



**NATIONAL LAW
UNIVERSITY MEGHALAYA**



in collaboration with

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, INDIA

presents

NLU MEG-NHRC National Moot Court Competition 2023-24



15th - 17th March, 2024



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ABOUT NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF INDIA

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India was established on 12 October, 1993. The statute under which it is established is the Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993 as amended by the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2006. It is in conformity with the Paris Principles, adopted at the first international workshop on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights held in Paris in October 1991, and endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations by its Regulations 48/134 of 20 December, 1993.

The NHRC is an embodiment of India's concern for the promotion and protection of human rights. Section 2(1)(d) of the PHRA defines Human Rights as the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of the individual guaranteed by the Constitution or embodied in the International Covenants and enforceable by courts in India.



ABOUT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY MEGHALAYA (NLU MEG)

The National Law University Meghalaya (NLU Meg), nestled in the heart of the ‘Scotland of the East’, is the first National Law University established in Meghalaya. The premier law school has been set up with a mission to pioneer legal educational reforms, and to anchor the transformation of the Indian legal system through research and policy interventions.

While most law Universities in the country achieve a standard in teaching pedagogies, legal research needs more intensity. To compete with global legal research output and make legal research relevant to contemporary society NLU Meg focus on evidence-based research and propose solutions commensurate with the country’s needs.

NLU Meg focus on learning outcomes instead of information overload to its students. Focusing on learning outcomes that orient the student with the desired skill required for the practice and industry with evolving political, social and economic realities.

The University degree programmes are necessarily a packaging of the subjects which the University finds relevant to the job markets. The education approach at NLU Meg focus more on packaging the subjects by the students to cater to the ever-increasing diversified need of the fast-changing society.



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE

As the Vice Chancellor of the National Law University Meghalaya, it is with immense pride and a sense of profound responsibility that I announce – the National Moot Court Competition on Human Rights, hosted in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

This event is not just a competition; it is a vibrant confluence of young legal minds, a platform where the future of legal advocacy and human rights is shaped. Mooting, as you are well aware, is more than an academic exercise. It is the crucible in which the metal of your legal acumen is tested and tempered. Here, you will not only argue legal cases but also breathe life into the statutes and judgments that you have diligently studied.

The theme of this year's moot – Human Rights – could not be more pertinent. In a world rife with challenges to human dignity and freedom, your role as custodians of justice becomes ever more crucial. Through this competition, you will delve into the complexities of human rights law, grappling with issues that are as real as they are challenging. This is your arena to demonstrate not just your legal expertise, but also your commitment to the ideals of justice, equality, and humanity.

I urge you to embrace this opportunity with both passion and humility. Passion, to advocate with fervor and conviction; humility, to appreciate the diversity of thought and experience you will encounter. Remember, each one of you has the potential to be a changemaker in the legal landscape, to uphold the rights of the marginalized, and to voice the concerns of the voiceless.

Dear students, this is your moment. Shine bright, argue with vigor but also listen with an open heart. Let this moot court be not just a competition, but a celebration of the spirit of justice and a testament to your potential as the vanguards of the legal fraternity.

I look forward to witnessing a display of exceptional legal talent and a spirited engagement with the pressing human rights issues of our time. Let us together make this event a milestone in our continuous journey towards a more just and equitable world.

With best wishes,

Prof. Indrajit Dube
Vice Chancellor
NLU Meg



About the Competition



THEME - “ ONLINE HARASSEMENT AND CYBERBULLYING”

National Law University, Meghalaya (NLU Meg) is delighted to announce the first edition of the NLU MEG-NHRC National Moot Court Competition, 2023-24, in association with the National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC). In order to provide the necessary free space to interpret and analyze legal provisions in the context of a given legal regime, while trying to solve a practical problem, this event has been devised with the aim to nurture and hone amongst law students, a better understanding and concern for the protection and promotion of Human Rights, while giving them an opportunity to deliberate before experts in the field, thus rigorously testing the legal acumen, research, and oratory skills of the participating teams.

Moot court competitions play a significant role in the education and development of law students, offering a range of valuable benefits that contribute to their legal knowledge, skills, and overall growth. This moot court competition will focus on a challenging and thought-provoking hypothetical case. The case study will encompass a range of legal issues, encouraging participants to explore various facets of the law and craft well-reasoned arguments.

To promote the aspect of legal training for ensuring a wholesome legal education, it shall be expected from the participants to explore different dimensions of law and not restrict themselves only to the theme of the Competition. We cordially invite your Law School/ University/ Institution/ College and likewise to participate in the Competition.



List of Important Dates

Notification of the Competition	Last Week of December
Provisional Registration	Last Week of January
Release of Moot Problem and Rulebook	1st February, 2024
Final Date of Registration	20th February, 2024
Last Date of Providing Travel Information	5th March, 2024
Last Date of Memorial Submission	10th March, 2024
Inaugural Ceremony	15th March, 2024
Draw of Lots, Exchange of Memorial & Researcher's Test	15th March, 2024
Preliminary Rounds	15th/16th March, 2024
Quarters Rounds	16th March, 2024
Semi-Final Rounds	16th March, 2024
Finals, Valedictory Ceremony and Prize Distribution	17th March, 2024



Rules of the Competition

I. INTRODUCTORY

Short Title: These Rules shall be called the NLU MEG-NHRC National Moot Competition Rules, 2023-24

1. Definitions: Unless otherwise stated following shall be construed herein under as:

- “Administrator” shall mean the NLU MEG Moot Court Committee;
- “Competition” means NLU MEG-NHRC Moot Court Competition, 2023;
- “Participating Team” means the team which has registered itself for the competition as per the rules of registration;
- “Rounds” means the physical rounds to be held in the premises of the University;
- “Rules” means NLU MEG-NHRC National Moot Court Competition Rules, 2023;
- “Organizers” means the National Law University, Meghalaya.

II. GENERAL RULES

2. Date: The Competition shall be organized from 15th March, 2024 to 17th March, 2024

3. Dress Code: Official dress as required for court proceedings

4. Language: The language of the Competition shall be English.

III. ELIGIBILITY AND TEAM COMPOSITION

5. Eligibility:

The Competition shall be open to students who are:

- Pursuing an integrated 5-year LL.B. programme in India; or
- Pursuing a 3-year LL.B. programme in India.
- An institution shall be entitled to send only one team to the Competition.

6. Team Composition: Each team shall constitute a maximum of three members. Under no condition shall a team consisting of more than 3 members be allowed to participate.

7. Three-Member Team: In the event, a team consists of three members then:

- Such team shall designate two of its members as speakers; and
- Such a team shall designate one member, who has not been designated as a speaker, as a researcher. The team must, amongst its members, identify the speakers and the researcher at the time of registration itself.

8. Change in Team Composition: Any change in team composition must be intimated to the Administrator at the earliest. Any change must be accompanied by a registration form and an authority letter duly signed by the head of the institution. No change in team composition is allowed after the formal registration.



IV. REGISTRATION

9. Each institution must register itself through its designated moot court society for the Competition by filling out the Microsoft form - <https://forms.office.com/r/hjug7j0f8S>

OR

Scan the QR Code for Registration

1st NLU Meg- NHRC National
Moot Court Competition



10. Each team shall be considered registered for the Competition who filled out the registration form before 20th Feb, 2024. The registration form will also be sent to the institution's moot court society. The teams are strongly encouraged to complete the registration form at the earliest possible. Prior payment of the registration fee is required in order to submit the online registration form. In case a team fails to complete the final registration, the next team which completed the registration shall be considered for the final registration.



11. While filling out the registration form, the teams have to choose a primary contact person. All communications concerning the Competition will be sent by e-mail to the nominated contact person. It is that person's responsibility to convey all relevant information and distribute all relevant material to the team.

12. All teams registering for the competition shall be charged with the following fees:

- Registration fee + Food = INR 4000/Team.
- Registration fee + Accommodation + Food = INR 6000/Team.

13. Mode of Payment: All the required transactions, i.e., the registration fees, shall be paid online in the account details as provided-

Name of the Account Holder: National Law University Meghalaya

Account Number: 50100682830687

IFSC Code: HDFC0004727

MICR- 793240007

14. Allotment of Team Code: Every team which has successfully completed the Registration requisites under the Rules shall be allotted a unique code after the closure of the Registration for the Competition. Once allotted, every team must use the team code for any communication with the Organizers during the course of the Competition.

V. FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

15. Format: There shall be two Preliminary Rounds, Quarter Final, Semi-Final and Final.

16. Physical Rounds: The Rounds of the Competition will be held offline and is divided into:

- Preliminary Rounds,
- Quarter Final Rounds;
- Semi-Final Rounds; and
- Final Rounds

The qualification of teams to the Advanced Rounds shall be determined on the basis of the win or loss of the team in each preliminary Round.

17. Draw of Lots: The match-up of teams in Preliminary Rounds shall be determined on the basis of the draw of lots. The draw of lots shall take place on 15th March, 2024.

18. Preliminary Rounds:

- Each team shall argue from both sides in the Preliminary Rounds.
- No team shall argue the same side twice in the Preliminary Rounds.

19. Arrangement of Ranking: The teams in the Preliminary Rounds shall be ranked on the basis of the below-mentioned criteria:

- The teams shall be first differentiated on their win-loss record after the Preliminary Rounds;
- If there is a tie, the team with the higher aggregate score will be allotted the higher rank;
- If the tie subsists, the team with the higher speaker score will be allotted the higher rank;
- If the tie still subsists, the team with the highest individual speaker score out of speakers of tied teams will be allotted the higher rank;
- If the tie still subsists, the team with the higher memorial score will be allotted a higher rank;
- If the tie still subsists, then the rank shall be determined by the toss of coin.

20. Results: Top 8 team based on the highest secured in both the round will qualify for the quarter finals

21. Advanced Rounds:

- Advanced round will include Quarter finals, Semi-Finals, and Finals

VI. MEMORIALS

22. **Strict Adherence to Rules Regarding Memorials:** All requirements have to be strictly followed. Non-adherence to the same will attract penalty subject to the discretion of the organizers.

23. **Memorials to be Prepared from Both Sides:** Each team must prepare memorials for both sides of the dispute (Appellant/Petitioner and Respondent).

24. **Submission of Soft Copy and Hard Copy of Memorials:**

a. **Submission of Soft Copy:**

- The soft copies of the memorial from each side should positively reach the Organizers at the official mail ID of Moot Court Society in both PDF and Word format latest by 10th March 2024
- Memorials shall be sent as an attachment with the mail in the form of a single file for each side of the memorial in PDF as well as Word format.
- A penalty of 1 mark shall be levied in case the memorial is submitted in any other format or as a multiple file by the team.
- The team submitting the soft copy 5 days after the last date of the submission of the soft copy of the memorial will be disqualified from the competition.
- A penalty of 1 mark per hour per side shall be deducted in case of delay in submission of soft copy of memorial.

b. Submission of Hard Copy:

- Three copies of memorial each for the applicant and the respondent in hard copy should reach the following address by Post, latest by 12th March 2024.
- A penalty of 1 mark per day per side shall be deducted in case of delay in the submission of a hard copy of the memorial.

25. General Conditions for Memorials:

- The memorials shall not contain any form of identification apart from the team code on the upper right corner of the cover page. If any such identification or mark, symbol, etc. which has the effect of identifying the team is found on the memorial, then it shall result in instant disqualification.
- Appellant memorials are required to have a Blue cover and Respondent memorials are required to have a Red cover.
- A penalty of 1 mark per side shall be levied in case the team uses the wrong cover page for each side of the memorial.

26. Guidelines for Formatting:

a. Memorial Structure: The memorial must have the following pages only:

- Cover Page – The cover page shall contain the case title, side of the memorial, year of competition, name of the forum, and team Code in the top right corner.
- Table of Contents
- List of Abbreviations
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Statement of Facts
- Issues Raised
- Summary of Arguments
- Pleadings/Arguments Advanced
- Prayer

b. Team Code: The team code must be ascribed to the up-right corner of the cover page. The code must be preceded by the side for which the memorial is prepared. The teams must use “A” for Appellant, P for “Petitioner” and R for “Respondent.” For example: in case the Team Code is 100 the team must write “A- 100” in case of memorial for Appellant and “R-100” in case of memorial for Respondent.

c. Main body:

- Type: Times New Roman
- Font Size: 12 points
- Line Spacing: 1.5

d. Footnotes:

- Type: Times New Roman
- Font Size: 10 points
- Line Spacing: 1

e. Pagination: The pagination must be done at the bottom of the page.

f. Margin: A margin of 1 inch on all sides of the memorial should be left.

g. Citation Format: The 20th Edition of Bluebook system of citation should be followed throughout the memorial.

h. Page Limit: The memorial shall be a maximum of 30 including the cover page and Pleadings/Arguments Advanced shall be a maximum of 15 pages. No annexures, photographs, exhibits, etc., should be added to the memorial.

27. Penalty: A penalty of 1 mark per violation per side shall be levied in case of non-adherence with the aforementioned guidelines for formatting.

28. Marking Criteria:

- Evidence of Original Thought – 20
 - Knowledge of Law and Facts – 20
 - Proper and Articulate Analysis – 20
 - Correct Format and Citation – 20
 - Extent and Use of Research – 20
- TOTAL – 100

29. Plagiarism: In case the memorial of the Participant is found to be guilty of plagiarism, the Administrator may impose any sanction that they may deem fit, including disqualification from the Moot.

VII. ORAL ROUNDS

30. Timings for the Oral Pleadings:

a. Preliminary Rounds and Quarter-Finals:

- Each team is allotted 30 minutes to present their oral arguments;
- The timing can be divided between both the speakers according to the wishes of the team subject to a maximum of 17 minutes and a minimum of 13 minutes per speaker;
- The time division has to be informed to the Court Manager/Clerk before the beginning of the oral arguments.
- A maximum of 2 minutes may be reserved for rebuttal or surrebuttal which shall be at the discretion of the judges.
- The allotment of extra time shall be at the discretion of the judges.

The top 8 Teams will qualify to the Quarter Final Rounds. The Teams would be ranked

as per the following scheme:

- Scores of Preliminary Round 1 + Scores of Preliminary Rounds 2 = Total Preliminary Round Score
- In case of a tie, then Memorial scores would also be added to the Total Preliminary Round score.
- If a tie still persists, then Researchers' Test scores would also be added to it.

b. Quarter Final

- The Quarter-Final Rounds will be held on 16th March 2023 and will be knockout rounds.
- The pairing of Teams for the Quarter-Finals shall be done by draw of lots. Qualifying
- Teams shall pick the lots in the order of their ranks determined in accordance with Rule of the Rules of the Competition.
- Team will be credited with a win if the cumulative Oral Score of the Team in that match, calculated in accordance with of the Rules of the Competition is higher than the cumulative Oral Score of the opposing Team in that round.
- A tie will be resolved on adding the Memorial Scores to the cumulative Oral Scores of the Quarter Finals.
- If a tie still persists, then Researchers' Test scores would also be added to it.

c. Semi-Final and Final Rounds:

- Top Four teams from the Quarter Rounds shall qualify for the Semi-Finals.
- The team shall argue only one side in the semi-finals. The side of the team shall be decided by way of the draw of lots.
- The semi-final shall be a knock-out round.
- The win-loss shall be decided on the basis of the aggregate speaker score. No memorial score will be added in the semi-final. The win-loss shall be determined on the basis of the score so computed. The team with the higher aggregate score shall proceed to the final round
- Each team is allotted 60 minutes to present their oral arguments.
- The timing can be divided between both the speakers according to the wishes of the team subject to a maximum of 35 minutes and a minimum of 25 minutes per speaker.
- The time division has to be informed to the Court Manager/Clerk before the beginning of the oral arguments.
- A maximum of 5 minutes may be reserved for rebuttal or surrebuttal which shall be given at the discretion of the judges.
- The allotment of extra time shall be at the discretion of the judges.

Finals: In the final rounds, the win-loss shall be decided on the basis of the aggregate speaker score. No memorial score will be added in the finals. The win-loss shall be determined on the basis of the score so computed.

31. Marking Criteria for the Oral Rounds:

- Knowledge and Application of Laws and Facts - 20
- Ingenuity and Ability to Answer Questions - 20
- Style, Poise, Courtesy, and Demeanour - 20
- Organisation and Flow of Arguments - 20
- Reference to Memorial - 20

TOTAL - 100

VIII. RESEARCHER'S TEST

- The identified researcher during the formal registration shall take the researcher's test.
- In the case of a two-member team, no member of the team will be allowed to take the Researcher's test.
- The test shall contain questions related to the moot problem and the relevant law.
- It shall be an offline pen and paper-based test.
- In tabulation of results for the researchers' test the total marks obtained by the researcher plus fifty percent of the memorial score will be considered. In case of a tie, the researcher with the higher memorial score will be allotted a higher rank. If the tie subsists, the research belonging to the team with the higher aggregate score will be allotted a higher rank. If the tie still subsists, then the rank shall be determined by a toss of a coin.

• IX. AWARDS & PRIZES

32. Awards: The following awards shall be awarded in the Competition:

WINNER TEAM- 60,000/-

RUNNERS-UP TEAM- 35,000/-

BEST ORATOR MALE - 10,000/-

BEST ORATOR FEMALE - 10,000/-

BEST RESEARCHER - 15000/-

TEAM WITH BEST MEMORIAL APPLICANT' - 10,000/-

TEAM WITH BEST MEMORIAL- RESPONDENT - 10,000/-

- One month access to the SCC Online Web Edition to all participants valued at ₹1099 each. E-Mail IDs of the participants to be provided to SCC Online to activate the subscriptions.
- Three 1 year access to EBC Learning worth Rs. 14,500 each. Total Value of ₹43,500.00!
- Certificates of recognition shall be provided to all the teams qualifying for the oral rounds.
- Certificate of merit shall be provided to the top eight teams in the preliminary rounds.
- Certificate of participation shall be given to all the participating teams. The awards, certificates of merit, certificates of recognition and certificates of participation shall be announced during the valedictory ceremony to be conducted on 17th March,2024. The hard copy of the same shall be provided to the respective teams and prize money shall be deposited in the account details provided by the winners.

X. PENALTIES

32. Non – Disclosure of Identity: Teams shall not disclose their identity, i.e., the name of their institution, city, etc. or any other information which has the effect of disclosing their identity and affiliation with a particular university or institution. Such disclosure shall result in disqualification subject to the discretion of the Organizers.

XI. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

34. The Organizing Committee shall form a Dispute Resolution Committee for the resolution of any dispute pertaining to the manner of conduction of the moot or any other matter incidental thereto. The Dispute Resolution Committee shall become operational on receipt of an application of grievance, where post the dispute resolution process, the decision of such Committee shall be final and binding.

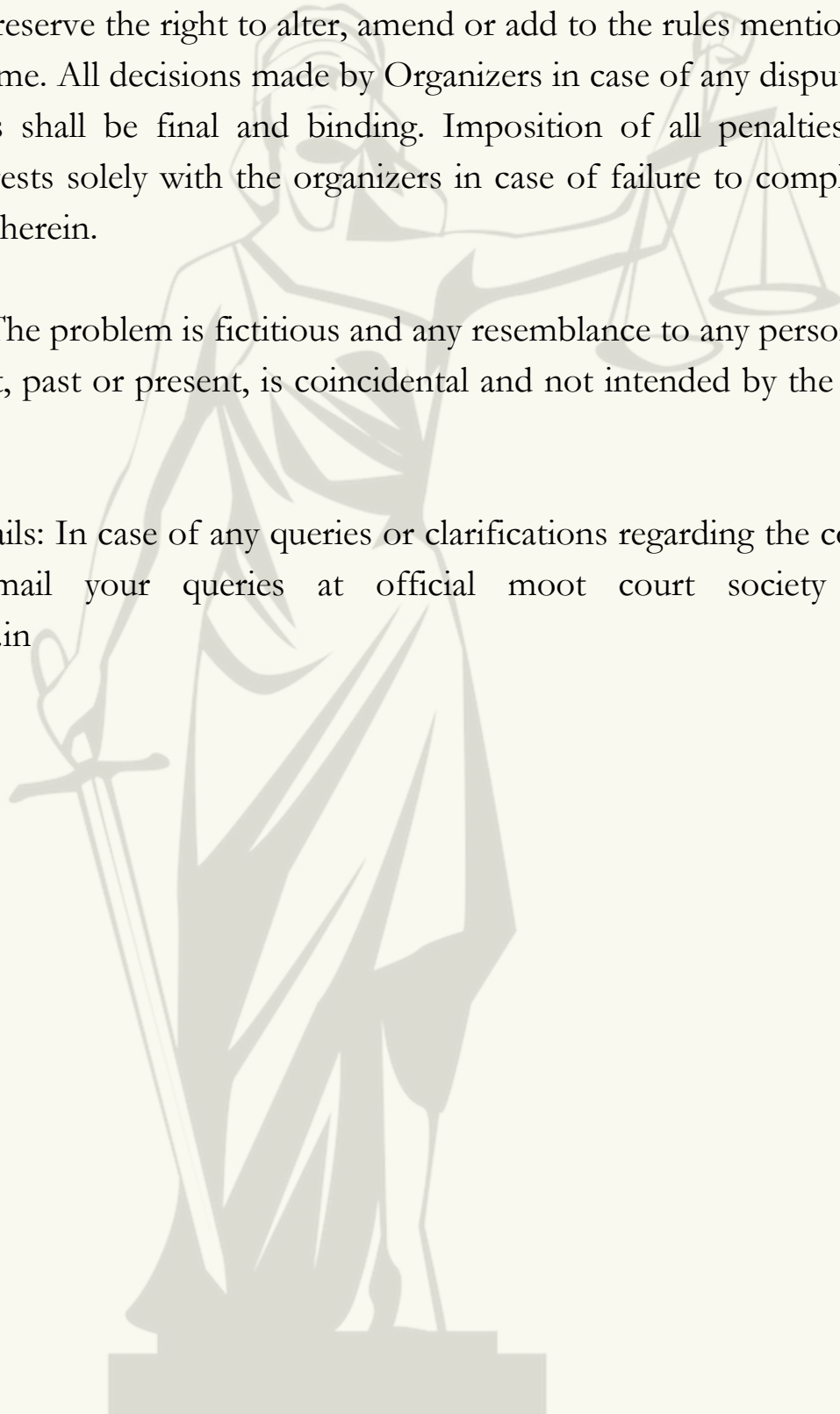
XII. MISCELLANEOUS

35. Copyright: The copyright with regard to the memorials submitted for participation in the Competition is assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully with the Organizers. The participants shall certify the originality of the memorials and the materials used and shall be responsible for any claim or dispute arising out of further use and exhibition of these materials. The Organizers shall have the right to publicly display, distribute either electronically or otherwise and they shall not be responsible for any liability to any person for any loss caused by errors or omissions in this collection of information, or for accuracy, completeness or adequacy of the information contained in these materials.

36. Power to Amend or Alter Rules: The rules mentioned herein are not exhaustive. The Organizers reserve the right to alter, amend or add to the rules mentioned herein at any point in time. All decisions made by Organizers in case of any disputes, doubts or related issues shall be final and binding. Imposition of all penalties including disqualification rests solely with the organizers in case of failure to comply with the rules mentioned herein.

37. Disclaimer: The problem is fictitious and any resemblance to any person, living or dead, or incident, past or present, is coincidental and not intended by the authors of the problem.

38. Contact Details: In case of any queries or clarifications regarding the competition feel free to mail your queries at official moot court society mail Id- mcs@nlumeg.ac.in





The Team

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Ritu Parna

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