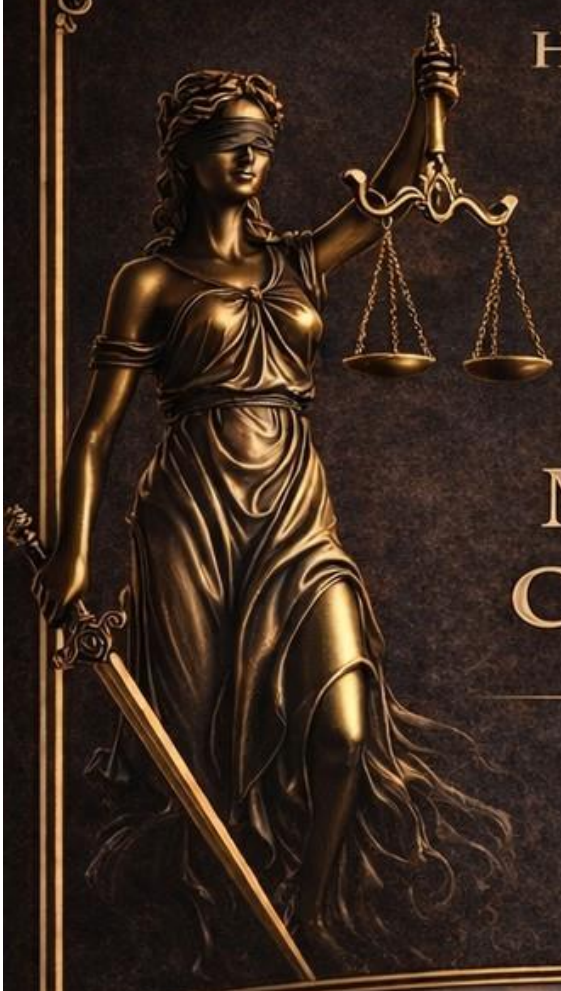
HIMACHAL INSTITUTE OF LEGAL STUDIES

HEIGHT GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS



1st NATIONAL LEVEL

MOOT COURT COMPETITION

9-10 April 2026

REGISTER NOW

Advocacy. Integrity. Excellence.

Organised by

MOOT COURT SOCIETY

HEIGHT GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS

About HIET Group of Institutions

Courses Offered

- B.Tech (Civil, CSE, ECE)
- Polytechnic (Civil, CSE, ECE, ME)
- Diploma in Veterinary Pharmacist
- B.A. LL.B.
- BHM (Bachelor of Hotel Management)
- 1-Year Diploma in Hotel Management

At HIET Group of Institutions, we are passionate about grooming leaders who are not only competent professionals but also good human beings guided by strong values, and ethics. The Institution provides a stimulating environment for Intellectual development free thinking, and personal growth. Students are challenged with dynamic learning opportunities and equipped with the skills, insights attitudes, and practical experiences necessary

Nearby Places of Interest

- **Kangra Fort** – one of the oldest and most historic forts in India.
- **Dharamshala & McLeod Ganj** – known for Tibetan culture and the residence of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.
- **Triund Hill** – a popular trekking destination in the Dhauladhar range offering panoramic mountain views.
- **Masroor Rock-Cut Temples** – ancient monolithic temples carved from a single rock.
- **Bhagsunath Temple & Waterfall** – a scenic and spiritual landmark.
- **Baijnath Temple** – an ancient temple dedicated to Lord Shiva.
- **Palampur Tea Gardens** – known for lush greenery and scenic beauty.

RULES & REGULATIONS

Eligibility Criteria

1. The competition is open to all law students enrolled in a five-year integrated undergraduate law program or a three-year LLB program.
2. Each team must consist of exactly three members: two speakers and one researcher.
3. Each institution/university is permitted to enter only one team in the competition.

Structure of the Competition

1. The competition will consist of Preliminary Rounds, Quarter Finals, Semi-Final, and Final.
2. **Each team** will argue hoth sides: one as the petitioner/plaintiff and the other as the respondent/defendant in the Preliminary Rounds.
3. Teams will be assessed based on oral advocacy, legal knowledge, presentation and adherence to moot court protocols.
4. The Preliminary Rounds will determine rankings for progression to the Quarter Finals.
5. The top 8 teams from the Preliminary Rounds advance to the Quarter Finals.
6. Winners of the Quarter Finals proceed to the Semi-Finals from which two teams will compete in the Final.
7. Each round will include opening statements, rebuttals, and **sub-rebuttals**.
8. Judges will score participants on their legal arguments, presentation skills, **persuasiveness**, and adherence to courtroom decorum and legal ethics.
9. Time limits for arguments will be specified, and teams ii be penalized for exceeding these limits limits.

Language

1. The language of the competition shall be English.

Dress Code

1. Participants are required to dress in professional legal attire: black suit, white shirt, and black tie for both men and women.
2. Participants must maintain decorum and wear formal court uniform attire during all rounds of the competition.

Accommodation and Transport

- The accommodation will be provided from 8 April 2026 (noon) till 10 April 2026.
- Transportation from college to the hotel will be provided by the college.

MEMORIAL FORMATTING

I. The memorials are to be submitted in the format as mentioned below and if a team fails to comply with the given format, it may be penalised in the form of deductions from the memorial marks.

II. The memorials shall contain all of, and only, the following heads, namely –

1. **Cover Page** (It shall include the team code of the team on upper right-hand corner
   – name of the case, parties on behalf of whom written submissions are made,
   – name of the forum approached for dispute resolution and year.).
2. The Cover page of the memorial on behalf of **Petitioner** shall be in **BLUE**, and **Respondent** shall be in **RED**.
3. Table of Contents
4. List of Abbreviations
5. Index of Authorities
6. Statement of Jurisdiction
7. Statement of Facts
8. Issues Raised
9. Summary of Arguments
10. Arguments Advanced
11. Prayer
11. Annexure (optional)

III. FONT AND SPACING:

1. Font Type: Times New Roman
2. Font Size: 12 (Footnotes – 10)
3. Line Spacing: 1.5 (Footnotes – 1.0)
4. Margin: 1 inch (each side)
5. No. of Pages: Maximum 35 pages
6. No. of Pages: Maximum 35 pages in total (excluding Annexure)

IV. CITATIONS:

All teams shall give citations adhering to ILI.

Memorial Scoring & Penalty

Criterion	Points Awarded
Knowledge of Facts & Law	20
Interpretation & Use of Authorities	20
Clarity and Organization	20
Persuasiveness & Coherency	20
Grammar & Style	10
Formatting & Citation of Sources	10
Total	**100**

Penalty

1. Late submission of memorials will attract a penalty of 5 points for each day's delay.
2. Exceeding the page limit in the memorial will result in a penalty of 2 points for every additional page.
3. Failure to follow the required formatting and citation guidelines in the memorial will lead to a penalty ranging from 2 to 10 points, depending on the severity of the deviation.
4. Any unauthorized collaboration on the memorial will result in immediate disqualification of the team's submission.

GUIDELINES FOR MEMORIAL SUBMISSION AND COMPENDIUM

All memorials submitted for the purposes of the Competition shall strictly adhere to the following rules:

- Each team shall prepare a memorial for both the sides, i.e. **Petitioner** and **Respondent**, in English Only.
- **Petitioner** memorials are required to have a **"blue" cover** and **Respondent** memorials are required to have a **red** cover.
- The registered teams must mail a soft copy of their memorials of both sides (**Petitioner** and **Respondent**) in PDF Format at. **mootcourthils@gmail.com latest by 5th April, 2026** and the subject of the email should be "Submission of Memorials for TC-".
- Both the memorials of a team shall be attached in a single mail only.
- The file names of the electronic copies of the Memorials must contain only the team code and the side being represented (P for **Petitioner** & **R** for **Respondent**).
- e.g.. **Petitioner** Memorial of TC-101 should be named '**P-101**'.
- The teams should carry **four** (**4**) hard copies of their Memorial with themself on the date of registration.
- The hard copies must be identical to the soft copy, else, disqualification would ensue.
- Apart from the team code, the memorials shall not contain any other identification mark.
- The teams are allowed to submit the copies of the compendium to the ...is. bench during oral rounds.

ORAL ROUNDS

i. **Quarter-Final and Semi-Final Rounds** shall be conducted on the date notified by the Organising Committee.

ii. Both the Quarter-Final and Semi-Final Rounds shall be conducted on **KNOCK-OUT BASIS**.

iii. Each team shall be allotted **30 MINUTES IN TOTAL** to present oral arguments before the Bench.

iv. The time division between speakers shall be as follows:

(a) First Speaker shall not exceed **20 MINUTES**

(b) Second Speaker shall not speak for less than **10 MINUTES**

The division of time between the speakers shall be communicated to the Bench prior to the commencement of arguments.

v. Rebuttals shall be reserved after both teams have completed their submissions:

(a) **3 MINUTES** shall be reserved for Rebuttals.

(b) **2 MINUTES** shall be reserved for Sur-Rebuttals.

FINAL ROUND

vi. The Final Round shall be conducted on the date notified by the Organising Committee.

vii. The two teams qualifying from the Semi-Final Rounds shall advance to the Final Round.

viii. Each team shall be allotted **40 MINUTES IN TOTAL** inclusive of rebuttals.

ix. The teams may divide the allotted time between the Speakers at their discretion; however, they shall **INFORM THE BENCH** of the time division prior to the commencement of arguments.

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MISCELLANEOUS

Contact Information

Faculty Coordinators:

Dr. Anupam Manhas

Dr. Tanuja Sharma

Mis Snigdha Sharma

Student Coordinators:

Divyansh	9816203631
Vishal	86280 65803
Ankush	85447 14167
Ayush	62309 26132
Murtza	+91 95965 67918

Official Communication

All official communication regarding the Moot Court Competition shall be made only through the registered email ID provided at the time of registration. Participants are required to regularly check their email for updates, nofifications, and instructions issued by the Organizing Commitee.

Official Communication

In case of any cloubt, dispute, or ambiguity regarding the interpretation of any rule or provision of this. brochure, the decision of the Organizing Committee. shall be final and binding on all participating teams.

For further information contact Dr Anupam Manhas, Principal at

9736677124

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

1ST POSITION

₹ 10,000

- Cash Prize ₹ 10,000
- Certificate of Merit
- Memento

2ND POSITION

₹ 5,000

- Cash Prize ₹ 2,000
- Certificate of Merit
- Memento

BEST SPEAKER

₹ 2,500

- Cash Prize ₹ 2,500
- Certificate of Merit
- Memento

BEST MEMORIAL

₹ 2,500

- Cash Prize ₹ 2,500
- Certificate of Merit
- Memento

BEST RESEARCHER

₹ 2,500

- Cash Prize ₹ 2,500
- Certificate of Merit
- Memento

PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE FOR ALL

IMPORTANT DATES

Registration Starts	24 February 2026
Registration Ends	28 March 2026
Assignment of Team Code	30 March 2026
Last Date to Seek Clarification	28 March 2026
Last date for memorial submission (soft copy)	5 April 2026
Preliminary Round I & II	9 April 2026
Quarter Finals	9 April 2026
Semifinal and Finals	10 April 2026

For further information contact Dr Anupam Manhas; Principal at

9756677124

CODE OF CONDUCT

Code of Conduct

- All participants must adhere to the highest standards of courtroom decorum and professionalism, addressing judges, opposing counsel, and officials with proper courtesy and respect both inside and the competition venue.
- Refrain from participating in any behaviour that could be considered disruptive, offensive, or unethical.
- Follow all event rules, deadlines, and instructions provided by the Organising Committee.

Scouting

Participants are strictly prohibited from attending any oral rounds in which their team is not participating. Any such behaviour will result in disqualification of the respective team from the competition.

Researcher Test

An MCQ-based researcher test shall be conducted to assess the research skills and legal knowledge of the participants. The test will consist of multiple choice questions (MCQs) that cover areas relevant to the moot problem, general legal research, and case law analysis. The Organising Committee will share the syllabus.

Delay in Appearance

In the event a team is unable to appear for a scheduled oral round, the competition may proceed after a delay.

- The absent team will forfeit the round and the opposing team shall present their case uncontested before the judges.

Dispute Resolution

- In case of any dispute, grievance, interpretation issue, or proceedural concern arising during the competition, the decision of the Moot Court Organising Committee shall be final.
- The decision so taken shall be binding on all participating teams and shall not be subject to further appeal.

Registration Details

Google Form Link:

https://forms.gle/zbXJ6T4zmKckZgMN8

Payment of Registration Fee:

Bank Transfer Details

Name of Account Holder:	Himachal Institute of Engineering & Technology
Bank Name:	Punjab National Bank
Account Number:	0894000101350531
IFSC Code:	PUNB0089400
Branch:	Shahpur

QR Code - Registration

Scan here for Registration

QR Code - Registration

QR Code - Payment

QR Code - Payment

REGISTRATION FORM

(TO BE WRITTEN IN BLOCK LETTERS)

DATE:

Name and Address of the participating Institution: _____

_____

Contact No.:_____ Email ID_____

SPEAKER 1:

Name_____

Gender _____

Contact No._____

Email ID_____

Year/Semester _____Sign_____

(PHOTOGRAPH)

SPEAKER 2:

Name_____

Gender _____

Contact No._____

Email ID_____

Year/Semester _____Sign_____

(PHOTOGRAPH)

RESEARCHER:

Name_____

Gender _____

Contact No._____

Email ID_____

Year/Semester _____Sign_____

(PHOTOGRAPH)

Team's primary Email ID:

Telephone Number for communication:

Seal and Signature
Head of the Institution

_____

MOOT COURT PROPOSITION

1. Dr. Riya Mehta, an Indraprastha citizen and resident of Bangalore, is a Professor of Sociology at National Institute of Law and Social Studies (NILSS). Her work on gender equality and reproductive autonomy has been widely published and cited by international think tanks and policy organizations. Her landmark thesis on reproductive rights and ethical technology in healthcare is considered a major contribution to the global debate on gender justice. Dr. Mehta's research papers and articles are regularly published on "Global Scholar", an international open- access academic platform. She also maintains a large following on FaceNet and Chirp, popular social media platforms used globally for professional engagement and social discussions.

2. On 15 March 2015, Dr. Mehta married Prof. Arjun Mehta, a faculty member in the same institute specializing in Family and Marriage Laws. After two years of marriage, they had a baby boy. During a family celebration, her father-in-law remarked that the family's "lineage was now secure" with a male heir. Deeply disturbed, Dr. Mehta began to reflect on the persistence of patriarchal attitudes in modern society, despite her lifelong efforts to advocate for gender equality.

3. Determined to promote gender balance within her own family, Dr. Mehta decided to have a second child—a girl. While she initially hoped for this naturally, she later explored medical procedures for pre-natal sex determination available abroad. When she proposed this to her husband, Prof. Mehta initially objected, citing ethical concerns and Indraprastha law. However, after prolonged discussions, he reluctantly agreed.

4. Dr. Mehta searched online for clinics offering "family balancing treatments" but found that search results and advertisements for such procedures were automatically restricted on Seeker, a popular global search engine. Even sponsored ads for related keywords were missing, and auto-suggestions did not work for terms related to "gender selection".

5. Frustrated, Dr. Mehta contacted her close friend Mrs. Priya Kapoor, a software engineer based in Temasek, who easily found multiple search results for clinics offering gender selection. One such link led to the "LifeCare International Hospital", a reputed global healthcare chain with branches in both Temasek and Indraprastha.

However, the gender selection service was available only in Temasek, not in Indraprastha. Mrs. Kapoor forwarded the link to Dr. Mehta, who successfully accessed it and booked an online consultation. The hospital confirmed her appointment through her Seeker account.

6. In April 2018, Dr. Mehta and her husband traveled to Temasek, where she underwent pre-natal sex determination and selection under the supervision of Dr. Ramesh Verma, a medical geneticist. Four months later, an ultrasound confirmed that she was carrying a female child. She returned to Indraprastha and gave birth to a healthy baby girl in December 2018. Proud of the outcome, Dr. Mehta wrote a series of academic and social media posts defending "ethical family balancing" as a step toward achieving gender equality. Her articles gained traction on Global Scholar and were widely shared on FaceNet and Chirp, attracting both praise and condemnation. Several of her colleagues reportedly traveled abroad for similar procedures.

7. A journalist named Mr. Karan Patel, writing for *The National Herald*, published a critical article titled *"Academia's Double Standards on Reproductive Ethics"*, accusing Dr. Mehta of violating Indraprastha law and public morality. He later filed an FIR against her and Dr. Verma under the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act, 1994 ("PCPNDT Act"). The police initiated an investigation and registered both Dr. Mehta and Dr. Verma as accused persons.

8. News of the case led to widespread public outrage. Protests erupted across major Indraprastha cities, and violent attacks were reported at LifeCare Hospital's Delhi branch. In response, the government temporarily suspended internet and SMS services for 72 hours. Additionally, police issued blocking orders to Seeker, Global Scholar, FaceNet, and Chirp to remove all content authored or related to Dr. Mehta on their platforms. While Chirp complied by deactivating her account, the other intermediaries refused, arguing that the blocking order was arbitrary, vague, and violated free expression. The authorities then warned that the intermediaries would lose their "safe harbour" protection under the Information Technology Act, 2000 if they failed to comply.

9. Consequently, the CEOs of the three intermediaries—Mr. David Lawrence (Seeker, USA), Ms. Eleanor White (Global Scholar, UK), and Mr. Nikhil Sharma (FaceNet,

Indraprastha) filed writ petitions under Article 32 before the Supreme Court of Indraprastha, challenging the blocking order as unconstitutional and violative of Articles 19(1)(a) and 21. Simultaneously, Dr. Mehta and Dr. Verma also filed separate writ petitions under Article 32, challenging the FIR and investigation against them under the PCPNDT Act as illegal and violative of their fundamental rights.

Issues for Consideration:

1. Whether the acts of Dr. Riya Mehta constitute an offence under the PCPNDT Act, 1994, despite the procedure being conducted outside India?
2. Whether the FIR and investigation against Dr. Mehta violate her fundamental rights under Article 21?
3. Whether the blocking orders issued against online intermediaries are valid under the Information Technology Act, 2000?
4. Whether the blocking orders and related actions violate freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a)?
5. Whether the intermediaries retain safe harbour protection under Section 79 of the IT Act despite refusing to comply with the blocking order?

Note:

1) Where the word Indraprastha (old name of India) is written read it as word India.

2) Where the word Temasek (old name of Singapore) is written read it as word Singapore