

80th UN Day Commemoration

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

on

Is the UN Relevant or Not?

Topics for Discussion:

- Crisis of multilateralism in an age of geo-political polarization
- Technology Management and Sustainable Development
- Conflicts, human rights, human development and international humanitarian law
- UN Reform

FRIDAY, 24TH OCTOBER, 2025 | 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
ENIGMA, PRITHVIRAJ JINDAL ACADEMIC BLOCK, 3RD FLOOR
O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY, SONIPAT-131001

PROGRAMME

6:00 PM – 6:10 PM	Welcome Address Prof. R. Sudarshan, Dean, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
6:10 PM – 6:20 PM	Opening Remarks by the Moderator Prof. (Dr.) Naresh Singh, Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
6:20 PM - 6:25 PM	Mr. Deodat Maharaj , Managing Director, UN Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries
6:25 PM – 6:30 PM	Prof. Kathleen A. Modrowski , Dean, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities
6:30 PM – 6:35 PM	Prof. (Dr.) Vesselin Popovski , Professor and Vice Dean & Executive Director, Centre for the Study of United Nations
6:35 PM – 6:40 PM	Prof. (Dr.) Silvia Bottega , Associate Professor, Jindal School of International Affairs
6:40 PM – 6:45 PM	Prof. Mohan Kumar , Founding Director General, Motwani Jadeja Institute for American Studies
6:45 PM – 6:50 PM	Ms. Mitali Nikore , Founder, Nikore Associates
6:50 PM – 6:55 PM	Prof. (Dr.) Stephen P Marks , Dean, Jindal School of Public Health and Human Development
6:55 PM – 7:05 PM	Summing-up by the Moderator Prof. (Dr.) Naresh Singh, Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
7:05 PM – 7:25 PM	Open Forum
7:25 PM – 7:30 PM	Concluding Remarks Prof. (Dr.) Suraj Kumar, Professor, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy -

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Deodat Maharaj is the Managing Director of the UN Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries. He assumes this role having worked across the international sphere including as Deputy Secretary General of the Commonwealth; Executive Director of the Caribbean Export Development Agency; at the United Nations Development Programme and in development banking. He has dedicated his career to advancing development in poor and vulnerable countries. He has lived and worked in developing countries for much of his career including Tanzania, Mozambique, Guyana, Suriname, and Barbados.

Mitali Nikore, Founder of Nikore Associates is a pioneering economist who specialises in gender mainstreaming, development finance, and sustainable infrastructure development. She advises leading multilateral organisations such as the World Bank and GIZ, as well as several G20 bodies, including Think20, Women20, and Urban20. Mitali is a recipient of the India UK Achievers Honours, an award celebrating the impactful work of 75 Indian alumni from UK universities.