Resource persons' profiles



Apar Gupta

Introduction to ICT landscape and frameworks

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Apar Gupta is a lawyer and writer on democracy and technology, and the founder-director of the Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF). He has acted as a counsel in leading constitutional cases on freedom of speech and privacy. Apar was the co-founder of SaveTheInternet.in, a grassroots campaign that mobilised over a million Indians and secured strong net neutrality safeguards, and since 2018, he has lead IFF, where he pairs campaigns with policy advocacy and impact litigation on issues of digital access and coercion. He has assisted in drafting three distinct private member's bills introduced in the Lok Sabha and has also deposed before Parliamentary Committees on Information Technology and on Science and Technology on topics of study including net neutrality, internet shutdowns, online obscenity and the DNA Bill. In recognition of this work, Apar was elected an Ashoka Fellow in 2019. Apar writes and speaks widely on law, technology and democratic governance and is globally cited as an expert by publications including *Wired, MIT Tech Review, Financial Times and The Guardian*.



Nandini Chami

Access and inclusion

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Nandini Chami's work largely focuses on research and policy advocacy in the domains of digital rights and development, and the political economy of women's rights in the information society. She is part of IT for Change's advocacy efforts around the 2030 development agenda on issues of "data for development" and digital technologies and gender justice. She also provides strategic support to IT for Change's field centre, Prakriye. This includes training programmes for women's rights groups on adopting digital tools in their field practice, and critical "education for empowerment" for rural adolescent girls. She has a master's degree in Urban and Rural Community Development from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.



Prasanth Sugathan

Freedom of expression

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Prasanth Sugathan is legal director at the Software Freedom Law Center, India (SFLC.in). He is a lawyer with two decades of practice in the fields of technology law, intellectual property law, administrative law and constitutional law. He is an engineer turned lawyer and has worked closely with the free software community in India. He has appeared in many landmark cases before various tribunals, high courts and the Supreme Court of India. He has also deposed before Parliamentary Committees on issues related to the Information Technology Act and net neutrality.



Ashwini Natesan

Privacy, surveillance and data protection

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Ashwini Natesan is a research fellow at LIRNEasia focusing on issues related to data protection, data governance, AI ethics and the use of data for public good. A lawyer by training, she has experience in regulatory, litigation and corporate work. Currently, she is a consultant at Julius and Creasy for technology, media and telecommunications (TMT) law. Ashwini also undertakes independent projects related to online safety, data protection, AI governance and the right to information.

She is a director on the board of a leading non-banking financial institution, LB Finance PLC, and was part of the Responsible AI Sub-Committee tasked with drafting Sri Lanka's National AI Strategy. She is a member of the recently launched Digital Trust Alliance. Last year she selected to Media Policy Institute at the University of Oxford and is a former Fellow of the Internet Law and Policy Foundry. She holds an LLM (Master of Laws) from the National University of Singapore and has completed various certifications, fellowships and programmes including in AI policy, AI governance, mediation and arbitration.



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