



ARMY INSTITUTE OF LAW



15th CHECKMATE

NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

6th - 8th November, 2025



mcs@ail.ac.in



www.ail.ac.in

Schedule

RELEASE OF MOOT PROPOSITION	12 th September, Friday
DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION FORM ALONG WITH SUBMISSION OF THE FEE FOR MEMORIAL ROUND	24 th September, Wednesday
DEADLINE FOR SEEKING CLARIFICATIONS TO THE PROPOSITION	24 th September, Wednesday
RELEASE OF CLARIFICATIONS	26 th September, Friday
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF SOFT COPIES OF MEMORIALS	9 th October, Thursday
DECLARATION OF THE RESULT OF THE MEMORIALS	14 th October, Tuesday
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF FEE FOR ORAL ROUNDS	17 th October, Friday
SCHEDULE FOR ORAL ROUNDS (TOP 16 TEAMS THAT QUALIFIED FOR ORAL ROUNDS)	
REPORTING TO AIL CAMPUS REGISTRATION FOR ORAL ROUNDS	6 th November, Thursday, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
OCTA FINAL & QUARTER FINAL	7 th November Friday
SEMI FINAL & FINAL ROUND	8 th November, Saturday

Rules and Regulations

A. TEAM PRE-REQUISITES

Only one team from each participating college shall be registered for the competition. Each team shall comprise either three members (two Speakers and one Researcher) or two members (two Speakers) only.

Note-No faculty member or coach or a designated observer or fourth member is allowed to accompany the team and neither of them will be allowed to join the teams during oral rounds.

- The language for the Competition shall be English only.
- Participation is restricted to *bonafide* law students either enrolled in the 3-year law course or the 5-year integrated law course.
- The rounds shall comprise of:
 1. Memorial Rounds (Memorial based selection)
 2. Octa/Quarter/Semi and Final Rounds (Offline Rounds)

B. REGISTRATION

- A maximum of **32 teams** will be registered to participate in the competition on a first-come- first serve basis.
- Registration Fee for Memorial based selection will be **Rs 2000** which shall be Non-refundable for each participating team. The fee for Memorial rounds to be submitted through online transaction by clicking on the following **link**:
<https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm?corpID=593474>
- The scanned copy of the receipt of payment along with the duly filled registration form (attached with the brochure) should be sent via e- mail ail.checkmate.2025@gmail.com with the following details
- Details of Payment of Registration Fee:
 1. Transaction ID
 2. Bank
 3. Date of payment
- After the Memorial Round, **Top 16 teams** will qualify for Oral Rounds.
- Fee for Oral rounds to be held at AIL Mohali is **Rs 4500/- (without accommodation)**. The said fee of Rs. 4500/- (Non-refundable) shall include only Lunch (7th-8th November 2025) for the participating team.

- Fee for Oral rounds with **accommodation** and only Lunch (7th-8th November 2025) shall be **Rs 7500/-**. The accommodation for teams will be provided for two days, i.e. 6th and 7th November 2025.

Payment Link (Fee for the oral rounds): <https://www.onlinesbi.sbi/sbicollect/icollecthome.htm?corpID=593474>

- Changes to participant names will only be allowed in exceptional circumstances, subject to the sole discretion of the organizers. Such changes must be communicated at least one week prior to the event and must be supported by valid proof from the participating college.

C. DRESSCODE

The dress code for the oral rounds shall be advocate's attire, i.e., Black, and White combination, including Blazer, Tie, and black shoes.

Note: Name of the participating team/college should not be displayed in any manner.

D. MEMORIALS

The following requirements for memorials must be strictly followed. Non- conformities of which will lead to penalty points.

- Each team must prepare memorials from both sides.
- Once the memorials have been submitted, no revision, supplements, or additions will be allowed. If done, the team may be disqualified.
- Each team must send its Memorial via e-mail to ail.checkmate.2025@gmail.com by 9th October, 2025; 23:59 Hrs. Penalty for Late submissions will be 1 mark per day per team per side up to maximum of 2 days. After two days no submissions will be allowed.
- Two Sets of Hard Copies form both sides are required to be submitted for Oral rounds by the selected 16 teams at the time of registration for oral rounds on 6th, November 2025, at the Registration Desk. There is no requirement to send the memorial by post.
- The Cover Page of the memorials for the Prosecution shall be in Blue, and the Defense shall be in Red.
- Late submissions will result in a 01-point penalty-to-team per day per side.

The written memorials shall conform to the standards mentioned below:

- Written submissions shall be on white A4 size.
- The font and size of the text used in all parts of the written submissions (except the cover page) shall be in Times New Roman, Font size: 12 and footnotes shall be in Times New Roman, Font size: 10.
- Memorials must have a one-inch margin on all sides of each page.
- The text in all parts of each written submission shall have 1.5-line spacing except the footnotes and headings, which shall be single-spaced.
- The arguments with appropriate citations shall be contained in the pleadings. The teams shall follow the 21st Edition of the Bluebook citation style.
- The Written Submission /memorial should not exceed the maximum limit of 35 Pages (excluding Cover Page and Table of Contents). The Pleadings (Arguments Advanced) shall Not exceed 20 pages.
- The memorials must contain:
 - Cover Page
 - Table of Contents
 - Index of Authorities
 - Statement of Jurisdiction
 - Statement of Facts (Argumentative statements of facts would attract penalties)
 - Questions of Law
 - Summary of Arguments
 - Arguments Advanced
 - Prayer
 - Appendix (Optional)
 - Exhibits (Optional)

The cover page of the memorials must state the following:

- The case title
- Identity of brief as prosecution or defense

E. MARKING CRITERIA FOR MEMORIALS

- Knowledge of facts and law (20)
- Articulate analysis, grammar and style (30)
- Extent of research and citation of sources (30)
- Clarity and organization (20)

NOTE: The identity of the Institution or the members of the team shall not be revealed anywhere in the memorial. Violation of this provision shall result in disqualification of the team. The decision of the organizers will be final.

F. ROUNDS OF THE COMPETITION

I. MEMORIAL ROUNDS

Participants will be judged based on the memorials submitted for both sides- Prosecution and Defense. The memorial is to be forwarded at e-mail ID ail.checkmate.2025@gmail.com

The result of the memorial rounds will be declared on 14th October, 2025. Selection for the Octa rounds will be based on the score of the memorial. rounds Top SIXTEEN teams will qualify for further rounds.

II. OCTA FINAL ROUNDS

The Octa Final Rounds shall take place on 7th November, 2025 which shall be conducted in physical mode. The Octa Final round of competition will consist of 30 minutes for oral pleadings. Each team shall strictly get a total minimum time of 12 minutes per speaker to argue subject. The said 30 minutes should include a maximum of 3 minutes for the Rebuttals. At the beginning of the round, the teams shall specify the time distribution for each speaker and rebuttal to the Court Clerk. The rebuttal round proceeding shall be initiated once the Court Clerk informs the team about the commencement of the time limit. These rounds will be based on marks, and top eight teams will qualify for the quarter- finals.

III. QUARTER-FINAL ROUNDS

The Quarter-final rounds will be conducted on 7th November, 2025. Quarter-final round of competition will consist of 30 minutes for oral pleadings. Each team shall strictly get a total time of 30 minutes to argue, subject to a minimum of 12 minutes per speaker. The said 30 minutes also include a maximum of 3 minutes for the Rebuttals.

At the beginning of the round, the teams shall specify the time distribution for each speaker and rebuttal to the Court Clerks.

The rebuttal round proceeding shall be initiated once the Court Clerks inform the team about the commencement of the time limit. The quarter final rounds will be based on marks, and four teams will qualify for the semi- final round.

IV. SEMI-FINAL ROUND

The Semi-final Round will be conducted on 8th November, 2025. The Semi-Final round will be a knock out round.

For Semi-Final Round, each team shall get a total time of 40 minutes to argue, subject to a minimum of 15 minutes per speaker. The said 40 minutes also include a maximum of 4 minutes for the Rebuttals.

V. FINAL ROUND

The Final Round will be conducted on 8th November, 2025. Each team shall get a total time of 45 minutes to argue, subject to a minimum of 18 minutes per speaker. The said 45 minutes also include a maximum of 4 minutes for the Rebuttals.

**The organising Institute reserves the right to modify the competition schedule and rules at any time.*

Prizes

Awards Worth Rs. 1,32,000/-

Best Team	Rs. 42,000 along with a certificate
Runners Up	Rs. 33,000 along with a certificate
Third Semi-Finalists	Rs. 9,000 along with a certificate
Fourth Semi-Finalists	Rs. 6,000 along with a certificate
Best Memorial	Rs. 15,000 along with a certificate
Second Best Memorial	Rs. 9,000 along with a certificate
Best Speaker	Rs. 10,000 along with a certificate
Second Best Speaker	Rs. 8,000 along with a certificate

Moot Proposition

1. Since 2023, a major crackdown on criminal activities has been underway in Vindhya Desh, a state within the Republic of Aryavrata. The state Government with the assistance of the police launched 'Operation Agni', aimed at dismantling a trans-state criminal syndicate involved in criminal intimidation, extortion, and illegal organ trade and other nefarious practices. An estimated 60 individuals were supposedly involved in this racket, but actual arrests were only a few in number.
2. The core of this syndicate was alleged to be run by a 48-year-old businessman named Arjun Rathi, a politically connected figure known for his extensive role of manufacturing and digital marketing of organic products. His main helping hands were Devesh Shaktawat, Kunal Rawat and Rukhsana Sheikh. In addition to running his company, the primary source of income came from providing security services and guards to politicians.
3. Arjun Rathi was a middle-aged unmarried man whose parents were living abroad. He was living a luxurious life in the metropolitan city of Narangpur, located in the west of Vindhya Desh. He had anxiety and anger issues often displaying a bold, impulsive, and intimidating demeanor. Since teenage he was on medication for the same. Once he shot his Arabic horse after it lost a race in a reputed tournament. His full-time servant made a mistake, and Arjun Rathi kept hitting him with a stick until Rukhsana Sheikh stepped in and calmed him down by giving him his medicine.
4. The group comprising Arjun, Rukhsana and Devesh was popularly known as "Rathi Syndicate", operated across five states using a shell company, 'Pure Earth Organic Corporation Private limited'. This company was registered in the name of a person who was known to Arjun Rathi through Rukhsana. As per the records of the company, it was engaged in the manufacturing of organic beauty and wellness products.
5. On many occasions, Arjun Rathi would randomly call senior politicians and high-profile business men to extort money (Hafta) in lieu of providing them protection. Devesh Shaktawat was in charge of all digital money transactions, money transfers and online marketing of the company. Kunal Rawat, one of the employees of Arjun Rathi, used to provide help to manage the money obtained from illegal sources and to use the same for funding other activities like providing manpower, tech-savvy people, sale and distribution of organic products, gadgets etc.
6. One of his allies', named Ruksana Sheikh, was a renowned philanthropist and used to visit tribal villages of Narangpur district for social activities. She also managed CSR activities of the company and had won many state awards in recognition of her contributions to social work. Tribal community members were often seen approaching her for advice and to share their concerns and grievances about employment opportunities in the city. She assured them of her commitment to improving their lives and urged them to place their trust in her.
7. On 28th July, 2024, an unidentified body of a tribal female was found in a drain near the railway station of Narangpur bearing stitches on one side of abdomen and later the autopsy report stated that one of her kidneys was missing.
8. A number of dead bodies were also found at different places including the suburban areas of Narangpur by the police and autopsy reports showed that some internal organs were missing in each case.

9. The Sarpanch of a tribal area in Narangpur approached the police authorities regarding the issue of missing persons and the increasing criminal activities in the State. During the course of investigation, the police discovered that one of the recovered bodies bore resemblance to a missing tribal female, whose disappearance had been reported only a few days earlier.

10. In response to significant public outrage over the growing prevalence of the criminal activities within society, a dedicated Task Force was constituted on 5th August, 2024 under Operation Agni called the “Vindhya Desh Task Force Against Organised Crime”. This was headed by an officer from the special forces. The Task Force adopted a rigorous and proactive approach in identifying individuals involved in escalating criminal operations across the State.

11. The local informants alerted the Task Force, regarding suspicious activities of Rukhsana Sheikh as she was often seen with different tribal people near the railway station of Narangpur. In order to investigate about the dead bodies found in different parts of the city, the CCTV footage of 2nd July, 2024 of railway station was checked and it revealed that a tribal female was seen accompanying Rukhsana Sheikh but it was not ascertained with surety as the video footage was not clear enough. When Rukhsana Sheikh was questioned for the same by the Task Force, she denied her presence in the city and said that she was in Indrapura on that day, which is 456 kilometers away from Narganpur.

12. The Task Force got suspicious regarding the statements made by Rukhsana and kept an eye on her activities and public appearances. Later, the Task Force discovered that she was in Narangpur on that day, as she had posted a photograph on social media showing her helping a beggar at the railway station, with the GPS location and timestamp confirming the date. Based on this, she was subsequently arrested on September 19, 2024.

13. The arrest was made by the Task Force consisting of two male officers and a female officer but Rukhsana Sheikh stated in a written application that, the female officer did show up for some time and left immediately as she got a call on her phone.

14. The tribal communities held great admiration for Rukhsana due to her significant contributions to the upliftment of tribal areas in Narangpur. When news of her arrest spread, they organized protests in her support outside various administrative offices in the city, including police stations.

15. Rukhsana Sheikh was sent to custody for 7 days but even after rigorous interrogation she remained silent and did not disclose anything to the Task Force regarding her involvement with the tribal female seen in the CCTV footage of railway station.

16. During the investigation the Task Force found that Rukhsana had made multiple calls to Devesh in the past few months. His location and IP address was also traced by the Task Force and eventually it was observed that all of the extortion emails were sent through this address. Based on this, on 24 September, 2024 the Vindhya Desh Task Force arrested Devesh Shaktawat. On 25th September 2024, Devesh Shaktawat was produced before the local magistrate and was sent to police custody for 10 days.

17. During interrogation, Devesh confessed to the company's illegal activities and provided information about the mastermind of the syndicate. As per his statements, Arjun Rathi exercised undue influence and coercion over him by threatening harm to his family. Devesh relocated his family to a remote village to ensure their safety.

18. On the basis of statements of Devesh Shaktawat, Kunal Rawat was also arrested on 30th September, 2024 but the Task Force couldn't yet reach the mastermind of the activities, Arjun Rathi.

19. After the arrests, the Task Force launched investigation to find out the details of the 'Pure Earth' Company of which they were employees. After looking at the financial records, particularly the bank transactions and ongoing payments, the Task Force noticed that all payments were directed to a shell company named 'Pure Earth Organic Corporation Private Limited'. The records revealed several suspicious financial activities by the company. However, no trace of the owner of the company could be found, as all documents appeared forged. Rukhsana Sheikh, revealed that the company was registered in the name of a person, named Harish to whom she had met number of times during her visit to the tribal areas. However, despite best efforts by the Task Force, Harish could not be traced.

20. During investigating, number of transaction records were found involving transfer of money, between 'Pure Earth Private limited' and a private hospital named 'Vindhus Medical Care' located on the outskirts of the city. No satisfactory explanation was given by Devesh Shaktawat, Kunal Rawat and Rukhsana Sheikh regarding the same.

21. The call details of three accused were traced and CCTV footage of their office and homes were also checked. It came to the notice of the Task Force that Arjun Rathi and Rukhsana Sheikh were friends and business partners. The details regarding extortion of money and their illegal financial activities has been found from communication and call records. Rukhsana was further interrogated by the Task Force and substantial clues led to the arrest of Arjun Rathi on 4th October 2024.

22. Kunal Rawat has told the Task Force in his statements that he was just an employee of the company 'Pure Earth' and he has no connection with the syndicate's illegal activities. He stated that he was simply fulfilling his duties as outlined in his employment contract with Arjun Rathi. He is a needy and honest man doing his job to make ends meet.

23. After the arrest was made, Arjun Rathi was taken to the city hospital for medical examination, where he showed symptoms of borderline personality disorder and later on it was further confirmed by Arjun Rathi that he is taking treatment for the same.

24. Devesh Shaktawat turned approver and provided a detailed testimony about the syndicate's hierarchy and businesses. Subsequent recoveries to the tune of 20 Crore cash, gold bars, prescription details of the medicine from hospital 'Vindhus Medical Care' taken by Arjun Rathi, and around 25 sim cards issued on different names were also found from Arjun Rathi's house.

Matter is listed before the Hon'ble Session Court of Narangpur:

- 1. All accused are charged with the offences of Extortion and Criminal Conspiracy.**
- 2. All accused are also charged for illegal transactions for the sale of Human Organs.**
- 3. Validity of statements of Devesh Shaktawat as an approver.**

ARGUE THE CASE FROM BOTH SIDES

*All the laws of Vindhya Desh are *pari materia* to the laws of India.

Disclaimer: The facts, names, people and incidents presented in this moot proposition are purely fictitious and are created solely for academic purposes. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, or to real events is purely coincidental and unintentional.

Registration Form

NOTE—PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS ONLY TO FILL IN DETAILS. SOFT COPY OF THE FORM HAS TO BE SUBMITTED.

1. Name & Address of Participating College/University:

2. Contact Number of College: _____

3. Name of Head of the Institution (Principal/Director): _____

4. Name of Faculty Coordinator of Institute's MCS: _____

Contact Number: _____

5. Details of Payment of Registration Fee: _____

Transaction ID: _____

Bank: _____

Date of payment: _____

6. TEAM DETAILS:

Name of Counsel: _____

Contact: _____

E-mail: _____

Gender: _____

Sign: _____

Name of Counsel: _____

Contact: _____

E-mail: _____

Gender: _____

Sign: _____

Name of Researcher: _____

Contact: _____

E-mail: _____

Gender: _____

Sign: _____

**Signature and Seal of the Head of the Institution
(Principal/Director)**

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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