The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC / Code) is a noble law as it is designed to take care of a person who needs it most, whether it is a company, a LLP, a proprietorship, or partnership firm, or an individual. Over the past five years, the Code, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), the Adjudicating Authorities (the NCLT) and the Appellate Authority (the NCLAT) for the matters under the Code have had an eventful journey, including that of handling COVID-19 pandemic induced disruptions. Starting from the implementation of the Code, setting up of new organisation and complete infrastructure to handle insolvency activities, the Indian regulatory environment for insolvency and bankruptcy of corporates, to start with, has witnessed a remarkable transition from an archaic resolution and liquidation process to a modern one attempting and facilitating faster resolution of distressed companies and assets. The Supreme Court of India has been proactively clarifying a number of provisions of the Code as they have arisen during the course of its implementation. Having undergone six amendments since its enactment, the Code continues to be a work in progress.

Insolvency resolution regime is an important part of well-governed polity and efficient economy. It enables creation of an environment that is conducive for entrepreneurship and appropriate risk taking, while safeguarding creditors, as well as providing expertise and service for businesses and persons facing financial stress. There is now a growing body of literature that aims to address the gaps between the theoretical aspects of insolvency law and its practice and impact on the ground. Academic knowledge, evidence and expertise can help inform, design, improve and test policy and ultimately make government policy better. Deep research can bring together evidence to support policy makers in achieving real world outcomes. This includes development and use of a sound evidence base through robust and continuous research. It is crucial to continue to study the impact of the insolvency framework created by the IBC, look at its future, investigate its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats on a regular basis. Deep research can identify how the framework will need to adapt to meet future
challenges and how the policy and regulatory framework may complement the ‘ease of doing business’ aspirations of the country. To promote research and discourse in the field of insolvency and bankruptcy, the two-day international research conference calls upon academics & researchers, lawyers, economists, regulators, to submit research proposals.

**Topics for the conference:**

This conference is an opportunity to understand the importance and impact of IBC in its totality through the multi-disciplinary research papers. Research that aims to understand the legal, economic, financial, behavioural and management aspects of the IBC are welcomed. A field wise classification of potential research topics under the Indian insolvency and bankruptcy space- i.e., in relation to the IBC is listed below. Several studies maybe inter-disciplinary in nature hence cannot be isolated to fall under a single field of study and researchers are encouraged to explore the interdisciplinary nature as well.

a) **Economic /Financial**
   - Impact of IBC on credit channels and bond markets
   - Sectoral analysis of effectiveness of IBC
   - IBC and economic growth
   - Assessing outcomes and impact of the IBC
   - Developing a framework for assessing outcomes of insolvency regimes
   - Insolvency law during COVID-19
   - Early warning of stress in a corporate
   - Managing Interim Finance
   - MSME Stress and efficacy of Pre-packs
   - Resolvability Assessment Framework
   - Stress in MSME Sector and Prepacks
   - Dealing with Interim Finance
   - Role of Asset Reconstruction Companies as resolution applicant
   - NPA v/s default: Correlation and time lag

b) **Legal**
   - Balancing interests of stakeholders under processes under the Code
   - Operationalisation of Part III of the IBC: Issues and Challenges
   - Legislative framework for cross border insolvency: Lessons for India
   - Pre-packaged insolvency resolution: Learnings for India
   - Comparative analysis of insolvency laws across the globe
   - Group Insolvency
   - Streamlining the processes under the Code
   - Valuations for insolvency and bankruptcy
   - Streamlining voluntary liquidation processes
   - Role of mediation in the insolvency process across the jurisdictions
   - Assessing Section 29A of the IBC
c) **Behavioral**
- Code of conduct for the committee of creditors
- Observing and measuring behavioral change among stakeholders of IBC
- Technological developments and integration with IBC
- Development of platform for distressed assets
- Interaction of IBC and its pillars (IBBI, Information Utilities, Insolvency Professionals, Adjudicating Authority)

d) **Management**
- Effectiveness of IBC’s institutional structures – IBBI, IPs, AA, and IUs
- Interaction of IBC with other laws (FEMA, SEBI, Arbitration and Conciliation Act)
- Fairness and equity in corporate processes under the Code
- Developing a market for distressed assets

**Venue:**

*Conference will be held physically at the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad campus during 30th April, 2022 to 1st May, 2022.*

**Participants:**

The conference is open to individuals from all disciplines interested and involved in insolvency and bankruptcy process and its multi-disciplinary issues. Conference organisers encourages, professionals and scholars to participate and present their papers in any of the topics listed above.

There is no participation fee. Professionals, scholars, and students can also register and participate in the event without presenting the paper.

**Accommodation:**

A number of accommodation facilities with varying budgets (dorms and executive rooms) are blocked for the conference purpose. Participants who are availing accommodation will have to pay and settle with the conference secretariat. Accommodation will be provided to participants on first come first basis. Interested participants may write to <ibc2022@iima.ac.in> for details.

**Conference facilities:**

All the registered participants will be given conference materials, and food and snacks for two days. Participation certificate will be issued on request.
Research scholarship:

A limited number of funding is available for Ph.D. (Doctoral) scholars who are currently working on insolvency and bankruptcy topics associated with universities and institutes. Those who wish to avail the funding are requested to write to research@ibbi.gov.in.

The research scholarship is worth ₹ 10,000 consolidated per research paper.

Ph.D. students researching in the insolvency and bankruptcy space will have to submit the following documents.

a) Ph.D. enrolment letter on college/ university letter head duly signed by the Ph.D. student and the supervisor. The enrolment letter should state your full name and details of the Ph.D. course being pursued. It should be duly stamped with the university seal.

b) A No objection letter on university letterhead duly signed by head of department with university seal.

The sum shall be awarded on completion of conference; and meeting all submission as per timelines.

Data sharing for research:

The IBBI disseminates data and information for researchers and other stakeholders at regular intervals on its website in downloadable format. IBBI also promotes its research endeavour through several of its publications. Researchers may refer to the same for research articles in the insolvency space. Data pertaining to various processes under IBC can also be found in these publications.

a) Newsletters: The newsletters encapsulate the legal and regulatory developments; status of all the processes and service providers under the Code; capacity building initiatives and advocacy and awareness generation activities undertaken by the IBBI during the quarter. The newsletters carry a summary of outcomes under the Code and analysis of the same. At present 20 volumes of the newsletter have been published by end of September 2021.

b) Information Brochures which create awareness about several processes are an additional source of information.

c) Annual Publications: These publications consist of insightful articles written by experts in the field, with topics on various issues in insolvency, bankruptcy, finance, and economic sphere.

d) IBBI aims to support researchers with any additional data not found in the public domain subject to certain restrictions. The researchers may contact IBBI about the same by writing to research@ibbi.gov.in.
There are certain guidelines which the researchers are expected to follow. The submission procedure and research protocol are summarised below.

**Submission Procedure:**

Interested applicants wishing to present original research paper should send a 1000-1500 research proposal to research@ibbi.gov.in by 7th January, 2022. The first page of the proposal must include the following details:

a) The title of the paper;
b) Full names of all the authors and affiliations (maximum 3 authors); and
c) Email addresses and contact numbers of all authors.

The proposal should include the theories/ issues, research methodology, data sources and analytical tools to be used. The organising committee will evaluate the proposals and shortlist the accepted proposals by 21st January, 2022. On approval of the proposal the applicants will be required to submit their full research papers in 8000-12000 words in English by 21st March, 2022. Word limit should be strictly adhered to.

The final acceptance of full papers will be notified to applicants by 10th April, 2022.

All parties involved in the research must adhere to certain standards of ethical behaviour.

Authors should ensure that:

a) The paper is based on research work that is original. Anything that compromises originality of the work should be avoided. The paper must avoid plagiarism in all and any form;
b) it does not include content that is copied or reproduced from other works without appropriate attribution;
c) the paper discloses the source of all data used.
d) the paper is fully referenced, cited or quoted where works of others are used;
e) the paper is not submitted for review /publication, in whole or in part, elsewhere concurrently while the paper is submitted for consideration as part of this conference.

**Selected presenters will be required to present their papers at the conference.**

After the conference, the authors are expected to submit a final paper that gives due consideration to all comments and feedback received during the conference by 31st May, 2022. The final set of selected papers will be either hosted in the IBBI website or published as a book. Presenters, if they so wish, would be free to get the work published in any journal with appropriate citation.
**Important dates:**

- Proposal submission: 07\(^{th}\) January, 2022
- Acceptance/ Rejection notification: 21\(^{st}\) January, 2022
- Submission of full papers: 21\(^{st}\) March, 2022
- Final paper acceptance/ rejection notification: 10\(^{th}\) April, 2022
- Presentation of the paper: 30\(^{th}\) April, 2022 to 1\(^{st}\) May, 2022
- Submission of revised paper: 31\(^{st}\) May, 2022

**Conference language:**

The conference proceedings will be in English; no simultaneous translation will be available.

**Conference Team:**

- Prof. M P Ram Mohan, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad
- Prof. Abhiman Das, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad
- Mr. Ritesh Kavdia, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
- Dr. Kokila Jayaram, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India
- Dr. Anuradha Guru, Research Guidance Group, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India

**Contact:**

For any further query/ information please reach us at:

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<th>Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India Research Division</th>
<th>Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad Conference Email: <a href="mailto:iibc2022@iima.ac.in">iibc2022@iima.ac.in</a></th>
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