications also include newspaper articles, journal articles and even chapters in other books. One of her recent publications includes a chapter on IPR laws in India for a book titled Intellectual Property Rights in India, edited by Dr. Prankrishna Pal and published by Regal Publications, New Delhi, India.

To broaden the horizon of knowledge, she had embarked on e-learning courses including those offered by World Bank Institute.



Position

Asst Policy Analyst & Researcher (Intl Trade Law), CUTS CITEE

Year of Birth

1979

Nationality

Indian

Language

English (official Language) – Fluent
Hindi (National Language) – Fluent
Malayalam (Mother Tongue) – Fluent
Tamil – Fluent

Qualification

Legal

2002–2004 Masters in Law with specialization in Consumer and Environmental Law, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kerala, India.

1997– 2002 Bachelors in Arts & Law, Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai, India.

2001 Post Graduate Diploma in Personnel Management and Industrial Relations, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu, India.

2008 World Bank e-learning Course in ‘Standards and Trade: Challenges and Opportunities for Developing Country Agro-Food Trade’, World Bank Institute, Washington, USA.

2006 World Bank e-learning Course in ‘Trade Growth & Poverty’, World Bank Institute, Washington, USA.

Key Skills

Specialisation –WTO Issues, Environment Law, IPR Laws and Consumer Law.

Special areas of expertise – Legal analysis, writing qualitative research papers, reports, articles, project management, stakeholder management.