



Centre for  
**Law & Humanities**  
O.P. Jindal Global University



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## LASSnet WEBINAR SERIES 2023

*A Talk*

on

# THE INTERSECTION OF CASTE AND DISABILITY



**SPEAKER**

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### ABSTRACT

Unlike the constitutional history on caste discrimination, the Indian legal order and socio-economic environment was almost completely non-cognizant of and blunt and indifferent to discrimination and stigmatization of persons with disabilities actuated by physical and mental disabilities until 1995. With the enactment of Persons with Disabilities Act 1995, Disabled people have been formally recognised as the agents of Indian polity. Further, with the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the enactment of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, the status of Disabled people was salvaged. Nevertheless, the absence of legal prohibition against discrimination on the ground of physical and mental disability in the Constitution still persists. Physical and mental disability even as an axis of non-discrimination is legally and socially very feeble. Barring a few exceptions, society and polity still shy away from viewing discrimination against disabled people through the intersection of caste and disability or caste, gender and disability. This paper argues that since disability is an extremely complex and multidimensional identity, to combat disability based discrimination and make effective legal and social intervention in the lives of Persons with Disabilities, it should be combated and designed through multiple axes, i.e., intersectionality.

THU | 09 MAR 2023

🕒 7:00 PM IST ONWARDS

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