The two different interpretations of Section 24 of Land Acquisition Act 2013 by two three-judge benches of the Hon’ble Supreme Court have courted controversial discussions. In the midst of this entire judicial debate, the clouds of confusion surrounding land acquisition continue to exist.
In early February, ITechLaw hosted nearly 200 attendees at the 14th annual International India conference in Bangalore, India. The conference focused on the Fourth Industrial Revolution and Challenges Ahead for India. It was an exceptional event praised for the quality of the speakers and presentations. One attendee shared that the conference “has comprehensive sessions on the intersection between technology and law. Great networking opportunity too.” We express our deepest thanks to our Global Sponsors: Seyfarth Shaw, and Neiderer Kraft & Frey, and all of our conference sponsors, who contributed to the success of our conference.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS FROM SHRI PRIYANK KHARGE
The Honourable Minister for Information Technology and Biotechnology gave an invigorating opening speech for the conference. He discussed how Bangalore is ranked second in the world for best startup ecosystem and how the State Government keeps pushing forward innovation. He shared plans to create a legal innovation policy team and address the ongoing changes that technology is bringing to our world.

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS
The opening session was moderated by the Honourable Justice BN Srikrishna with panelists from Facebook, Trilegal, Dvara Research, The Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, and the Center for Internet and Society, and
discussed all issues surrounding data protection. The conference continued with sessions focused on Artificial Intelligence, Cloud Computing, IP, Startups, and New Media. 12 out of the 13 panels had female and male representation and all sessions were presented a diversity of speakers from law firms, policy centers, think-tanks, and government representatives.

FIRESIDE CHAT WITH IN-HOUSE COUNSEL
Moderated by Sajai Singh, J Sagar Associates, this session gave an inside look at the lives of four different general counsel. From the agility and flexibility needed to budget management and team issues, this session covered all attendees wanted to know about In-House Counsel. Overall, more than 29% of attendees were In-House Counsel; one of the largest representations ever at an ITechLaw Conference.

SUBSTANTIVE LAW COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Six of the eight Substantive Law Committees met on the day preceding the conference to discuss current matters in Cyber Crime, Interactive Entertainment, E-Commerce, Dispute Resolution, Data Protection, and Startups. Two meetings featured local speakers: Nitin Narkhede, Founder of MinersINC and Jay Maroli, Senior Corporate Counsel at Amazon’s Kindle & Digital Media division.

I-WIN COMMITTEE MEETING WITH GUEST SPEAKERS
Laila Ollapally, Founder of the Centre for Advanced Mediation Practice and Aditi Chopra, In-House Counsel at Microsoft, shared their wisdom with attendees in the ITechLaw Women’s International Network (I-WIN meeting). After both sets of remarks, attendees asked presenters questions about balancing personal life with work and how to address common challenges in behavior and/or perception.

NETWORKING
One strength of an ITechLaw conference is the networking that occurs between attendees. These informal conversations lead to business partnerships, referrals, and deep knowledge sharing. 60% of attendees cited networking opportunities as one of the top three reasons to attend the conference.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE POST CONFERENCE SURVEY:
* 100% of attendees found the conference to be a good use of their time
** 100% of attendees would recommend the India conference to a colleague