



SVKM'S
NMIMS
Law and Technology Society

School of Law
HYDERABAD



SCHOOL OF LAW , NMIMS HYDERABAD

LAW AND TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY'S

2026 LEXTECH DRAFTCON 2.0

DRAFTING NORMS FOR A
DIGITALLY GOVERNED WORLD

**THEME - BRIDGING STATUTORY GAPS THROUGH
EXECUTIVE SOFT LAW**

20TH SEPTEMBER, 2026

ABOUT NMIMS HYDERABAD

Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), Hyderabad is a premier constituent campus of NMIMS Deemed-to-be University, Mumbai, one of India's most reputed private universities. Established with a vision to deliver excellence in higher education, NMIMS Hyderabad offers a dynamic learning environment that blends academic rigor, industry relevance, and holistic development.

Located in a rapidly growing educational hub, the campus is known for its state-of-the-art infrastructure, experienced faculty, and student-centric approach. NMIMS Hyderabad offers undergraduate and postgraduate programs across disciplines such as Law, Management, Commerce, Technology and Pharmacy, designed to prepare students for real-world challenges.

With a strong emphasis on innovation, ethics, leadership, and experiential learning, the campus encourages students to engage in research, internships, moot courts, entrepreneurship, and co-curricular activities. NMIMS Hyderabad nurtures future professionals who are not only skilled but also socially responsible and globally aware.

Our Patrons



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ABOUT SCHOOL OF LAW

The School of Law, NMIMS Hyderabad, established in 2018 under NMIMS Deemed-to-be University, is one of India's premier law school, offering globally benchmarked legal education with a strong commitment to academic excellence, ethics, diversity, and social justice. The school is supported by highly qualified and experienced faculty engaged in quality legal research and socially relevant legal education. With a richly diverse student community, the school fosters an inclusive learning environment dedicated to advancing human dignity, social and economic welfare, and justice, while nurturing professionalism, integrity, and leadership.

The School of Law offers B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.) and B.B.A.,LL.B.(Hons.) programmes designed with an interdisciplinary and industry-oriented approach. These programmes integrate law with social sciences, management, technology, and emerging fields such as data science and artificial intelligence, equipping students with strong analytical, research, advocacy, and communication skills through moot courts, internships, legal writing, and seminars. Graduates are prepared for careers in legal practice, judiciary, corporate and policy sectors, competitive examinations, and global opportunities, emerging as competent, innovative, and socially responsible legal professionals.

With a strong emphasis on innovation, ethics, leadership, and experiential learning, the campus encourages students to engage in research, internships, moot courts, entrepreneurship, and co-curricular activities. NMIMS Hyderabad nurtures future professionals who are not only skilled but also socially responsible and globally aware.

ABOUT LAW AND TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY

Established in 2023, the Law & Technology Society at the School of Law, NMIMS Hyderabad, stands at the vanguard of contemporary legal education. Recognizing that the rapid acceleration of emerging technologies is fundamentally rewriting the boundaries of traditional jurisprudence, the Society was founded with a clear mandate ‘to rigorously examine, decode, and shape the evolving relationship between law and technological innovation.’

By adopting a deeply multidisciplinary approach, the Society empowers students to engage meaningfully with complex techno-legal paradigms while remaining deeply committed to grassroots legal literacy through digital awareness sessions for school students.

To translate its vision into actionable intellectual engagement, the Society curates a diverse portfolio of academic initiatives spanning roundtable symposia, policy drafting, and competitive advocacy. Central to this calendar is LexTech DraftCon, a national-level competition that challenges law students from across the country to step into the shoes of legislative architects and draft resilient technological policies. This is complemented by the National Lecture Series, comprising high-impact webinars, guest lectures, and roundtable conferences featuring industry luminaries.

Furthermore, the Society hosts the Extempore Competition, designed to test students' analytical acumen while encouraging rapid critical thinking and articulate communication. The Society also proudly launched Manthan, the official Tech Law Review Magazine, with its inaugural edition released during the current academic tenure, establishing a definitive and progressive dialogue on the digital transformation of the legal profession.

ABOUT LEXTECH DRAFTCON 2025

LexTech DraftCon 2025, organised on 24 August 2025, was the inaugural national-level drafting competition of the Law & Technology Society, centred on the theme "Shaping India's Regulatory Landscape for Artificial Intelligence." Conducted in a virtual format, the competition invited teams to choose from eight AI-focused sub-themes, namely AI in Defence, AI in Data Protection & Privacy, AI in Healthcare, AI in Bar and Bench, AI in Powered Mobilities, AI in Robotics, AI in Social Media, and AI in Labour Law.

Following the selection of a sub-theme, each team was assigned a problem statement and required to prepare a Draft Bill, Policy Framework, or Set of Rules or Guidelines addressing the identified regulatory challenge.

The competition received over 60 team registrations from National Law Universities and leading law schools across the country, including O.P. Jindal Global University and Symbiosis Law School, Noida, demonstrating the competition's national reach and growing academic recognition. Conducted over three stages: Draft Submission, Expert Evaluation, and Final Presentations, the competition assessed participants' legal research, policy analysis, drafting, and advocacy skills. The shortlisted teams presented their proposals before the judging panel, followed by an interactive Question & Answer session to evaluate the legal reasoning, feasibility, and practical implementation of their proposed frameworks.

The final rounds were adjudicated by Prof. (Dr.) Tabrez Ahmad, Founding Dean, MANUU Law School, and Prof. (Dr.) Sukhendu Samajdar, Founding Vice Chancellor, Seacom Skills University, both eminent academicians whose expertise and experience added significant value to the competition. By bringing together legal research, policy drafting, and expert evaluation, LexTech DraftCon 2025 provided participants with a unique platform to develop practical solutions to contemporary challenges at the intersection of law and artificial intelligence.

The Law & Technology Society is proud to present LexTech DraftCon 2.0, the virtual edition of its flagship drafting competition. Building on the success of LexTech DraftCon 2025, this edition carries forward its legacy while creating a platform for participants to explore and engage with emerging legal issues at the intersection of law and technology.

OUR PARTNERS



For LexTech DraftCon 2.0, we are pleased to have Lawctopus as our Exclusive Media Partner and Lawctopus Law School as our Knowledge Partner. We are grateful for their support and excited to have them associated with the competition.

Lawctopus, started in 2010, is India's leading online media and education portal for law students and young lawyers. The media vertical, Lawctopus.com, reaches to nearly 4 lakh readers every month. The ed-tech vertical, Lawctopus Law School (LLS), teaches more than 2000 learners every year. With a rating of 93.2/100, LLS' practical, online courses teach skills such as legal research, contract drafting, IP law, and more. On the media site, content such as law-related conferences, workshops, internships, jobs, and career advisory pieces and blogs make Lawctopus the young lawyer's go-to friend and guide!

COMPETITION DETAILS

Theme - Bridging Statutory Gaps Through Executive Soft Law

Sub - Themes

AI and Copyright

AI and Social Media

AI and Labour Law

AI and Autonomous Contracting

AI and Humanoid Autonomous Robots

NOTE : Participants are encouraged to explore various dimensions within each sub-theme and are free to interpret and expand on them creatively and critically.

Eligibility

- The competition is open to students currently pursuing undergraduate or postgraduate programmes in law from a recognised university or institution in India.
- Participation may be individual or in teams of up to two (2) members.
- Cross-institutional teams are permitted.
- Each participant may be a member of only one team.
- Participants must be bona fide students of their respective institutions at the time of registration.

THEME

BRIDGING STATUTORY GAPS THROUGH EXECUTIVE SOFT LAW

Artificial Intelligence is no longer a frontier technology, it is actively embedded in how creative content is generated, how workers are hired and monitored, how contracts are formed and executed, how platforms curate public discourse, and how machines interact with human beings in physical space. Yet, India's regulatory landscape remains fragmented.

Rather than waiting for comprehensive, rigid primary legislation, Indian regulatory bodies have increasingly turned to executive guidelines, circulars, and advisories as agile instruments to combat sector-specific harms. This model is visible in the CCPA's Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns (2023), MeitY's Advisories on Generative AI, and RBI/SEBI circulars regulating algorithmic systems in high-frequency trading and digital lending.

The overarching framework for LexTech DraftCon 2.0 draws direct structural inspiration from the landmark "India AI Governance Guidelines" released by MeitY on November 5, 2025. Guidelines established that India will adopt a sector-specific soft-law approach rather than imposing an omnibus AI statute.

Participants must step into the shoes of a regulator to draft a set of executive guidelines addressing the AI regulation under one of the five sub-themes. Drafts must identify the target legal gap, anchor to a plausible issuing authority (e.g., MeitY, CCI, RBI, DPIIT, DGCA, or CCI), and incorporate real-world judicial precedents, global regulatory benchmarks, and statutory intersections.

SUB - THEMES

- **AI and Copyright:**

The rapid surge of Generative Artificial Intelligence in India has exposed deep regulatory gaps within the traditional framework of the Copyright Act, 1957. Because the Act strictly grounds authorship in human creation, AI-generated and AI-assisted works exist in a state of ownership uncertainty. Concurrently, AI developers routinely ingest massive datasets containing copyrighted literary, musical, and artistic works without explicit authorization. Since Indian copyright law lacks express statutory provisions, a tension is currently playing out in India and across the globe.

- **AI and Social Media:**

By prioritizing maximizing time-on-platform over user well-being, algorithmic amplification creates feedback loops that continuously funnel young users toward increasingly extreme content. Recommender systems track subtle engagement signals such as pause duration, re-watches, or comment interactions. Because of this, they frequently mistake a vulnerable teenager's curiosity or distress for interest. This causes automated engines to repeatedly serve content related to self-harm, eating disorders, or suicide ideation, effectively walling minors into toxic online echo chambers. Coupled with variable-reward mechanics designed to induce behavioral compulsion, this dynamic exacerbates addiction while overwhelming undeveloped emotional regulation skills, leaving children hyper-exposed to psychological harm and predatory exploitation without adequate safety circuit-breakers. Since Indian digital law lacks explicit statutory guardrails for algorithmic accountability, a critical tension is playing out in India and across the globe as engagement-driven feeds exacerbate social media addiction, self-harm exposure, and mental health crisis among minors.

SUB - THEMES

- **AI and Labour Law:**

The rapid expansion of artificial intelligence in the Indian workplace has created significant regulatory gaps across traditional employment frameworks. Even with the rollout of India's modernized Labour Codes, which updated traditional statutory protections, automated decision-making systems continue to operate without explicit legal constraints. Enterprises deploy opaque algorithms to automate hiring filters, continuously track workers through keystrokes, emotion AI, or facial recognition, and execute automated terminations or demotions without human intervention. Since Indian labour law lacks specific provisions for algorithmic management, worker replacement, and intrusive workplace surveillance, a growing tension is playing out in India and across the globe as workers fight for a right to human review, non-discrimination, and privacy against automated systems.

- **AI and Autonomous Contracting:**

The rapid expansion of artificial intelligence across commercial transactions has exposed profound regulatory gaps within traditional frameworks of contract and consumer law. Because the current statutory framework strictly grounds agreement validity in human intent and a mutual meeting of minds, autonomous "agentic" AI systems execute binding transactions in a state of statutory ambiguity. Concurrently, enterprises deploy self-learning, goal-driven agents that independently negotiate terms, formulate dynamic pricing, probe software logic, and execute complex contracts without real-time human intervention. Since Indian jurisprudence lacks express statutory guardrails for autonomous multi-agent interactions, a critical tension is playing out in India and across the globe over basic contract enforceability. This leaves the contracting parties without clear risk allocation, consumer protections, or safeguards against algorithmic exploitation.

SUB - THEMES

- **AI and Humanoid Autonomous Robots:**

The rapid deployment of embodied artificial intelligence in physical environments has exposed critical regulatory gaps regarding product liability and operational safety. While statutory frameworks govern standard product defects, embodied AI operating autonomously in unstructured public, healthcare, and domestic settings lacks dedicated safety certification standards or tailored liability rules for non-deterministic neural network errors. Concurrently, enterprises deploy humanoid and service robots equipped with continuous visual, spatial, and biometric sensors that capture ambient data without clear boundary constraints under the data protection laws. Since Indian jurisprudence lacks express statutory guardrails for physical human-robot interactions, a critical tension is playing out in India and across the globe over operational safety and fault attribution: deployers and manufacturers disclaim liability for physical injuries, spatial privacy violations, and sensor-driven navigational glitches.

STRUCTURE OF THE SUBMISSION

- The cover page shall contain the Title of the Draft Guidelines and the Team Code, with the Title of the Draft Guidelines carrying marks.
- Each submission shall comprise a comprehensive set of legal or regulatory guidelines. The proposed guidelines shall be clear, coherent, legally sound, and practically implementable.
- Participants shall develop their submissions in accordance with the prescribed structure set out below.
- The prescribed structure is intended to provide a framework for the submission. Participants may modify specific sub-headings where such modification is warranted by the nature of the sub-theme.

Structure:

- Preamble / Background
- Objectives
- Scope and Applicability
- Definitions
- Guiding Principles
- Stakeholders / Entities Covered
- Roles, Duties and Responsibilities
- AI Governance, Risk Management and Human Oversight
- Rights, Safeguards, Transparency and Accountability
- Compliance, Monitoring and Review
- Grievance Redressal / Dispute Resolution
- Enforcement and Consequences of Non-Compliance
- Miscellaneous / Schedules / Annexures

STRUCTURE OF THE SUBMISSION

Annexures to the Submission:

The final submission shall include the following annexures, placed after the main draft:

Annexure I – Key Highlight Clauses: A one-page compilation of the key clauses of the draft.

Annexure II – References and Bibliography: Participants must include all sources relied upon in the draft, including judicial decisions, statutes, books, journal articles, and other relevant materials, following the Bluebook 20th Edition citation style. The page and paragraph/section of the draft where each source is used must also be mentioned.

Example: Justice K.S. Puttaswamy (Retd.) v. Union of India, (2017) 10 SCC 1 – Draft pg. 4, para. 2.1.

Additional Annexures: Teams may include any other relevant annexures, at their discretion.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- The draft must be original and prepared specifically for the competition. It must not be under review or accepted elsewhere at the time of submission.
- A similarity index exceeding 10% will result in disqualification. All submissions will be screened through Turnitin for plagiarism and AI-generated content.
- The word limit is 4000 words, exclusive of footnotes.

Formatting Guidelines

- Font: Times New Roman
- Font Size: 12 (Text), 14 (Headings)
- Line Spacing: 1.5
- Margin: 1 inch on all sides
- Citation Style: Bluebook 20th Edition

File Format

The submission must be made in both Word and PDF formats.

- Files must be renamed using the Team Code, as follows:
TeamCode_XX (e.g., TC_01).
- Submissions must be sent to - lawtech.hyd@nmims.edu.in.
- The subject line of the email must be:
Submission – LexTech DraftCon 2.0 (Team Code).

Penalty for Late Submission

3 marks will be deducted for every hour of delay after the submission deadline. Any part of an hour will also be counted as one full hour.

EVALUATION OF SUBMISSIONS

- All entries will undergo double-blind review by a panel of distinguished legal and technology experts.

The written submissions will be evaluated out of 100 marks based on the following criteria:

S.No.	Evaluation Criterion	Weightage
01	Title of the Draft Guidelines	5 Marks
02	Originality, Innovation & Depth of Legal Analysis	25 Marks
03	Legal Accuracy & Use of Primary Sources	20 Marks
04	Legal Structure, Clarity & Drafting Quality	25 Marks
05	Practicability, Feasibility & Implementation	15 Marks
06	Language, Formatting & Citation	10 Marks
	TOTAL	100 Marks

EVALUATION OF THE ORAL PRESENTATION

- Ten (10) teams will be shortlisted for the Preliminary Oral Round, with two (2) teams selected from each sub-theme. The Team Codes of the shortlisted teams will be communicated via email.
- The shortlisted teams will participate in the Preliminary Oral Round on the date of the competition.
- Following the Preliminary Oral Round, one (1) team from each sub-theme will be selected for the Final Oral Round, resulting in a total of five (5) finalist teams.
- The five (5) finalist teams will participate in the Final Oral Round on the date of the competition.
- Teams shall present and defend their proposed guidelines, explaining the underlying legal reasoning, regulatory approach, and practical considerations.
- The presentation will be followed by a Question-and-Answer session with the Judging Panel.
- Teams must be prepared to respond to questions and substantiate their proposed guidelines before the Judging Panel.

Time Allocation

- **Presentation:** 15 minutes
- **Question & Answer:** 5 minutes
- **Total Time per Team:** 20 minutes

The Preliminary Oral Round and the Final Oral Round will each be evaluated out of 50 marks based on the following criteria:

S.No.	Evaluation Criterion	Weightage
01	Content & Clarity	10 Marks
02	Depth of Understanding & Legal Analysis	10 Marks
03	Research & Knowledge of the Propsed Guidelines	10 Marks
04	Presentation & Delivery	10 Marks
05	Response to Questions & Defence of the Draft	5 Marks
06	Time Management & Professionalism	5 Marks
	TOTAL	50 Marks

PROPOSED TIMELINE

Brochure & Registration Opens – Early Bird	19 August 2026
Early Bird Registration Deadline	26 August 2026, 11:59 PM
Standard Registration Period	27 August - 1 September, 2026
Last Date for Registration	1 September, 11:59 PM
Last Date for Submission	11 September 2026, 11:59 PM
Evaluation of Submissions	12 – 17 September 2026
Top 10 Teams Announcement	17 September 2026
Oral Rounds (Preliminary and Final) + Valedictory Ceremony	20 September 2026

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Early Bird Registration Deadline: 26 August 2026, 11:59 PM

Registration Fee:

A. INR 500 for a team of two

B. INR 500 for an individual participant

Standard Registration Deadline: 1 September, 11:59 PM

Registration Fee:

C. INR 1000 for a team of two

D. INR 1000 for an individual participant

Transfer the registration fee via RTGS/NEFT to the following account:

Bank Name: HDFC Bank

Account Holder Name: SVKMS NMIMS DEEMED UNIVERSITY

Account Number: 50200017463427

IFSC Code: HDFC0004291

Branch Address: Ground Floor, Amity Ville, Beside Spencers, Opp. Innova Hospital, Tarnaka, Hyderabad - 500017, Telangana

Link for registration : [Link](#)

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PRIZES AND AWARDS

- **Winner:** ₹15,000 Cash Prize + Digital Certificate
- **Runner-Up:** ₹10,000 Cash Prize + Digital Certificate
- **Finalists (3rd, 4th & 5th):** ₹1,500 Cash Prize + Digital Certificate each
- **Best Draft:** Memento + Digital Certificate
- **Best Speaker:** Memento + Digital Certificate
- **Certificate of Merit:** Awarded to all 10 teams qualifying for the Preliminary Oral Rounds
- **Certificate of Participation:** Digital Certificate awarded to all registered participants
- 10% Scholarship Code for all event participants, applicable to all Lawctopus Law School courses.



CONTACT US

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