



VIDHI PRAGATI

National IP Moot Court Competition,

2026

ORGANISED BY

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

in collaboration with

Centre for Innovation,

Intellectual Property and Competition - IPR Chair, National Law University Delhi



DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF
INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



ABOUT THE PARTNERS

ABOUT DPIIT

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) was established in 1995 to foster industrial growth in India. In 2000, it expanded its mandate through a merger with the Department of Industrial Development. Operating under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, DPIIT is instrumental in formulating and implementing policies that enhance the industrial sector. The department's initiatives align with national priorities and socio-economic objectives, promoting sustainable and inclusive industrial growth that contributes to the overall development of India's economy.

ABOUT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY DELHI

National Law University Delhi (NLUD), established by Act 1 of 2008, aims to provide comprehensive and interdisciplinary legal education that is socially relevant. Its vision is to be a leading global institution, offering diverse opportunities for contributions to the legal profession. NLUD's curriculum bridges theoretical concepts and practical applications, fostering innovation and a scientific mindset among students to drive future change. The notable achievements of its students and faculty highlight the university's exceptional talent, and NLUD has consistently ranked 2nd in the Law Category of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Ministry of Education., Government of India.

ABOUT IPR CHAIR, NLU

The Chair on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) at National Law University Delhi (NLU) was established by the DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in October 2018 to enhance IP education and research. It focuses on the intersection of IP law with public policy and international issues relevant to India. Guided by Mr. Eashan Ghosh, the Chair undertakes a wide range of initiatives, including research on emerging IP areas and educational programs like L2Pro India. The Chair also organizes events to raise awareness among students, researchers, and practitioners, along with outreach activities to promote IP knowledge.

ABOUT CIIPC

The Centre for Innovation, Intellectual Property and Competition (CIIPC), established in 2015, fosters dialogue and research on innovation, intellectual property (IP), and competition. It employs empirical and interdisciplinary methods to explore contemporary issues in the field of IP. CIIPC also plays a vital role in various educational initiatives, including its involvement in the LL.M. program in IP Administration and Legislations, an executive diploma program tailored for officials of the CGPDTM and WIPO-NLU-IPO Joint Masters/LL.M. in IP Law and Management Programme. Additionally, CIIPC hosts workshops, conferences, and courses to build capacity and facilitate discussions among scholars and industry professionals, attracting renowned experts and enthusiastic attendees from India and the Asia-Pacific region.

ABOUT THE COMPETITION

The Centre for Innovation, Intellectual Property and Competition as well as IPR Chair at National Law University Delhi in collaboration with Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry is extremely proud to announce the 2nd edition of its prestigious Vidhi Pragati: National IP Moot Court Competition. The first edition of the competition saw participation from premier law schools throughout the country. This competition is designed for participants to increase their advocacy skills, work on contemporary legal issues, and gain comprehensive knowledge of Intellectual Property Laws, its enforcement, and the latest case laws.

The theme of this edition "Trademark and Copyright", is highly relevant in today's commercial and creative environments, where brand identity and original expression are key assets. As businesses compete in crowded markets and creative content proliferates across platforms, legal protection of trademarks and copyrighted works is essential to prevent misuse, protect consumer trust, and ensure fair competition. This area of law addresses complex questions around ownership, originality, and brand distinction, making it a vital tool for maintaining both economic value and market integrity in a rapidly evolving digital and global landscape.

Scheduled to take place from **6th February 2026 to 8th February 2026**, this event is anticipated to attract participation from law schools across the nation, thus fostering a vibrant spirit of mooting and scholarly discourse. Participants will be challenged to present meticulously reasoned arguments and engage in profound intellectual exchanges, adjudicated by distinguished legal scholars and practitioners.

We look forward to your participation in this significant event that promises to shape the future of intellectual property law in the context of artificial intelligence



MOOT COURT RULES

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Vidhi Pragati: National IP Moot Court Competition (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Competition’) is being organized by the DPIIT-IPR Chair, NLU Delhi in association with DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The moot is envisaged to be an annual competition of teams representing law schools throughout India.

1.2. The Competition is crafted as a comprehensive educational co-curricular activity with a multifaceted approach, rather than merely a competitive event with incidental educational benefits. The rules and procedures of the moot should be interpreted and applied with this educational objective as the primary guiding principle.

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE MOOT AND ORGANIZING BODY

2.1. The official language of the competition is ‘English’, and all oral arguments and memorials must be made in ‘English’.

2.2. The IPR Chair, instituted by Department for Promotion of Trade and Industry (DPIIT) at NLU Delhi – Centre for Innovation, Intellectual Property and Competition (CIIPC), will serve as the Organizing Body (hereinafter referred to as the ‘OB’) for the event, operating under the auspices of the DPIIT. The OB retains the right and the exclusive authority to:

2.2.1. Enforce all competition rules.

2.2.2. Interpret the rules as necessary.

2.2.3. Settle any disputes that arise during the competition.

2.2.4. Address inquiries and provide clarifications regarding the moot problem.

2.2.5. Modify the rules or supplement them, if necessary.

2.2.6. Modify the moot problem at any stage, provided that prior notice is given to all participating teams.

2.2.7. Disqualify any team if their behaviour is deemed to constitute a serious breach of the rules or the overall spirit of the competition.

2.3. The OB will not engage in the evaluation of memorial or oral pleadings submitted by the participating teams.

2.4. The Student Conveners and the Student Organising Committee (OC) are part of the OB. The Student Convenors, with support from the OC, will exclusively manage the exchange of memorials, scoresheets, and related tasks to ensure the highest level of confidentiality, acting under the guidance and advice of the Competition Coordinator. Any decision taken by the OC shall be considered as that taken by the entire OB. However, the entire OB will participate in organizing the oral rounds.

2.5. All materials relevant to the administration of the competition will be made available on the official website as well as the Instagram and Linkedin profiles of VidhiPragati: National IP Moot Court Competition. There are no profiles on any other social media platform. Further, the participating teams shall also receive email updates whenever deemed necessary by the OB.

2.6. All questions or inquiries regarding the competition must be submitted in writing (email is acceptable) to dpiit.ipr@nludelhi.ac. If a question or inquiry has implications for all participating teams, the query and its response will be shared with all participating teams via email. Clarifications regarding the Moot Proposition are excluded from this process.

3. STRUCTURE OF THE COMPETITION

3.1. The Competition operates on an invitational model. However, if the number of registered teams exceeds 16, selection for participation will be based on the evaluation of their memorials. Thus, the Competition shall comprise of two stages.

3.2. Stage I shall be the Memorial Qualifier Round. This shall be open to all teams which register for the competition after receiving the invitation. The results of this round shall be based on evaluation of memorials and shall determine the 16 teams which will proceed to Stage II.

3.3. Stage II shall be the Oral Rounds. The teams that qualify Stage I shall be eligible to participate. The Competition shall consist of the following Oral Pleading Sessions:

3.3.1. The Preliminary Rounds (I and II);

3.3.2. The Quarter-Final Rounds;

3.3.3. The Semi-Final Rounds; and

3.3.4. The Final Round.

4. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

4.1. Team Eligibility: The competition is open to all law students currently enrolled in recognized 3-year LL. B or 5-year integrated LL. B programs. Each institution is permitted to send only one team. Participation is limited to law teaching universities from National Law Universities (NLUs) and other institutions offering undergraduate law degrees, that are part of the SPRIHA Scheme or are listed under the 'Law Category' of National Institutional Ranking Framework, 2025 .

4.2. Registration Procedure & Fees:

4.2.1. Interested teams are required to register for the Competition by filling the registration form. The link to the form is [here](#).

4.2.2. Each Team is required to upload a copy of a bona-fide letter, authorizing them to represent their institution at the Competition, issued by the appropriate authority of their Institution/College/University as a part of the Registration Form.

4.2.3. While filling the Registration Form, the teams have to choose a primary contact person, alternatively called a ‘Point of Contact’ (“POC”). All communications concerning the Competition will be sent by an e-mail to the POC. The POC shall be responsible to convey all the information to the team. The POC shall be required to have WhatsApp on their phone number. The teams are also required to mention the e-mail of either the respective committee or the Head/Dean of the institution in the Registration Form.

4.2.4. Any changes in the contact details of team members must be notified to the OB at the earliest. This obligation to inform shall continue throughout the course of the Competition, unless such a team withdraws or is otherwise disqualified from the Competition.

4.2.5. After submission of the Registration Form, a mail confirming the provisional registration will be sent to the respective committee or Head/Dean of the Institution/the POC of the team.

4.2.6. The last date for completion of all the registration formalities is before 21.11.2025 (11:59 PM IST) (subject to any extension notified by the OB later).

4.2.7. The confirmation of Registration will be notified to the teams by the OB, after the completion and verification of all the registration formalities.

4.2.8. Each team will receive a unique Team Code, which must be used for identification throughout the competition. It is imperative that all team members refrain from revealing their institution's identity at any time or in any form during the competition. Any violation of this rule may result in disqualification at the discretion of the OB. The OB's decisions regarding compliance are final and binding.

4.3. There is no registration fee for the competition.

5. MOOT PROBLEM AND CLARIFICATIONS

5.1. **Theme:** The theme of this year's moot problem would be Trademark and Copyright.

5.2. The Moot Problem shall be released on the social media handles and the website of the Competition. It is the responsibility of the participants to download and peruse the moot problem. Please note that no individual notifications will be sent regarding this matter.

5.3. For the purpose of seeking clarifications, participants can fill the Google Form using this [link](#). The deadline for seeking clarifications is 11:59 PM on 14.11.2025. Answers to clarifications sought shall be released on 21.11.2025.

6. TEAM COMPOSITION AND SUBSTITUTION

6.1. Each team shall comprise of three members, wherein two members shall perform the role of a speaker, and one member shall perform the role of a researcher. Only the speakers are allowed to make submissions during the oral rounds.

6.2. Substitution of any team member after the registration deadline is generally prohibited. Exceptions will only be considered in extenuating circumstances and must receive prior approval from the OB.

6.3. Alterations to the team composition as specified at the time of registration are not allowed. Any changes to the team composition will only be permitted under exceptional circumstances and require prior authorization from the OB.

7. MEMORIAL

7.1. Memorial Submission:

7.1.1. Every team which has successfully registered for the competition is required to prepare two memorials: Memorial on behalf of the Plaintiff and memorial on behalf of the Defendant

7.1.2. All teams are required to submit soft copies of their memorials for Stage I: Memorial Elimination Round before 19.12.2025 (11:59 P.M. IST) on the attached [Google form](#).

7.1.3. A penalty of 3 marks per 12 hours on each memorial shall be imposed for any submission made post the deadline specified. Memorials submitted 48 hours beyond the deadline specified shall not be evaluated.

7.1.4. The memorials which are submitted for the memorial qualifier round shall be considered final. No changes can be made to the submitted memorials whatsoever. Failure to comply with the same may result in disqualification, at the discretion of the OB. After the completion of the Competition, the OB reserves the right to use the memorials as they deem appropriate.

7.2. Memorial Format:

7.2.1. All submissions of the memorial must be provided in both Microsoft Word Document format (.doc/.docx) and PDF format. Teams are required to submit both versions of the memorial: one in Microsoft Word and one in PDF.

7.2.2. The files should be named according to the Team Code and the side for which the Memorial is prepared. As an illustration, Team 01 will name its Memorial for the Plaintiff as '01_P' and the Memorial for the Defendant as '01_D'. Use of any other format will be penalized.

7.2.3. The citation format must be the 4th edition of OSCOLA. Speaking footnotes and endnotes are not allowed.

7.2.4. The cover page of the memorial must contain only the following information in the same format and in the same order:

7.2.4.1. Team Code in the upper right-hand corner, as per the format specified in sub-rule 7.2.2 (i.e. Team 01 shall write '01_P' and '01_D');

7.2.4.2. The name of the Competition and Year;

7.2.4.3. Cause Title; and

7.2.4.4. The title of the document (i.e. "Memorial for Defendant" or "Memorial for Plaintiff")

Note: The background colour of the "Memorial for Plaintiffs" shall be Blue and that of the "Memorial for Defendants" shall be Red.

7.2.5. All pages of the Memorial including the cover page, shall adhere to the following mandatory specifications:

7.2.5.1. Page Size: A4

7.2.5.2. Font Type: Times New Roman

7.2.5.3. Font Size: 12

7.2.5.4. Line Spacing: 1.5

7.2.5.5. Body of Text: Justified

7.2.5.6. Paragraph Spacing: Before 0, After 6 (the option “don’t add space between paragraphs of the same style” should not be selected)

7.2.5.7. Margin: 1.5 inch on the left and 1 inch on the remaining sides

7.2.5.8. Border: No borders

7.2.5.9. Preliminary Pages: Number using Roman Numerals (i, ii, iii, iv, etc.). The preliminary pages include Table of Contents, Table of Abbreviations, Index of Authorities, Statement of Jurisdiction, Statement of Facts and Statement of Issues.

7.2.5.10. Main Pages: Number using Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3 etc.), starting with “1” at the first page of the main text. Main pages include Summary of Arguments, Arguments Advanced and Prayer.

7.2.6. For footnotes, the formatting specifications are:

7.2.6.1. Font Type: Times New Roman

7.2.6.2. Font Size: 10

7.2.6.3. Line Spacing: 1.0

7.2.6.4. Paragraph Spacing: 0

7.2.6.5. No additional space between 2 footnotes

7.2.6.6. Body of Text: Justified

7.3. Teams are required to send the soft copies of the Memorial within the specified time frame, taking all contingencies into account. Any technical issues such as equipment failure, computer disk failure, internet connectivity issues, etc. shall not be considered as grounds for condoning any penalty imposed due to late submission.

7.4. Each team is responsible for ensuring that the soft copy of the Memorial is accessible and can be opened using Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 8/Microsoft Word 2010 or later. Additionally, the document must be free of viruses and should not be password protected.

7.5. Memorial content:

7.5.1. The Memorial shall mandatorily contain the following sections in the following order:

7.5.1.1. Cover Page

7.5.1.2. Table of Contents

7.5.1.3. Table of Abbreviations

7.5.1.4. Statement of Jurisdiction

7.5.1.5. Statement of Facts

7.5.1.6. Issues Raised

7.5.1.7. Summary of Arguments

7.5.1.8. Arguments Advanced

7.5.1.9. Prayer

7.5.2. The section on Arguments Advanced must not exceed 20 pages. The sections on Statement of Facts and Summary of Arguments are limited to 2 pages each. The sections on Issues Raised, Prayer and Statement of Jurisdiction are restricted to 1 page each.

7.5.3. The Memorial shall include the headers, footers, footnotes, page numbers, cover page, as well as the empty spaces left in the document.

7.6. Penalties: (refer to table on next page)

Relevant Rule	Reason for Penalty	Penalty levied
Rule 7.1.3	Late submission of Memorials	3 marks per 12 hours after the deadline, per memorial
Rule 7.2.1 or 7.4	Failure to submit memorials in both Word and PDF formats OR/AND Submission of a soft copy of a memorial which cannot be opened using Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 8/Microsoft Word 2010 or later.	Memorials shall not be evaluated.
Rule 7.2.2	Failure to name the file according to the given format (o1_P or o8_D).	5 marks per document
Rule 7.2.3	Failure to follow the 4th edition of OSCOLA for the citations format or inclusion of speaking footnotes/endnotes.	1 mark per page
Rule 7.2.4	Any omission in Cover Page or any other violation of the format mentioned	3 marks one-time
Rule 7.2.5	Failure to adhere to the mandatory formatting specifications	3 marks one-time for each formatting specification
Rule 7.5.1	Any omission in Memorial or any other violation of the order of content	5 marks one-time

Rule 7.5.2	Failure to adhere to Page Limits prescribed	2 marks for each additional page
Rule 12	Breach of anonymity as prescribed	5 marks per memorial OR In case of serious breaches, disqualification as per OB's discretion
	The presence of more than 15% plagiarism in the overall content of the memorial OR Any usage of AI-generated content (must strictly be 0%)	Disqualification or other penalties at the discretion of the OB.

7.7. Memorial Evaluation: Each Memorial shall be evaluated out of 100 marks by an evaluator. The criteria for evaluation are as follows:

(Kindly refer to table on the next page)

Parameter	Total Marks Allocated
Understanding of Law and Extent of Research	25 marks
Originality, Articulation and Clarity of Analysis	25 marks
Knowledge and Integration of Facts	20 marks
Clarity, Organization and Logical Progression	20 marks
Grammar, Style and Citation	10 marks
Total	100 marks

7.8. Qualification of Memorials:

7.8.1. The final penalties applicable to a memorial shall be deducted from the marks awarded to the memorial to calculate the final memorial scores.

7.8.2. The top 16 teams on the basis of their total scores (cumulative scores for both memorials) in Stage I: Memorial Qualifier Round shall qualify to Stage II: Oral Rounds.

7.8.3. The results of Stage I: Memorial Qualifier Round shall be declared on 05.01.2026.

7.8.4. The teams that qualify Stage I will be required to confirm their participation in Stage II by filling the confirmation form sent to them by an e-mail before 07.01.2026 (11:59 P.M. IST).

7.8.5. The teams that confirm their participation as per sub-rule 7.8.4 shall submit 5 hard copies of both “Memorial for Plaintiff” and the “Memorial for Defendant” on the day of inaugural ceremony, i.e. 6th February, 2026. Spiral binding of all hard copies of memorials shall be mandatory.

8. ORAL HEARINGS

8.1. General Procedure

8.1.1. The oral rounds shall be conducted physically at the campus premises of National Law University Delhi and comprise of preliminary rounds, quarterfinals, semi-finals and final rounds.

8.1.2. The team representing the Plaintiff(s) shall submit their arguments first, followed by the team representing the Defendant(s).

8.1.3. Rebuttals or Replies to Rebuttals shall be delivered by only one speaker from each team. The Plaintiff's Rebuttals are limited to addressing the Oral Pleadings of the Defendant, while the Defendant's Reply to Rebuttals is restricted to responding to the Plaintiff's Rebuttals.

8.1.4. Teams shall reserve a minimum of 1 minute for Rebuttals or Replies to Rebuttals during all Oral Pleading Sessions throughout the Competition. However, no team may reserve more than 5 minutes for this purpose.

8.1.5. Student counsels may introduce themselves by name during the oral rounds; however, they are strictly prohibited from disclosing their institution's name. In all other instances, they must use the Team Code without exception.

8.1.6. Memorials shall be exchanged 24 hours prior to the start of the preliminary rounds. For subsequent rounds, the exchange of memorials shall occur at a reasonable time determined by the OB before each advanced round.

8.1.7. Teams are permitted to submit compendiums to assist the judges during the oral rounds. Compendiums must be submitted in printed form directly to the judges in their courtroom.

Any attempts to submit or actual submission of the compendium via electronic means will result in the disqualification of the team. The decision of the OB regarding disqualification shall be final.

8.1.8. In the event that any opponent team fails to appear in an Oral Pleading Session, they shall be replaced with a dummy team. If no dummy team is available, the round shall be conducted ex-parte and the scoring shall be done as if the defaulted team had been present and arguing.

8.2. Procedures for Oral Submissions

8.2.1. Each team shall be allotted a maximum time to present their case. This shall include time allotted for arguments advanced, rebuttals, and reply to rebuttals. The maximum time is as described:

Round	Time Allotted
Preliminary Rounds	30 minutes each
Quarter Finals	35 minutes each
Semi Finals	40 minutes each
Finals	45 minutes each

8.2.2. Each speaker may be granted an extension of maximum 2 minutes in addition to the total team time, as per judges' discretion. No speaker may, in any scenario, exceed the maximum extension time. Any speaker found exceeding the maximum extension time shall be penalized as per OB's discretion.

8.2.3. Teams may allocate speaking time between their two speakers at their discretion; however the following time limits apply:

Round	Minimum Speaker Time	Maximum Speaker Time
Preliminary Round	12 Minutes	17 minutes
Quarter-finals	14 minutes	20 minutes
Semi-finals	16 minutes	23 minutes
Finals	19 minutes	25 minutes

8.2.4. Time allocation between team speakers, as well as time reserved for rebuttals or replies to rebuttals, must be measured in whole minutes only.

8.3. Before the Oral Round begins, the team must inform the manner in which the team wishes to divide its total time between its (i) first speaker, (ii) second speaker, and (iii) the rebuttal (for Plaintiff) or reply to Rebuttal (for Defendant) to both, the judges and the Court Bailiff.

8.4. The parties may make submissions during their oral arguments extending beyond the arguments advanced in the memorials.

8.5. The researchers are also required to attend the oral rounds.

8.6. All participants shall be dressed in formal courtroom attire.

8.7. Use of any electronic gadgets is not permitted during the course of oral pleadings. Any team caught using such gadgets during oral pleadings shall be disqualified.

8.8. The oral pleadings will be marked on a maximum of one hundred (100) points by each of the judges. Each speaker shall be judged on the basis of the following criteria:

Parameter	Marks Allotted
Knowledge of Law, Identification of Legal Principles and Facts	25 marks
Application of Law to Facts	20 marks
Persuasiveness and Ability to Answer	20 marks
Organisation, Presentations, Clarity and Logical Reasoning of Arguments	15 marks
Time Management	10 marks
Style, Poise, Courtesy and Demeanour	10 marks

8.9. Preliminary Rounds

8.9.1. All the teams that qualify Stage I: Memorial Qualifier Round shall be eligible to participate in the preliminary rounds.

8.9.2. There will be two preliminary rounds in which each team must argue once as the Plaintiff and once as the Defendant.

8.9.3. The fixtures for the preliminary rounds shall be randomized and based on the Draw of Lots.

8.9.4. No team shall face the same bench or the same team more than once in the preliminary rounds.

8.9.5. The scores from both preliminary rounds shall be averaged to determine the overall score.

8.9.6. For the purpose of determining which teams shall advance to the Quarter-Finals, the scoring will be weighted as follows: 30% of the total points will be based on memorial scores and 70% will be based on oral round scores.

8.10. Quarter-Finals

8.10.1. The top 8 teams with the highest overall marks will qualify for the Quarter-Finals. In the event of a tie, the combined speaker scores will be used as the first tiebreaker. In case of similar speaker scores, the Researcher Test scores shall be used as the second tiebreaker.

8.10.2. The fixtures for the Quarter-Finals shall be decided on the basis of power matchups. To illustrate, the 1st ranked team in the preliminary rounds shall be paired up against the 8th ranked team, the 2nd ranked versus the 7th ranked and so on.

8.10.3. Allocation of sides to the teams shall be done via a coin toss.

8.10.4. For the purpose of determining which teams shall advance to the Semi-Finals, the scoring will be weighted as follows: 20% of the total score will be based on memorial scores and 80% will be based on oral round scores.

8.11. Semi-Finals

8.11.1. The winning team from each of the four Quarter-Final Rounds shall advance to the Semi-Final Rounds.

8.11.2. The fixtures for the Semi-Finals shall be randomized and decided on the basis of Draw of Lots.

8.11.3. Allocation of sides shall be done via a coin toss.

8.11.4. For the purpose of determining which teams shall advance to the Finals, the scoring will be weighted as follows: 10% for memorial scores and 90% for oral round scores.

8.12. Finals

8.12.1. The winning team from each of the two semi-final rounds shall advance to the final round.

8.12.2. Allocation of sides shall be done via a coin toss.

8.12.3. There shall be no weightage given to the memorial in the Final Round.

8.13. The winner of the final round shall be declared the winner of the Competition.

9. RESEARCHER'S TEST

9.1. The researcher's test will be conducted on 6th February, 2026 from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

9.2. The total time limit of the test is one-hour.

9.3. Only the researcher designated by the teams in their registration form shall be eligible to write the test.

9.4. The test comprises both objective and subjective questions, with a total of 50 marks.

9.5. The objective questions carry 30 marks and the subjective question carries 20 marks.

9.6. The objective questions (MCQs) carry 1 mark each. There is negative marking for which 0.33 mark will be deducted for a wrongly marked MCQ.

9.7. Only researchers who score at least 15 marks in the objective section will have their descriptive answers evaluated.

9.8. The participants should use any blue or black ball point pen.

9.9. Please carefully tick mark the answer only once. If ticked more than once, no marks will be given for that particular answer.

9.10. For the subjective questions, the word limit should be

strictly adhered to. The indicative word limit is between 300-500 words.

9.11. In the descriptive portion, the participants can anticipate problem-based questions/conceptual questions revolving around the theme of the competition.

9.12. Usage of electronic devices is strictly prohibited and shall lead to disqualification from the test.

10. AWARDS

10.1. Award Categories

10.1.1. Winning Team: Awarded to the team that is judged to have the highest score in the Final Round.

10.1.2. 1st Runner-Up: Awarded to the team that is judged to have the second-highest score in the Final Round.

10.1.3. 2nd Runner-Up: Awarded to the team that has the higher score amongst the two semi-finalist teams which do not qualify to the Final Round.

10.1.4. Best Memorial: Awarded to the team with the highest-scoring written submission (memorial) based on the criteria specified in the rules.

10.1.5. Best Researcher: Awarded to the individual who attains the highest score in the researcher test.

10.1.6. Best Speaker: Awarded to the highest scoring speaker over two preliminary rounds.

10.2. Award Determination

10.2.1. Award decisions are final and made based on the collective judgment of the competition's panel of judges.

10.2.2. The decisions regarding award recipients are not subject to appeal.

10.3. Certificate

10.3.1. All the award recipients shall be given a Certificate of Merit.

10.3.2. All the teams successfully participating in the Oral Rounds shall be awarded a Certificate of Participation.

11. SCOUTING

11.1. Scouting is the act of attending an oral round (except the final round) by any member/coach of a team in which the concerned team is not competing. Any persons directly affiliated with any team are permitted to attend only those rounds in which their team is competing. Scouting is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any team shall entail instant disqualification.

12. ANONYMITY

12.1. Teams shall not reveal their identity in any form, except by means of the Team Code assigned to them.

12.2. Teams shall not, in any way, reveal their identity in the Memorial or in the course of the Oral Pleading Session. The Memorial shall not bear the logo, name, etc. of the Team, its members or the Institution/College/University represented by the Team. Additionally, the teams must ensure that the names of the team members, their institutions or any such marking that reasonably reveals the identity of the team must not appear in the meta-details of the memorial.

Note: A document's metadata refers to the data about the document itself, such as author, computer name, editing time et cetera.

12.3. Any material, including the Compendium, books, legal texts, or any other reference material, carried during the Oral Pleading Session, whether presented to the Bench or not shall not reveal the Team's identity and will be devoid of any identification marks/seal of the Team or the Institution/College/University represented. If anything on the material carried during the Oral Pleading Session reveals the Team's identity, the Team shall render the same unrecognizable to the satisfaction of the OB prior to joining the Oral Pleading Session. Any violation of this rule shall make the team liable to be disqualified from the Competition. The OB reserves the right to check a team's compendium to confirm the lack of identification marks.

12.4. Any attempts by a Team or a member of the Team to contact, either directly or indirectly, the drafter of the Moot Problem for any reason whatsoever after the release of the Moot Problem and before the Competition closes shall lead to the disqualification of such Team from the Competition.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

13.1. Changes to Rules: The OB reserves the right to modify any rule as it deems fit at any stage of the competition.

13.2. Official Communication: Any communication issued through official channels and attributed to the OB shall be considered formal notification.

13.3. Food: Meals will be provided to the participating teams for the entirety of the three-day competition.

13.4. Team Responsibility: Participating teams are advised to remain attentive to and promptly acknowledge any announcements or updates issued by the OB. The OB shall not be held responsible due to any mishaps arising out of any team's inattentiveness.

13.5. Interpretation: In the event of any ambiguity or uncertainty, all interpretations, as well as any waivers, consents, or other decisions related to the administration of the competition, shall be made at the sole discretion of the OB. Such decisions will be final and binding on all participants and are not subject to appeal whatsoever.

13.6. Unfair Means: If any team is found using any unfair means, the discretion of disqualifying the team will lie with the OB of the competition.

13.7. Decisions: The decision of the judges with regard to the outcome of the rounds shall be final and is not subject to appeal.

13.8. Conflict of Interest: Teams must disclose any potential conflict of interest and inform the OB if they have any association with a judge, such as being an intern or otherwise, at any point during the competition. If any such conflict is discovered later, it shall lead to instant disqualification of the team from the Competition.

13.9. Acceptance: Participation in this Competition by the teams shall be construed to mean an acceptance of the rules laid herein.

14. CODE OF CONDUCT AND EQUITY POLICY

14.1. All participants are expected to maintain the decorum in the Court and in the university premises during the competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.

14.2. The use of any electronic device, including but not limited to

smartwatches, mobile phones, laptops, or any other electronic gadgets, is strictly prohibited during the oral rounds. Non-compliance with this rule may result in penalties, including disqualification, as per the discretion of the OB.

14.3. Any violation of the Equity Policy shall be penalized as described in the policy.

15. CONTACT DETAILS

15.1. Chief Advisor: Mr. Eashan Ghosh, Director, Centre for Innovation, Intellectual Property and Competition (CIIPC), DPIIT-IPR Chair, National Law University Delhi

15.2. Coordinator: Ms. Nishtha Sharma, Research and Programme Coordinator, Centre for Innovation, Intellectual Property and Competition (CIIPC), National Law University Delhi

15.3. Student Convenors: Ms. Rashi (+91-8569926449) and Mr. Kanav Aggarwal (+91-8264226369)

15.4. Email: dpiit.ipr@nludelhi.ac.in