

Vishal Trehan

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Education

- Sep 2021 – Present Doctoral student at the School of Public Affairs and Administration, Rutgers-Newark
- May 2016 M.Sc. Regulatory Governance, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai
- Finished 2nd in class, and was awarded the “*Institute Silver Medal to the Best Student in Master’s in Regulatory Governance*”
- June 2006 B. Tech., Computer Science and Engineering, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, Delhi

Experience

New Jersey State Policy Lab, Rutgers-New Brunswick *New Brunswick, United States*

Research Assistant

Sep 2021 – Present

- Leading a research project on digital literacy at the Policy Lab (housed in the Bloustein School) under the supervision of Prof. Gregory Porumbescu and Prof. Andrea Hetling.
- Part of the team working on a project on administrative burdens arising from benefit screening platforms.
- Authored a blog post titled “Predictive Algorithms in the Public Sector”.
- Co-authored a blog post titled “Digital Services and Administrative Burdens”.
- Co-authored a blog post titled “Digital Equity for K-12 Students”.

School of Public Affairs and Administration (SPAA), Rutgers-Newark *Newark, United States*

Graduate Research Fellow

Sep 2021 – Present

- Assistant to Professor Gregory Porumbescu, conducting research and grading assignments and discussions.
- Math tutor at SPAA for Fall’21.

Independent scholar *New Delhi, India*

Aug 2020 – July 2021

- Worked on a co-authored paper titled ‘Structural analysis of the mobile telecommunications market: Exploring the Jio effect’. The paper examined market concentration in India’s mobile telecommunications services sector and looked at trends and competition implications of vertical relationships in the sector.

National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP)

Research Fellow

July 2017 – July 2020

New Delhi, India

- Led a research project on “Right-of-way issues in the Indian telecom sector” that involved field-interviews with government officials across departments and local bodies in six Indian states. The study examined the regulatory framework in each state, identified gaps, and suggested state-specific interventions.
- Worked on multiple reports, consultation papers and other research outputs for the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).
 - Co-authored a report on data management and online filing of Accounting Separation Reports (ASR).
 - Analyzed the financial, operational and competition aspects of the Indian telecom sector using publicly available data and data from Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy’s (CMIE’s) Prowess database as part of an extensive study on the state of the sector.
 - Co-authored a regulation-making handbook and organized a training program for officials.
 - Provided research inputs for the National Telecom Policy.
 - Co-authored NIPFP’s [response](#) to the consultation paper on ‘Tariff issues of telecom services’.
- Advised the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on the design of an administrative authority proposed to be set up as part of DoT’s collaboration efforts with International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
- Co-authored a [paper](#) on women’s property rights in India.
- Co-authored an [article](#) on invoice financing in India.
- Provided research inputs to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the National Broadcasting Policy.

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) – 8 years 3 months

Strategy & Operations (Energy & Resources Business Unit) – Assistant Consultant ***New Delhi, India***

May 2016 –
June 2017

- Analyzed operational parameters for optimization, workforce planning and governance of support functions.
- Worked on annual business plan and 3-year strategy plan, market research and strategy for new logos.

Multiple Clients – Project Leader

United States

Sep 2010 –
May 2014

- Managed all aspects of projects, including estimation, RFP response preparation, coordination of onsite and offshore teams, compliance with client as well as internal processes.
- Gathered and analyzed requirements, prepared risk mitigation plans and designed solutions for client requests.
- Managed a 6 member team, monitored daily developments and recorded weekly/monthly performance metrics.

Process Excellence Group (TCS) – Assistant Knowledge Champion

Gurgaon, India

Nov 2009 –
Aug 2010

- Conceptualized and implemented online collaborative spaces to reduce proposal response time and improve content management.
- Collaborated with internal QA, delivery assurance and pre-sales teams to prepare monthly dashboard.
- Created automated reports to monitor Knowledge Management deployment metrics.

Multiple Clients – Developer

Pune & Gurgaon, India

Feb 2007 –
Oct 2009

- Analyzed and estimated client issues, designed and implemented solutions.
- Worked in multiple programming environments

Internships

Competition Commission of India (CCI)

Delhi, India

Apr 2015

- Undertook a research project on the role of CCI and Competition Law in protecting and promoting small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in India.

Centre for Learning in ICT & e-Gov, Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)

Delhi, India

Oct 2014 –
Nov 2014

- Analyzed technology trends and government policies to suggest enhancements and adjustments for the overall conduct and implementation of a program under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP).
- Prepared the agenda for a conference conducted by IIPA for National Commission for Women (NCW).
- Provided research assistance and contributed to an article on “digital literacy programs in India” for Microsoft’s magazine, ‘Perspective’.

Master’s thesis

Analyzed legal instruments, processes, and monitoring mechanisms to identify gaps in the regulation of pesticide use in India. The focus of the study was food safety concerns arising from dissonance among regulators and from poor information management. The study proposed a regulatory information management system as a solution to fix various gaps in the flow of information between regulators and end-users.

Tools

R, Stata, LaTeX, Center for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) databases, SQL, MS Office Suite