



Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi
The Honourable Chair, Civil 20 India 2023
Founder, Mata Amritanandamayi Math
Chancellor, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham



TECH POLICIES FOR EMPOWERMENT

3

MAY 2023

7 PM - 8.30 PM IST

3.30 PM - 5 PM CEST

9.30 AM - 11 AM EDT

Eight distinguished global leaders in technology in an inspiring exchange of ideas and solutions to empower marginalized populations and solve critical issues of digital equity and inclusion in the digitized workplace.



**DR VENKY
NARAYANAMURTI**

**(Bootstrap for
Climate Change)**

Venkatesh Narayanamurti is the Benjamin Peirce Professor of Technology and Public Policy, Engineering and Applied Sciences, and Physics Emeritus at Harvard University. He was formerly the John L. Armstrong Professor and Founding Dean of the John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Professor of Physics and Dean of Physical Sciences at Harvard. From 2009 to 2015 he served as the Director of the Science, Technology and Public Policy Program at the Harvard Kennedy School. He is the author of more than 240 scientific papers in different areas of condensed matter and applied physics. He lectures widely on solid state, computer, and communication, and energy technologies, and on the management of science, technology and public policy. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and an elected member of the U.S National Academy of Engineering (NAE) and of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences. He served as Foreign Secretary of NAE from 2011 to 2015.



MR. STEPHEN EZELL

(Life Sciences)

Stephen Ezell is vice president for global innovation policy at the Washington DC-based think tank, The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF). He is the director of ITIF's Center for Life Sciences Innovation, and also leads the Global Trade and Innovation Policy Alliance.

Ezell is the coauthor of *Innovating in a Service-Driven Economy: Insights, Application, and Practice* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2015) and *Innovation Economics: The Race for Global Advantage* (Yale, 2012).

Ezell came to ITIF from Peer Insight, an innovation research and consulting firm he cofounded in 2003 to study the practice of innovation in service industries. At Peer Insight, Ezell led the Global Service Innovation Consortium, published multiple research papers on service innovation, and researched national service innovation policies being implemented by governments worldwide.

Prior to forming Peer Insight, Ezell worked in the New Service Development group at the NASDAQ Stock Market, where he spearheaded the creation of the NASDAQ Market Intelligence Desk and the NASDAQ Corporate Services Network, services for NASDAQ-listed corporations. Previously, Ezell cofounded two successful innovation ventures, the high-tech services firm Brivo Systems and Lynx Capital, a boutique investment bank.



DR. M.S. KRISHNAN

(Education)

M. S. Krishnan is the Accenture Professor of Computer Information Systems and Professor of Technology and Operations at the Ross Business School, University of Michigan. He is currently the faculty director for Business+Tech initiative, and CK Prahalad and India Initiatives at the Ross Business School. He has also been the associate dean for global initiatives, executive programs, and action-based learning at the Ross Business School from 2014 to 2021. He has co-authored the book *The New Age of Innovation: Driving Co-Created Value with Global Networks* with Professor C. K. Prahalad (late). *The Economist* and *BusinessWeek* magazines named this book one of the Best Books on Innovation in 2008.

Krishnan's research interests include business model innovation, technology-enabled personalization, ecosystem innovation, corporate IT strategy, the business value of IT investments, improvements in business process and software quality, productivity, and customer satisfaction. His articles have appeared in several journals including *Harvard Business Review*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *Management Science*, and *Information Systems Research*. He has consulted on Technology and Strategy with leading global companies such as Ford Motor Company, NCR, IBM, Xerox, Unilever, Tata Group and Infosys.



**DR. KAVERI
IYCHETTIRA**

(Electricity & Energy)

Kaveri Iychettira is an Assistant Professor in the School of Public Policy at Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. Her research is focused on the transition of energy and related sectors in the context of climate change under deep uncertainty. She approaches problems from the lenses of complex socio-technical systems, institutional analysis, systems thinking, and economics. Prior to joining IIT Delhi-SPP, she worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School on various aspects of India's transitioning electricity sector.

Iychettira received her doctoral degree from the Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands, where she investigated the design of renewable support schemes in Europe and long-term impacts on the energy system. Apart from this, she worked on capacity market studies in Europe and on the deployment of solar energy in India. Iychettira is an Associate with the Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, and a Fellow at the Initiative for Sustainable Energy Policy at SAIS, Johns Hopkins University.



DR. SHYAMA RAMANI

(Water & sanitation)

Shyama V. Ramani is a Professor at the School of Governance, UNU-MERIT (United Nations University) and Maastricht University. Previously, she was a Professorial Fellow at the United Nations University Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT). Her research and practitioner work focuses on the relationships between technology, innovation and their governance for inclusive development. Her current work examines the role of technology and innovation to attain the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the strategies of firms and governments to introduce and diffuse innovations in specific sectors such as sanitation, education, healthcare and agriculture.

Ramani holds a PhD in Economics from Cornell University. After the tsunami of December 2004, she founded a charity action-research unit named Friend in Need, which aims to improve sanitation coverage in rural India. It is actively supported by the field participation of European and Indian students. She is a serial academic entrepreneur who has also co-founded a profit unit (Tecknowmetrix, Voiron, France). In 2017, she co-founded SITE4Society in UNU-MERIT, to bridge gaps between academics and society, via events and understandable publication briefs dealing with science, innovation, technology and engagement.



DR. AMBUJ SAGAR

(All Technology)

Ambuj Sagar is the Vipula and Mahesh Chaturvedi Professor of Policy Studies at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. Sagar's interests broadly lie in science and technology policy, environmental policy, and development policy, with a particular focus on the interactions between technology and society. While his current research focuses mainly on energy innovation and climate policy, he also studies, more broadly, various facets of technology innovation, environmental policy politics and processes, and engineering education and research. His recent papers have dealt with energy innovation policy and strategies (in areas such as biofuels, coal power, and automobiles), climate change policy, and capacity development for the environment.

Sagar currently is advising or consulting with various agencies of the Indian Government and with several multilateral and bilateral organizations; while in the United States, he worked with a range of private and public-sector organizations (including as a staff researcher for a major study on energy R for the White House). He currently is a member of the Indian Government Expert Committee on Low-Carbon Strategies for Inclusive Growth, the U.S.-India Track-II Dialogue on Change, as well as other advisory groups in the Indian Government.



MR. BURJIS GODREJ
(Agriculture & Food)

Burjis Godrej is the Strategic Projects Head (agrochemicals businesses) at Godrej Agrovet Ltd. (GAVL), where he is responsible for corporate strategy and operational excellence projects for GAVL crop protection business, Astec Lifesciences and GAVL corporate.

Previously, Godrej was head of Special Projects at Godrej Agrovet Ltd., focused on coordinating projects between different divisions of GAVL for innovation and new business development. He completed his MBA from Harvard Business School in 2021. He first joined GAVL in 2017 working on new product development in the strategy division. His role involved monitoring R&D activities, product quality improvement, new product trials and innovation partnerships with external organizations.

Before joining GAVL, he worked for Conservis Corporation, a firm that provides software for farmers (now a Joint Venture between RaboBank and Telus Corporation). His role there involved software implementation, customer success, water quality monitoring and sales development. Godrej is driven by the pressing needs to improve food security (nationally and globally) and raise farmer incomes, and is passionate about finding affordable and sustainable solutions to difficult problems through integrating different perspectives and disciplines.



PROF. JAY MISRA
Panel moderator

Professor Jay Misra joined Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham in 2006, and presently teaches entrepreneurship and business strategy at Amrita School of Business. Previously, he was the youngest faculty member ever to become a finalist for the Distinguished Teaching Award at Stanford Graduate School of Business.

In the 90s, Misra was recruited by George Soros — the legendary hedge fund manager who is one of the most successful investors in history — to become the Managing Director of Soros Fund Management. Prior to that, Misra managed the largest technology investment funds worldwide as Vice President for the Capital Group. He was also a starting investor in three successful tech startups, and became a private investor and philanthropist in 1996.

Misra received his MBA from Harvard Business School in 1982, and has also guest lectured at Harvard Business School in Competition & Game Theory. He has published two textbooks in Technology Management, and has supervised the writing of cases for Harvard Business School. His key interest areas are Entrepreneurship, Growth Strategies, and Investment Management. He is deeply committed to serving the poor, in India and throughout the world.

CIVIL20 FRAMEWORK and OVERVIEW

In focusing on the **Technology for Empowerment** sub-theme, the **C20 Technology, Security & Transparency Working Group** has identified **critical issues related to the digitized workplace.**

Demand for new skill sets and worker job security. Many workers lack digital skills and may not have access to training programs to improve their skills. The impact of technology on worker rights, information privacy, and accountability to workplace redundancies and change management are also critical issues.

Access to assistive technology. Assistive technologies are products and services designed to provide relief and improve an individual's functioning, independence, and quality of life. Only 1 in 10 people in need have access to assistive technology due to high costs, a lack of awareness, availability, trained personnel, policy, and financing. There is also a lack of accessibility in emerging technologies, and few countries have a national assistive technology policy or program. Lack of funding or financial affordability is also a critical issue.

Access to devices and connectivity infrastructure. This is a global issue, with two-thirds of the world's households lacking access to the internet. The cheapest available smartphones are unaffordable for many people worldwide, especially in low and middle-income countries. There is a wide digital gap globally, and young people are the driving force of connectivity. Women are more likely to be left behind, and there is a need to bridge the wealth gap between developed and developing countries through innovation and enabling access to the internet.



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