# TWENTY FIRST ALL INDIA MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2023

FOR ADV.T.S. VENEKATESWARA IYER MEMORIAL EVER ROLLING TROPHY





HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAS GOVERNMENT LAW COLLEGE, ERNAKULAM

#### ABOUT HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAS GOVERNMENT LAW

**COLLEGE, ERNAKULAM** 



His Highness The Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam, is an iconic law school situated in the heart of the vibrant city of Kochi in Kerala. The college is situated on the banks of the enchanting Vembanad Lake and is near to Marine Drive and the High Court of Kerala. The institution, established in 1874, was the first law college in the state of Kerala and one of the earliest in the country. Today, the enchanting campus comprises stately buildings, a mix of old and modern architecture. The state-of-the-art library comprises 37,000+ volumes, 22 periodicals, and subscriptions to most online Journals. The college is a centre for graduate, postgraduate and doctoral legal education, offering courses in 3-year and 5-year LLB and LLM. These courses are recognised by the UGC, the Bar Council India and affiliated to the Mahatma Gandhi University in Kottayam. The øf/ college has, over the years, produced several eminent jurists, distinguished senior lawyers, bureaucrats and other professionals who have made their mark not just in India, but across the world. Some of the illustrious alumni of this college include the former Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Justice K. G. Balakrishnan, Judge of Supreme Court Justice K. M. Joseph, former Chief Justice of Kerala Justice K. K. Usha, former Advocate General of Kerala K. P. Dandapani, Padma Shree Prof. Dr.) N. R. Madhava Menon, Padma Shree Mammootty and several others.

#### **ABOUT THE COMPETITION**



The National Moot Court Competition aims to encourage law students to discover and improve their knowledge of law and advocacy. A Moot Court experience enables students to engage with and think deeply about interesting and topical legal issues.

His Highness The Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam, which is the oldest and one of the most prestigious institutions of legal learning in the state of Kerala is a pioneer when it comes to moot court competition, having conducted the famous T.S Venkateswara Iyer Memorial Ever Rolling Trophy All India Moot Court Competition for twenty times in the past. This competition had a glorious past as we were privileged to have the finest talents from law schools across the country vying for honours. The college has also got a well established moot club where students are well trained. With this legacy in hand, we feel extremely happy to invite teams from all around the country to participate to the XXI National Moot Court Competition, 2023.



# HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAS GOVERNMENT LAW COLLEGE ERNAKULAM

Park Avenue Road, Ernakulam, Kerala, Pin- 682011

Date: 31-12-2022

Dear Sir/ Madam,

His Highness The Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam which is the oldest and one of the most prestigious institutions of legal learning in the state of Kerala proudly announces the conduct of XXI National Moot Court Competition for Adv. T. S. Venkateswara Iyer Memorial Ever Rolling Trophy from 24th to 26th February 2023 at the college premises. It is our pleasure and privilege to invite you to participate in this event.

We request your goodself to send a team comprising two speakers and a researcher representing your esteemed institution for participating in the competition. We would be obliged to you if you could confirm your participation on or before 25th January 2023 through Google Forms link provided in Regulations.

We are looking forward to host you at the Twenty First All India Moot Court Competition, 2023 at His Highness The Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam.

Thanking You Sd/-Dr. Bindu M Nambiar Principal

#### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

#### 1. <u>GENERAL INFORMATION</u>

- The name of the competition shall be XXI National Moot Court Competition for Adv. T. S. Venkateswara Iyer Ever Rolling Trophy, 2023.
- **1.2.** The competition shall be hosted by **His Highness The Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam**.
- 1.3. The competition shall be held from 24th to 26th February, 2023.
- **1.4.** The medium of the competition shall be **offline**.
- **1.5.** The language of the competition shall be **English**.
- **1.6.** Be it duly noted that;
  - **1.6.1.** "Competition" means the XXI National Moot Court Competition for Adv. T. S. Venkateswara Iyer Ever Rolling Trophy, 2023.
  - **1.6.2.** "Competition Rules" means the official rules of the competition.
  - **1.6.3.** "**Judge**" means any person appointed to adjudicate or evaluate a participating team's memorial and oral submissions.
  - **1.6.4.** "**Memorial**" means the written pleadings of each participating team, written and submitted pursuant to these rules.
  - **1.6.5.** "Organisers" means His Highness The Maharajas Government Law College, Ernakulam, Kerala.
  - **1.6.6.** "**Participating Institution**" shall be presumed to be the parent Law College/University/ Department of the participating team.
  - **1.6.7.** "**Participating Team**" means the team which has registered itself for the Competition.
  - **1.6.8.** "Penalty" means points deducted in case of violation of any rule.
  - **1.6.9.** "Selected Team" means the participating team qualifying from the Memorial Selection round to the Preliminary Round.

### 2. <u>ELIGIBILITY</u>

2.1. The competition is open to the Law colleges, Law schools, Law Departments and Law Universities recognized by the Bar Council of India. The participation is limited to undergraduate students in law, both in the 3-year and 5-year courses presently undergoing regular courses.

#### 3. <u>TEAM COMPOSITION</u>

- **3.1.** Each team shall have a minimum of 2 members, subject to a maximum of 3 members. The maximum number cannot be modified under any circumstances.
- **3.2.** Each team will be provided a team code, at the time of provisional registration, prior to the submission of memorials via e-mail. This team code will be used to refer to the team for the whole competition.

#### 4. <u>REGISTRATION</u>

**4.1.** Each team shall provisionally register for the Competition through this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdQ0zPjfkTX2Px\_QfD\_7J QkNWkewsUK1VBZy7k6R8WT5Ktu2g/viewform?usp=sf\_link

- **4.2.** The last date for provisional registration is 25th January 2023.
- **4.3.** Provisional registration after the given deadline shall not be accepted, under any circumstances.
- **4.4.** After the deadline for the provisional registration expires, the organisers shall respond to each provisionally registered team, with a unique team code, which shall be used to identify the teams during the competition.
- **4.5.** The teams qualifying the Memorial Selection Round should proceed to complete the Final Registration.
- **4.6.** The Final Registration form will be sent to the selected teams on the day of announcing the result of the Memorial Selection (5th February 2023)

- **4.7.** The Registration fee for the competition is **INR 4500/-** (including accommodation and transport facilities.) Registration fee without accommodation and transport is **INR 3000/-**
- 4.8. Selected Teams should complete the final registration form with photos of team members and signature of the Head of the Institution (along with Seal of institution) and a scanned copy of the same<sup>1</sup> along with the payment receipt should be sent to <u>nationalmootglce2023@gmail.com</u> with the subject, 'Registration for XXI National Moot Court Competition for Adv. T. S. Venkateswara Iyer Ever Rolling Trophy, 2023' on or before 10th February 2023.
- **4.9.** The following are the details of the bank account for payment of the registration fee
  - Name of the Bank & Branch: PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK
  - Account holder Name: MOOT CLUB GOVT. LAW COLLEGE ERNAKULAM
  - Account Number: 4271000100107762
  - IFSC Code: PUNB0427100

#### 5. <u>MEMORIAL SELECTION</u>

- 5.1. Once the unique team code is received, the teams should only use the team code in all further Communication(s) with the Organisers. Disclosure of the Name/Logo of Institution/University is prohibited.
- **5.2.** The Memorials will be evaluated in the manner specified below.
- **5.3.** Last day for the submission of soft copies of memorials without penalty is 30th January 2023, latest by 11:59 p.m. Late submission of the memorials will attract a penalty of 5 marks for each passing day.
- **5.4.** No memorials will be accepted after 31st January 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Registration form for each participant in the team should be filled separately and it should be signed by the Head of Institution.

- 5.5. All teams must send via email the soft copy of their memorials, which must be a 'pdf' file extension, to the official mail ID <u>nationalmootglce2023@gmail.com</u> Name of the PDF files should be given as "Petitioner Memo <Team Code>" and "Respondent Memo <Team Code>" respectively. The
- subject of the email must be: Memorial for <Team Code>.5.6. Not adhering to the above mentioned formatting and submission
- guidelines will attract a penalty of 3 marks.
- 5.7. The teams should send three sets of hard copy of memorials (3 copies of Petitioner and 3 copies of Respondent) before 18<sup>th</sup> February 2023 to The Coordinator,
  T.S Venkateswara National Moot Court Competition 2023
  Government Law College,
  Park Avenue Road, Ernakulam,

Kerala Pin: 682011

#### 6. <u>MEMORIAL</u>

- **6.1.** The following requirements for memorials must be strictly followed. Non-conformities will be penalised:
  - **6.1.1.** All participating teams must submit memorials for both Petitioner and Respondent for the Problem Statement.
  - **6.1.2.** All participating teams must submit typed memorials fulfilling the following specifications:

The memorials shall contain the following:

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- Abbreviations
- Index of Authority
- Statement of Jurisdiction

- Statement of Facts
- Issues Involved
- Summary of Arguments
- Body of Arguments
- Prayer
- **6.1.3.** The Team ID should be clearly mentioned on the top right corner of the Cover Page in the following manner:-

Suppose the Team ID allotted is TC 37, then it should appear as TC 37P on the Petitioner's Memorial and as TC 37R on the Respondent's Memorial.

# **6.1.4.** The Cover Page, along with the Team ID shall essentially consist of:

- The name and place of the forum
- The relevant legal provision for filing the suit/petition
- Name of the parties and their standing (Petitioner or Respondent)
- Memorial filed on behalf of...
- Counsel appearing on behalf of...
- **6.1.5.** The memorial shall not exceed thirty (30) pages, including the Body of Arguments, which shall not be more than fifteen (15) pages.
- **6.1.6.** Issues or pleadings not discussed within the body of the memorial shall neither be included in any other part of the same or be raised before the court.
- **6.1.7.** The memorials shall be typed on A4 size pages in Font type: Times New Roman, Font Size: 12, Line spacing: 1.5 and 1-inch margin on each side.

Footnotes should be in Font type: Times New Roman, Font Size: 10 and Line spacing: 1. Use of the Bluebook 20th Edition citation

format shall be adhered to. There shall be page numbering at the middle bottom of the page and paragraph numbering.

- **6.1.8.** The memorials shall not contain any Annexure / Photographs / Sketches / Exhibits / Affidavit etc. Violation of the said provision will attract deduction of marks.
- **6.1.9.** The identity of the Participating Institution or the names of the participants if revealed in the memorials in any manner would amount to disqualification.
- **6.1.10.** The Cover Page of the Memorial from the side of the Petitioner shall be Blue in color and from the side of the Respondent shall be Red in color.
- **6.2.** Assessment of Memorials:
  - **6.2.1.** The memorials shall be assessed for **100 marks**, by a team of experts on the predetermined criterion, as specified here under:
    - a. Clarity of Facts (10 Marks)
    - b. Use of Law (25 Marks)
    - c. Use of Authority/Precedents (20 Marks)
    - d. Arguments and Clarity of Thought (25 Marks)
    - e. Presentation (10 Marks)
    - f. Originality (10 Marks)

#### 7. <u>ROUNDS</u>

- **7.1.** The inaugural session will be held on 24th February 2023, followed by the briefing of rules and regulations of the competition and draw of lots for both preliminary rounds. There will be a memo exchange and the teams will receive the memorials of their opposite teams in the Preliminary Rounds on the same day after the draw of lots.
- **7.2.** The teams who advance from each round would be declared after the respective rounds. The Final result and the winners of the various

categories will be announced only during the valediction / prize distribution ceremony.

- **7.3.** The Bench may grant an extension of time at its discretion.
- 7.4. Rebuttal/Sur-rebuttal: The maximum time provided would include the time that each team may want to reserve for their rebuttal/sur-rebuttal. At the commencement of each session, the team shall notify the Court Officer as to the apportioning of time between the 2 speakers (including rebuttal/sur-rebuttal). In case any speaker continues to speak after the completion of his/her time, the additional time that was used, will be deducted from the time allocated to his/her co-speaker, or from the time allocated for the rebuttal/sur-rebuttal, as the case may be. The final decision as to the time structure and the right to rebuttal/sur-rebuttal shall vest with the Judges.
- **7.5.** Compendium: Teams shall submit their respective compendiums, if any, for both petitioner and respondent, prior to the oral rounds. The teams will not be allowed to share any other contents other than what has been submitted in the compendium.
- **7.6.** Teams must note that they will not be permitted to share any material with the judges if such material bears their name or the name of their College/University or any other items which disclose their identity. The compendium must not include any pictorial representations.
- **7.7.** The Organisers reserves the right to make any necessary alterations in respect of the side to be taken by the competing teams in case it becomes absolutely necessary due to withdrawal of any team/teams at the far end or if the competing teams have had no opportunity to argue the other side of the problem. In the matter of disputes or complaints, the decision of the Appeal Committee chaired by the Principal, Government Law College, Ernakulam will be final.

**7.8.** The format of the competition will be as follows:

Competition Rounds	Basis	Criteria
Preliminary	Highest Score	8 winning teams would
Round		advance to Quarter Finals
Quarter Final	Knock out	4 winning teams would
Round		advance to Semi Final
Semi Final Round	Knock out	2 winning teams would
		advance to Finals
Final Round		

#### 7.9. Preliminary Round

- **7.9.1.** There will be two preliminary rounds of arguments per team, one for petitioner & another for respondent.
- **7.9.2.** Preliminary rounds will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2023. The schedule for the rounds shall be released later.
- **7.9.3.** Each Preliminary round will consist of 1 hour in total. Each team will be given 30 minutes to speak. Each speaker must speak for a minimum of 10 minutes and can go maximum up to 15 minutes. The remaining time from the total of 30 minutes can be used by the team for the rebuttal session. The teams have to specify to the court officer how many minutes they have allotted for the arguments of each speaker and for the rebuttal, before the commencement of the rounds.
- **7.9.4.** Any extra time allotted to a speaker will be under the discretion of the judges. Exceeding the allotted time will attract penalties unless approved by the judges.
- 7.9.5. Top eight teams from the Preliminary Rounds will advance to the

Quarter final rounds which will be held on the same day afternoon.

**7.9.6.** Memorial scores will be considered only as the tiebreaker in qualifying to the quarter finals.

#### 7.10. Quarterfinal Rounds

- **7.10.1.** Draw of lots will decide the side of the arguments in Quarterfinals. Quarter Finals will be held on 25th February 2023
- **7.10.2.** The format for Quarter final round will be the same as Preliminary rounds, consisting of 1 hour in total. Each team will be given 30 minutes to speak. All the other rules of the Preliminary rounds are also applicable in the Quarter final round.
- **7.10.3.** The results of the Quarter final rounds will be announced on the same day and the draw of lots to the Semi final rounds will be done following that. The Memorial scores will only be considered for the Quarter final round as a tie-breaker.

#### 7.11. Semi Final Round

- **7.11.1.** The Semi Final rounds will be held in the morning of 26th February 2023.
- **7.11.2.** The Semi final rounds will consist of 90 minutes in total. Each team will get 45 minutes to present their case that will include rebuttal time. Each speaker must speak for a minimum of 15 minutes and can go maximum up to 20 minutes, and the remaining time from the total of 45 minutes can be used by the team for the rebuttal session. The teams have to specify how many minutes they have allotted for the arguments of each speaker and for the rebuttal, before the commencement of the rounds.
- **7.11.3.** The winners, decided on the knock out basis, will proceed to the Final round.

#### 7.12. Final Round

- **7.12.1.** The final round will be held on 26th February 2023. The draw of lots to the final round will be done at least 1 hour prior to the commencing of the round. The teams will receive the memorials of the opposite team soon after the draw of lots.
- **7.12.2.** The format for the final round will be the same as that of Semi final rounds, consisting of 90 minutes in total for the round and 45 minutes per team. All the other rules of the Semi-final rounds are also applicable in the final round

#### 8. <u>ATTIRE</u>

- **8.1.** The dress code for the participants during the court sessions shall be as follows:
  - 8.1.1. Female participants: White Salwar Kameez and Black Coat or White Shirt, Black Pants, Black Coat and Black Shoes
  - **8.1.2. Male participants**: White Shirt, Black Pant with Black Coat, Black Tie and Black Shoes
- **8.2.** Gowns and Bands are NOT permitted to be worn by the Participants in the Competition

#### 9. <u>SCOUTING</u>

- **9.1.** Teams will not be allowed to observe the orals of any other teams. Scouting is strictly prohibited. No member of any team or any individual connected with any team will be permitted to hear the arguments in any court room in which that team is not one of the contesting teams whilst that team is still in the competition.
- **9.2.** The Organisers shall take strict action, including disqualification from the competition, against any team found to be scouting through a team member or through any other means.

#### 10. <u>ANONYMITY</u>

- 10.1. Student counsel may introduce her/himself to the court as 'counsels' with their designated team codes only. Under no circumstances, the participants should disclose their actual name, the team's college / institution affiliation during the oral rounds, in any written submissions (Memorial and Compendium) or at any stage of the competition. They may only mention their identity at the awards ceremony.
- **10.2.** Further, all team members, coaches, advisors, and observers shall refrain from identifying a team's school at any time and in any manner, including, but not limited to, wearing any identifying items, such as school clothing, ties, patches, or pins or carrying identifying material (such as a books with a college logo, or college seal).
- **10.3.** Either of the above actions, or any other such action that discloses the identity of the participant shall result in the disqualification of the team from the competition at the discretion of the organisers.

#### 11. <u>RESEARCHER'S TEST / INTERVIEW</u>

- **11.1.** There will be a test / interview to select the best and second best researcher of the moot court competition.
- **11.2.** The Researcher's test / interview shall be conducted on Saturday, 25th February 2023.
- **11.3.** In a team consisting of three members, the member designated as Researcher shall only take part in the test / interview.
- **11.4.** If a team comprises two members, then one of the two members shall be eligible to take the test / interview. However, the team must notify the organisers in advance as to which of the team members shall take the test / interview.

# 12. EVALUATION

**12.1.** A bench comprising of **TWO JUDGES** selected from a panel of judges drawn from an array of judicial officers, advocates and academicians will preside over each of the Preliminary Rounds.

A bench comprising of **THREE JUDGES** selected from a panel of judges drawn from an array of judicial officers, advocates and academicians will preside over the Quarter Final and Semi Final Rounds. The Final round will be presided over by **THREE JUDGES** of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala.

- **12.2.** Each court will assign marks to both individual participant and the team.
- **12.3.** An individual participant will be evaluated to a maximum of 100 marks by each judge. The division of marks for all the rounds will be on the basis of following criteria:

1.	Substance in arguments, articulation of factual issues, factual analysis and use of evidence. (Marks 20)
2.	Knowledge of law, interpretation, articulation of legal issues and legal analysis. (Marks 20)
3.	Use of authorities and citations. (Marks 10)
4.	Skills of advocacy, persuasiveness and response to questions. (Marks 25)
5.	Clarity, brevity, ingenuity, language and style (Marks 15)
6.	Court manners and general impression (Marks 10)

## 13. <u>AWARDS</u>

**13.1.** Honours in this competition shall include:

- **13.1.1.** Best Team
- **13.1.2.** Second Best Team
- 13.1.3. Best Student Advocate
- 13.1.4. Second Best Student Advocate
- **13.1.5.** Best Memorial
- **13.1.6.** Second Best Memorial
- **13.1.7.** Best Researcher
- 13.1.8. Second Best Researcher
- **13.2.** The winners of the above mentioned titles will be awarded cash prizes, certificates and ever rolling trophies. In addition to the above, certificates will be given to other categories of winners and all other participants.

#### **14. RECEPTION:**

- 14.1. A scanned copy of the travel plans of the teams shall be sent to <u>nationalmootglce2023@gmail.com</u> not later than 18th February 2023. The teams will be received at Railway stations / Bus stations / Airport from 24th February, 2023. However the teams will be free to reach on their own and report at the Government Law College campus at Park Avenue Road, Ernakulam before 2 p.m. on 24th February 2023.
- 14.2. The nearest International Airport is Cochin International Airport at Nedumbassery which is approximately 35 kms from the College. The Ernakulam Town and Ernakulam Junction Railway Stations are less than 3 kms and less than 2 kms respectively. The Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (K.S.R.T.C) Bus Station is approximately 3 kms away from the college.

#### **15. BOARDING AND LODGING**

- **15.1.** The boarding and lodging for the teams will be provided from 24th morning to the morning of 27th February, 2023. Lodging for female and male students will be separate. Under no circumstances, the organisers would provide lodging and boarding for any persons other than the three team members.
- **15.2.** Participants can register with or without boarding and lodging facilities. However, Organisers shall not be responsible for participants not availing the lodging facilities. Transportation facilities shall not be provided for students registering without boarding and lodging.
- **15.3.** The facilities in the library and the Cyber Station of the Government Law College, Ernakulam can be availed, but only for reference.

#### 16. <u>COPYRIGHT</u>

- **16.1.** The copyright over the memorials submitted for participation in the competition is assigned by participants and shall also vest completely and fully in His Highness the Maharajas Government Law College Ernakulam. The participants shall certify the originality of materials contained therein and shall be responsible for any claim or dispute arising out of the further use and exhibition of these materials.
- 16.2. Further use and exhibition of these materials, electronically or otherwise, shall be the exclusive right of His Highness the Maharajas Government Law College Ernakulam 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 the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained in these materials.
- **16.3.** Distribution of these materials on affiliated websites such as www.moot.in does not constitute consent to any use of this material for commercial redistribution either via the Internet or using some other

form of hypertext distribution. Links to the collection or individual pages in it are welcome.

#### 17. <u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>

- **17.1.** Upon completion of the competition, the organising committee reserves the exclusive right to use the memorials submitted to them, as they deem appropriate.
- **17.2.** All Participants are expected to maintain decorum in Court during the rounds of the competition and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.
- 17.3. The organising committee reserves the right to amend, add, modify or repeal any of the rules if so required and as they deem appropriate. Participating teams shall receive adequate notice of any/all such amendments or modifications to the rules.
- **17.4.** The Organisers reserve the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional and immoral conduct. The organising committee's decision as regards the interpretation of these rules or any other matters related to the Moot Court Competition shall be final and binding. If there is any situation, which is not covered by these rules, the decision of the organising committee shall be final.
- 17.5. Participants must refrain from plagiarism of any kind. Any use of publicly available information must be accompanied by proper citations. Failure to comply with this rule may result in being debarred from the Competition.

#### 18. <u>CONTACT</u>

18.1. Any clarifications regarding the competition may be sent to <u>nationalmootglce2023@gmail.com</u> with the subject "Request for clarification". 18.2. Clarifications through any medium other than emails i.e., Phone Calls / WhatsApp / SMS / DM on Instagram / Private messages on Facebook to organisers will not be entertained and taken into account.

For further queries contact:

#### College

Dr. Bindu M Nambiar (Principal) - <u>binmnam@yahoo.com</u> +91 9562055677

#### **Personnel (Faculty)**

Smt. Mini S. (Convenor)

Dr. Joby Bhasker (Coordinator) - <u>minivinodgcs@gmail.com</u> +91 94953 22203

- jobyviswanath@gmail.com +91 94952 57090

#### **Student Coordinators**

Ayisha Riswana

Abhirami Thirumeni T

ayishariswana2000@gmail.com +91 7560862006

abhiramithirumeni.t@gmail.com +91 9526256161

**0** www

https://instagram.com/glce\_moot?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y= https://glcemootclub.wordpress.com/

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

Release of Moot Proposition	31st December 2022
Commencement of Provisional Registration	31st December 2022
Last date for Provisional Registration	25th January 2023
Last date for Memorial Submission (soft copy)	30th January 2023
Memorial Selection Results	5th February 2023
Last date for Final Registration and payment of Registration Fee	10th February 2023
Last date for Memorial Submission (Hard copies)	18th February 2023
Inauguration and Draw of lots	24th February 2023
Researcher's test / interview, Preliminary Round and Quarter Finals	25th February 2023
Semi-finals, Final Round and Valedictory Ceremony	26th February 2023