

Webinar titled “ADR at Crossroads: Strategic Considerations for Indian and Southeast Asian Parties” - 07.04.2020



The students of Chettinad School of Law had the opportunity to participate in the Webinar titled “ADR at Crossroads: Strategic Considerations for Indian and Southeast Asian Parties,” conducted by the Asian International Arbitration Centre, Malaysia on 7th April, 2020. The moderator for the Webinar was Mr. Abinash Barik, MCI Arb (International Case Counsel, AIAC) and the panellists were:

- Mr. Vyapak Desai (Head of International Dispute Resolution and Investigation Practice, Nishith Desai Associates)
- Mr. Thayananthan Baskaran (Founding Partner, Baskaran)
- Mr. Aditya Singh (Counsel, White & Case LLP)
- Mr. Montek Mayal, CFA, CVA (Senior Managing Director, FTI Consulting India)

The Webinar was divided into five sessions. Mr. Vyapak Desai presided over the first session and the students were given an enlightening talk about the Arbitration Amendment Act, 2019 and how this Legislation has proven to be constructive in the time of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The panellist also dealt with the various new changes that the Amendment has brought in India. The second session on the Webinar was dealt by Mr. Thayananthan Baskaran who spoke about how the pandemic has affected the South-East Asian countries with a major emphasis on Malaysia. During the session, the

students learnt about the contractual implications of COVID-19 in the context of frustration of contract and Force Majeure events.

The third session was presided over by Mr. Aditya Singh. The panellist discussed the impact of COVID-19 on arbitral proceedings worldwide and dealt in detail about various International arbitrations. He also discussed the growing scope of Document-only arbitral proceedings and Virtual hearings. The fourth session was dealt by Mr. Montek Mayal, who enlightened the students on the role of experts and expert testimonials in Arbitration proceedings. The session also focused on how quantification of damages occurs in the context of the present pandemic. The Webinar concluded with an interactive session.