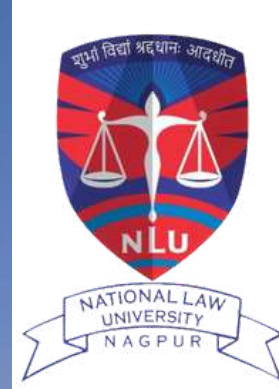


MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW
UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR

1ST MNLU-N
NATIONAL
COMMERCIAL
MEDIATION
COMPETITION, 2023

(VIRTUAL)

APRIL 14-16, 2023



Organized by
Alternative Dispute Resolution Society
&

Centre for Intellectual Property Rights & DPIIT- IPR Chair

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



PAYMENTS PARTNER



EFFORT PARTNER



KNOWLEDGE PARTNER



MEDIA PARTNER



ABOUT MNLU, NAGPUR

Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur, an Institution with a student centric outlook, was established by the Government of Maharashtra in 2015. The University started its academic activities from August 1, 2016 and is currently in its seventh year of academic pursuits with seventh batch of Undergraduate Degree Course [B.A.LL.B.(Hons.) Five-Year Integrated Degree Course]; seventh batch of Postgraduate Degree Program [One-Year LL.M.]; and fourth batch of Ph.D.; third batch of B.A.LL.B. (Honours in Adjudication and Justicing) Five-Years Integrated Degree Course programme and first batch of Undergraduate Degree Course [B.B.A.LL.B. (Hons.)] Five-Year Integrated Degree Course. The University is recognised under 12(B) of University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956 and the Bar Council of India (BCI), New Delhi. It is also a member of Association of Indian Universities (AIU), New Delhi and Consortium of National Law Universities of India.

While it has strong student-centric goals, it also focuses extensively on the all-round development of its bright and diligent faculty members, motivating them to attain new heights. In order to realize this holistic vision and keep in view the spirit of the Constitution, the University strives for excellence, through its centres established for advanced legal studies, research, and advocacy to address socio-legal issues and challenges. Some of the centres have already started working on offering courses and conducting seminars, conferences, workshops, certificate courses and training programs for their identified target groups.

ABOUT THE ADR SOCIETY

The ADR Society of MNLU Nagpur was established in 2018 under the dynamic leadership of our Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Vijender Kumar and our faculty advisor Dr. Ragini Khubalkar to hone the interests and skills of students in the field of Negotiation, Mediation & Arbitration. Under the aegis of the ADR Society, a variety of events such as seminars, workshops, guest lectures, panel discussions and ADR Competitions have been conducted. The Society has also successfully hosted the National Rounds of Louis M. Brown & Forrest S. Mosten International Client Consultation Competition, 2019. To couple the learnings at the University with the practicalities of the field, the students are encouraged to carry out field studies and participate in various Negotiation, Mediation and Client Consultation Competitions across the country.



ABOUT DPIIT-IPR CHAIR, MNLU NAGPUR

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, selected Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur to establish the DPIIT IPR Chair, under the Scheme for Pedagogy & Research in IPRs for Holistic Education & Academia (SPRIHA). National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy, 2016. The chair was established under the leadership of Dr. Ragini Khubalkar, Associate Professor of Law & In-Charge, DPIIT IPR Chair, MNLU, Nagpur to fulfil one of the several objectives of strengthening IP Chairs in educational institutes of higher learning to provide quality teaching and research, develop teaching capacity and curricula and evaluate their work on performance-based criteria. Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur takes pride in achieving approval to set up the IPR Chair to promote Intellectual Property (IP) education and foster IP research.



ABOUT THE CENTRE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The Centre for Intellectual Property Rights (CIPR) is one of the Advanced Legal Research Centre of the University intending to promote Human, Social and Commercial values through exclusive socio-legal research in the field of Intellectual Property Rights. IPR is an evolutionary field. IPR provides an incentive for creativity and the disclosure of information and plays a significant role in encouraging innovations in product/process development leading to technical advancement. Therefore, knowledge about IPR becomes essential in all fields. Effective Intellectual property (IP) protection has been a critical factor; however, academia is playing a serious catch-up to create awareness of IP.



ABOUT OUR PAYMENTS PARTNER- STATE BANK OF INDIA



State Bank of India (SBI) a Fortune 500 company, is an Indian Multinational, Public Sector Banking and Financial services statutory body headquartered in Mumbai. The rich heritage and legacy of over 200 years, accredits SBI as the most trusted Bank by Indians through generations.

SBI, the largest Indian Bank with 1/4th market share, serves over 45 crore customers through its vast network of over 22,000 branches, 62617 ATMs/ADWMs, 71,968 BC outlets, with an undeterred focus on innovation, and customer centricity, which stems from the core values of the Bank - Service, Transparency, Ethics, Politeness and Sustainability.

The Bank has successfully diversified businesses through its various subsidiaries i.e SBI General Insurance, SBI Life Insurance, SBI Mutual Fund, SBI Card, etc. It has spread its presence globally and operates across time zones through 229 offices in 31 foreign countries.

Growing with times, SBI continues to redefine banking in India, as it aims to offer responsible and sustainable Banking solutions..

ABOUT OUR MEDIA PARTNER: EBC-SCC OnLine



SCC Online® is brought to you by Eastern Book Company - a publishing house of international repute and an acknowledged leader in the field of law publishing in India for more than 75 years. It was in the 1940's when two brothers, the Late Shri C.L. Malik and his younger brother, the Late Shri P.L. Malik, decided to settle in Lucknow and embark upon a career in law bookselling and publishing. Together they laid the foundations of what today has grown into a group of companies under the banner of Eastern Book Company - a group recognized and respected for its contribution to legal literature worldwide. EBC publishes a wide range of legal commentaries, student texts, law reports and digests, and its products include pioneering works both in the print and electronic medium. With a list of over 550 authoritative and well known titles, it is well recognised for its contribution to legal literature worldwide. Reliable and comprehensive law reporting of the Supreme Court of India has been achieved through EBC's weekly law report since 1969, the Supreme Court Cases™. Now running into nearly 300 volumes, it is the leading law report of India with a very wide circulation and readership. Its high quality and meticulous standards have earned for it the respect and admiration of the entire legal community and it is today the most preferred and cited law report in all law courts. Using the finest of technological innovations, we pioneered law information databases for making law easily accessible in the electronic medium. This has appeared in a revolutionary form, in the electronic medium, as SCC Online's Case Finder™. This Information Database and search program is a proven source for quick retrieval of case law precedents of the Supreme Court of India. The Web Edition versions of SCC Online® products have also been made available since 2009 with coverage expanding to 3.4 million documents from over 20 different countries. The mark of EBC stands for authenticity, reliability and promptness. Thereby, it also fulfils its commitment to the rule of law.

ABOUT OUR EFFORT PARTNER- AK AND PARTNERS: ADVOCATES AND SOLICITORS



AK & Partners is a full-service law firm. The firm provides 360-degree dispute resolution services including negotiation, neutral evaluation, arbitration, mediation and litigation at district courts, tribunals, the High Court and the Supreme Court of India. The firm provides advisory and dispute resolution services in civil disputes, commercial disputes, real estate disputes, and tax matters including raids, election laws, white-collar crimes and money laundering. The firm performs title search in respect of properties across India by performing comprehensive title due diligence from retrieval and review of documents to the preparation of the final title due diligence report.

The firm also provides end-to-end hand-holding from the startup phase to post-acquisition synergy and optimisation in equity investment (domestic and international), project finance, debt syndication, data privacy and protection and corporate insolvency rescue. Our regulatory practice strengths include banking, finance, insurance, energy and infrastructure, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, healthcare, and mining. We also handhold our multinational clients in jurisdictions such as Singapore, Italy, Spain, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh through our counsels practising in these jurisdictions. AK & Partners is a Legal 500 Tier I Banking and Finance Law Firm in New Delhi and a Forbes-ranked law firm providing legal services in the jurisdiction of India.

ABOUT OUR KNOWLEDGE PARTNER: THE INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION CENTRE, HYDERABAD



The International Arbitration and Mediation Centre (IAMC), located in Hyderabad, is a leading dispute resolution institution providing arbitration and mediation services in a cost effective and efficient services.

IAMC, Hyderabad's vision and mission are ably guided by internationally renowned practitioners in the field of Arbitration & Mediation such as Sir Bernard Eder & Dr. Eun Young Park. The centre is privileged to have Hon'ble Mr. Justice L Nageswara Rao, Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.V. Raveendran, Hon'ble Ms. Justice Hima Kohli from the Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ujjal Bhuyan, Chief Justice of the High Court for the State of Telangana, Sri Indrakaran Reddy, Minister of State for Endowments, Law and Forests as Trustees.

ABOUT THE COMPETITION

As a matter of its contribution towards the development and promotion of ADR in India, the ADR Society of Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur in collaboration with the DPIIT IPR Chair & Centre for Intellectual Property Rights, MNLU Nagpur takes pride in presenting the **1st MNLU-N National Commercial Mediation Competition, 2023 (Virtual)** on April 14-16, 2023, which will be one of a kind IPR & Cyber Law themed Mediation Competition.

The theme of the competition was designed by taking into consideration the expansion of international transactions which is resulting into a significant increase in the likelihood of intellectual property (IP) disputes that transcend national borders.

Intellectual Property Rights and Cyber laws are deeply connected especially keeping in mind the rate at which digital and technological world is expanding. This is a developing arena due to which regulation of cyberspace poses difficulties of jurisdiction as well as enforcement. Complicated disputes arise due to this ambiguity; hence, mediation provides a creative method for the amicable settlement of disputes. Furthermore, cyberspace is going to get much more complicated with the introduction of the metaverse and web3 which is the introduction of blockchain technologies, cryptocurrencies, NFT's etc. With such digital spheres coming up that possesses the capability to alter our daily lives, it is imperative that the rights and liabilities between this digital space and real world do not get blurred.

ABOUT THE COMPETITION

Keeping the above discussion on cyber space in mind, there have been issues relating to IP infringement in these spheres and Courts are often conflicted as to whether they have the necessary jurisdiction to hear such disputes. Mediation might as well be the most well-suited dispute resolution mechanism under such circumstances. Also, a variety of worldwide issues, including those pertaining to digital environments, climate change, healthcare access, traditional knowledge and cultural expressions, biodiversity preservation, and cyber laws may also give rise to novel types of IP conflicts. Simultaneously, the current economic recession has motivated stakeholders to pursue more cost-effective and streamlined methods of resolving such disputes, leading to a growing interest in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms as a viable solution.

Participants will be challenged to showcase their knowledge and creativity in resolving a variety of IPR and Cyberspace disputes, including those arising from emerging technologies, cultural expressions, traditional knowledge, Metaverse, Data Protection. The event will be a valuable learning experience for all participants, providing them with an opportunity to enhance their legal and negotiation skills while developing a deeper understanding of IPR & Cyber law. It will also promote the importance of ADR in resolving complex disputes and showcase the potential of mediation as an effective tool for resolving IPR and Cyber conflicts.

The objective of this competition is to promote and propagate the spirit of amicable resolution of disputes by exploring innovative and commercially viable solutions, leading to a win-win situation for the parties.

ELIGIBILITY

- The Competition is open for students pursuing a five-year/three-year degree program in law from the Colleges/Universities recognized by BCI.
- For eligibility, it is hereby clarified that all the participants in one team shall belong to one institution only. No cross-institutional composition of teams is allowed.

COMPOSITION OF TEAM

- Each team shall comprise three (3) students, who shall be divided into two teams. The Mediating Team shall consist of one (1) Mediator, and the Negotiating Team shall consist of one (1) Client and one (1) Counsel. It is clarified that the Mediating Team and the Negotiating Team shall be marked independent of each other throughout the competition.
- It is mandatory for the Client and the Counsel of the Negotiating Team to reverse their roles once during the Preliminary Rounds. This requirement of role reversal is only for the Preliminary Rounds and not for the Advanced Rounds.



REGISTRATION

There is a two-step registration process for the competition, Provisional Registration, and Final Registration.

Provisional Registration

- Universities interested to reserve a slot for their team can provisionally register their university with the organiser through the [link](#) on or before March 27, 2023.
- After the Provisional Registration and review of applications submitted, the selected 32 Teams shall be communicated via email about their selection by March 30, 2023.
- However, the ADR Society has the discretionary power to change the number of teams in the best interest of the competition.

Team Registration of Universities

- Shortlisted Teams/Participants are required to complete the Final Registration Process by duly filling the Registration Form on or before April 4, 2023 which shall be sent to the shortlisted Universities via email.
- Shortlisted Teams/Participants are required to transfer the registration fees INR 4,000, through the [SBI Collect Link](#). Details regarding payment shall be notified to the selected universities via email.



COMPETITION PROCEDURE

The Competition shall comprise 5 Rounds. The description of each round along with the time duration is provided below:

Time Duration

Name of Round

45
Minutes

Preliminary Rounds - I & II

60
Minutes

Quarter Final Rounds

75
Minutes

Semi Final Rounds

90
Minutes

Final Round

COMPETITION PROCEDURE

- The competition will be virtual/online via the Online Video Conferencing Platform - Cisco Webex.
- For preliminary rounds, confidential information shall be released **30 minutes** prior to the round
- For quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals, confidential information shall be released **45 minutes** prior to the rounds.
- From the preliminary rounds, the top 8 of the 32 teams with the highest combined score from the two prelims shall proceed to the quarter-finals.
- From the Quarter-Finals, the rounds shall be on a knockout basis. The teams will be paired through a draw of lots. The team with the higher score in each mediation room shall proceed to the semi-finals.
- In the semi-finals, the team with the higher score in each mediation room shall proceed to the finals. The teams will be paired through a draw of lots.
- In the final rounds, the team with the higher score among the two participating teams shall be declared the winner.
- The mode of communication shall strictly remain English throughout the competition.

AWARDS

WINNER
(Client-
Counsel
Pair)

Winner's Trophy
& a cash prize of INR 14,000 &

Winner's Trophy
& a cash prize of INR 7,000

WINNER
(Mediator)

RUNNER'S UP
(Client-
Counsel
Pair)

Runner's Up Trophy
& a cash prize of INR 8,000

Runner's Up Trophy
& a cash prize of INR 4,000

RUNNER UP
(Mediator)

BEST CLIENT-
COUNSEL
PAIR OF
PRELIMINARY
ROUNDS

A cash prize of INR 3,000

A cash prize of INR 2,000

BEST
MEDIATOR OF
PRELIMINARY
ROUNDS

Keep your eyes on other gifts from our effort partner.



*Certificates of Excellence will be given to all the Winners.

IMPORTANT DATES



* The dates, schedules and details pertaining to the tournament are tentative in nature and subject to change at the discretion of the society.



PATRON-IN-CHIEF

PROF. (DR.) VIJENDER KUMAR

VICE-CHANCELLOR

MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, NAGPUR

FACULTY ADVISOR

DR. RAGINI KHUBALKAR

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW

SPECIAL ADVISOR

MS. ANSHI JOSHI

LL.M. SCHOLAR, MNLU NAGPUR

STUDENT MEMBERS

Ashmira Moon (2018-23)

Garima Jargar (2018-23)

Ishika Pashine (2018-23)

Sameer Patil (2019-24)

Sharwari Motghare (2019-24)

Vishwajeet Rao (2019-24)

Ananya Srivastava (2020-25)

Arya Hartalkar (2020-25)

Udwipt Verma (2020-25)

Prerna Hegde (2021-26)

Samruddhi Patil (2021-26)

Yatharth Chugh (2021-26)

Abhinav Pandey (2022-27)

Bhaumika Gupta (2022-27)

Palak Sharma (2022-27)

Shloka Sharma (2022-27)

CONTACT US



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REGISTRATION DESK

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Please feel free to reach out to us at adr society@nlunagpur.ac.in.