# The ICFAI University, Dehradun

# Accredited by NAAC





# 1<sup>st</sup> N J Yasaswy Virtual National Environmental Law

# **Moot Court Competition**

#### Awards

- Exciting Cash Prizes
- Books
- Internship
- Manupatra Subscription
- Lawskill Environmental Law Course

zooi

Live Session

Competition Dates 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 Important Dates Registration closes on 10th April, 2021 Last Date for Memorial Submission

16th April, 2021 No Registration Fee









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#### FROM THE DEAN'S DESK



ICFAI Law School, The ICFAI University, Dehradun, is one of the premier institutions in the country imparting legal education. ICFAI Law School has always strived for excellence through various student oriented activities. The moot shall be a step towards developing a new generation of legal professionals. ICFAI law School is committed towards disseminating knowledge and imparting skills in core areas through innovative, educational programs, research and development, thereby aiding towards holistic development of students not only in academic front but also on practical aspects. The Centre for Environmental Law,

Policy, Education & Development (CELPED) within a short span of time, has conducted several successful events such as webinars, special guest lectures, workshops, etc. It is a matter of great pleasure that CELPED, School of Law is organizing the 1<sup>st</sup> NJ Yasaswy Virtual National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition. The moot will play a crucial role in furthering legal research in the field of Environmental Law. With this moot, the ICFAI Law School attempts to further interest in the field on Environmental Law. I wish the participants all the best for the conduct of the event.

#### FROM THE ACADEMIC COORDINATOR'S DESK



CELPED, ICFAI Law School, The ICFAI University, Dehradun is glad to announce its 1st N.J. Yasaswy Virtual National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, 2021. Mooting is very important for law students as it provides immense knowledge and practical aspects of our legal system. We believe that mooting enhances the analytical, research, and writing skills of the students. The CELPED is a Faculty & studentled initiative, which works hand in hand with the administration for planning, training, and executing its activities. It lays down the foundation of advocacy skills amplification by its continuous efforts to

achieve its goal of providing the complete legal experience to law students. The Centre consists of hard-working, ambitious, and enthusiastic students and is headed by our diligent faculty members, who are always there as an inspiration and as mentors to guide them along the way. The Centre hopes to create a strong tradition of successful mooting for years to come for the students. CELPED, ICFAI Law School, The ICFAI University, Dehradun is expecting teams from various reputed and prestigious institutions across the country. We look forward to hosting your team in this competition.

#### ABOUT THE ICFAI UNIVERSITY, DEHRADUN

The ICFAI University, Dehradun was established under the provision of the ICFAI University Act, 2003, (Act No.16 of 2003), enacted by the state of Uttarakhand, India. The University is recognised by the University Grants Commission under Sec 2(f) of UGC Act 1956. The University is a member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities, London & Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi. Since its inception, the University has maintained the standard and decorum in the educational environment. Its main objective is to create & disseminate knowledge and impart skills in core areas through innovative, educational programs, research and development, thereby developing a new cadre of professionals with high degree of competence and a deep sense of ethics and commitment. The University is Global in outlook and cosmopolitan in character. The University focuses on four vital disciplines law, management, engineering and education. The programs are structured in such a way so as to impart the students with quality education and comprehensive research. The ICFAI University secured 44th rank in the World Universities with Real Impact (WURI) Rankings, 2020 released by United National Institute for Training and Research. ICFAI University is also E-Lead Certified for Online Teaching.

#### ABOUT ICFAI LAW SCHOOL

ICFAI Law School, a constituent of the ICFAI University, Dehradun is established with an objective of developing a new generation of legal professionals through comprehensive as well as contemporary body of knowledge integrating law with Management/ Humanities to provide students with analytical, world class, innovative and socially relevant, career oriented, quality legal education through inclusive technology aided pedagogies and research, in order to produce a vibrant community of legal professionals. The ICFAI Law School, Dehradun is the 6th Ranking Law School of Super Excellence in India and 1st Ranking Law School in Uttarakhand according to CSR GHRDC Law School Rankings 2020. It also secured 26th rank among top Law Universities/ Institutions in India including NLUs in MDRA Rankings 2020 conducted by India Today.

# ABOUT CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, POLICY, EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT (CELPED)

The Centre was established in September, 2020 with the motto to focus on research and policy advocacy in the field of environmental law, with Prof. (Dr.) Yugal Kishore as Director, in accordance with the rules and regulations of The ICFAI University, Dehradun. The essential objective of the Centre is to encourage enviro-legal education and research oriented study in the field of environmental law & justice. The Centre shall be venturing into new projects which will announce the convergence of academia and expert insights on various environmental matters in relation to the future. The Centre aims at supporting advocacy, research and policy-oriented discussions in the areas of environmental education and development. The Centre will be utilising power of law to protect the environment, promote human rights and ensure a just and sustainable society. CELPED is committed to fostering an evidence-based conversation about how to ensure a clean and sustainable environment for a growing India. It is an initiative for the propagation and advancement of legal education and research in the field of Environmental Law.

### SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

# Academic Partner: GORKELA LAW OFFICE, NEW DELHI



GORKELA LAW OFFICE (ADVOCATE-ON-RECORD) B-231A, Greater Kailash I, New Delhi - 110048. Gorkela Law Office is owned and managed by Mr. Manoj Gorkela. Mr. Manoj Gorkela is the Deputy Advocate General for the State of Uttarakhand at Supreme Court of India, Standing Counsel for the Union Territory of Chandigarh, Special Counsel for State of Madhya Pradesh at the Supreme Court of India and a Visiting Professor. For the past 16 years, Mr. Manoj Gorkela has been working in the Supreme Court of India and has dealt with some of the leading criminal, civil and constitutional matters in the Supreme Court of India and has many achievements and awards under his name.

# Knowledge & Resource Partner: MANUPATRA

Manupatra paved the way for the shift to online legal research in India. They are the largest content aggregator of Indian and International legal documents, linking primary and secondary information using the latest artificial intelligence tools. They offer over 2 million judgments from the Supreme Court, High Courts, Tribunals, and 14 International courts, over and above a comprehensive database of Central & State Acts, Business Policies, Bills, Notification & Circulars, and others. Their database continues to grow daily, as we update the everyday legal documents issued by the multiple Courts and the Central and State Governments.

#### Media Partner: E-JUSTICE INDIA 📀 ejusticeindia.com

E-Justice India is India's Leading Online legal Portal Managed by CSM Partners and Associates LLP (AAS-5840). It is dedicated to Law students, Lawyers & Attorneys. It's aim is to provide Education in Indian Legal Sector. Through this Portal, they have set-up towards Right to Education. Their Portal provides Legal News, Law Articles, Leading Case Summary, Law Notes, Certificate Courses, Free Legal Advice, Success Stories of Advocates, Interview of Advocates & Judges and Information about Upcoming Law Events. They also promote other Events through Media Partnership,

# RULES FOR 1<sup>st</sup> N J YASASWY VIRTUAL NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION

# I. INTRODUCTION

The 1st N J YASASWY VIRTUAL NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION (hereinafter referred to as the 'Competition') is the flagship event of ICFAI Law School, The ICFAI University, Dehradun and is scheduled to be held from  $23^{rd} - 25^{th}$  April 2021.

The competition will be conducted virtually by the CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, POLICY, EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT.

#### II. PARTICIPATION

All law colleges/ institutions/ universities across the country recognized by the Bar Council of India are eligible to take part in the Competition. All participants must be currently pursuing their Bachelor's degree in Law, i.e., either 3 year or 5-year courses.

#### III. **REGISTRATION**

- Each Team must register by filling up the registration form through the link given below. <u>https://forms.gle/xt3nEGxQbwVv2wm2A</u> along with the registration form attached with the brochure.
- Each team shall complete such registration on or before 10th April, 2021 (11:59 P.M. IST).
- The number of participating teams shall be limited to 32.
- The preference to teams shall be given on first cum first serve basis.
- The organizing committee will have the sole and absolute discretion to shortlist the participants.

# IV. GENERAL

#### 4.1 Team Composition

Each participating team can comprise of either two (2) or three (3) members. In case of two (2) members, both the members shall be designated as speakers. In case of three (3) members, two (2) members shall be designated as speakers and one (1) member shall be designated as the researcher.

#### 4.2 Eligibility

- A recognized College/Institution/University shall be entitled to send only one team to the competition.
- Each team will have an assigned Team Code (designated during Draw of Lots). Each Team shall use their Team Code for identification purposes. Name of participants shall not appear on or within the Written Submissions. Signature on the pages are prohibited.

• Teams shall not disclose their identity during the oral arguments. However, the speaker can disclose their name only to the bench during the oral argument (if asked so by the bench).

### 4.3 Official Language

The official language of the competition shall be English. All competition rounds, memorials and compendiums must be in English.

#### 4.4 Registration Fees

No Registration Fees shall be charged from the participants as the Competition is being conducted under the UNIVERSITY SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY.

# 4.5 Dress Code

The dress code for all participants throughout the competition shall be white shirt, black blazer, black trousers, black tie and black shoes for men and white shirt/kurta, black blazer, black trousers, black shoes for women.

# V. **COMPETITION'S FORMAT**

The 1st N J YASASWY VIRTUAL NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION shall consist of a Researcher's Test and the following oral rounds: Preliminary Rounds, Quarter-Final Round, Semi-Final Round and the Final Round. The Quarter-Final, Semi-Final and the Final Round shall be knockout rounds where each team will argue only once either for the petitioner/applicant or respondent.

# 5.1 Researcher's Test

The Researcher's Test will be conducted in online mode prior to the oral rounds. The questions for the test shall be objective (MCQ based test) with the questions based on the applicable law, precedents and facts pertaining to the Moot Proposition. There shall be a total of 50 Questions for 2 marks each & 0.25 Marks shall be deducted for every one wrong attempted question. The test shall be taken by the team's researcher. Please note that the marks scored in the test shall not contribute to the overall score and is only to determine the winner of the Best Researcher's award.

# 5.2 Draw of Lots

The Draw of Lots will determine from which side will the participating team present their arguments i.e., Petitioner/Plaintiff or Respondent/Defendant. The Draw of Lots will also decide which team you will be competing against (There will be no pre- decided fixtures). This shall be conducted prior to each round. The team codes will be provided to teams before the draw of lots but their sequence of participation will be decided there on.

#### **5.3 Preliminary Round**

Each team shall present one side in this round. The top 8 team based on their Total Preliminary Score in the Preliminary Round shall qualify for the Quarter-Final Rounds. Total Preliminary score does not include the memorial score. Both the parties shall be allotted 40 minutes each inclusive of rebuttal ad sur-rebuttal.

#### 5.4 Quarter- Final Round

The top 8 teams from the Preliminary Round shall proceed to the quarterfinals. This will be a knockout round; hence winners will be decided on the basis of the courtroom win. Both the parties shall be allotted 40 minutes each inclusive of rebuttal ad sur-rebuttal.

#### 5.5 Semi-Final Round

The top 4 teams from the Quarter Finals shall proceed to the semi-finals. This round again will follow the knock-out fashion. Both the parties shall be allotted 40 minutes each inclusive of rebuttal ad sur-rebuttal.

#### 5.6 Final Round

The winner of each court room fixture i.e., 2 teams from the semi-final round shall proceed to this round. Both the parties shall be allotted 45 minutes each inclusive of rebuttal ad sur-rebuttal.

# VI. MEMORIAL SUBMISSION

#### 6.1 Format Specification

All memorials must be typed on A4 sized white paper with Font Size: 12, Font Type: Times New Roman, Line Spacing 1.5, 1 inch margin on each side and justified alignment.

The footnotes shall be typed with Font Type: Times New Roman and Font Size: 10.

# 6.2 Content

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- List of Abbreviations (in Alphabetical order)
- Index of Authorities (with page number of authorities cited):
- Statement of Jurisdiction.
- Statement of Facts
- Statement of Issues
- Summary of Arguments
- Arguments Advanced
- Prayer

# 6.3 General Instruction

The Cover Page of a Written Submission must contain the following information:

- The Team Code in the upper right-hand corner.
- The name and place of the jurisdiction
- The Relevant Provision under which case is filed
- Name of the Parties and Status
- The side for which the Written Submission has been prepared
- Memorial Filed on Behalf of

It is further clarified that the Organizing Committee reserves the right to accept or not to accept any memorial which is in violation of any of the norms.

#### 6.4 Submission Guidelines

- Each Team is required to prepare Written Submissions for both sides, i.e., the Petitioner and the Respondent of the case.
- A Written Submission shall be identified solely by the Team Code assigned to the Team.
- One soft copy (only in MS Word .doc/.docx format) must be emailed to **icfaicelped@iudehradun.edu.in** latest by 16th April, 2021(23:59 Hours IST) with the subject "Memorials for Environmental Law Moot Court". The file names of the electronic copies of the Memorials must contain only the team code and the side being represented in the following format: e.g. (for Team Code 13) 13P or 13R or 13C, 'P' being for 'Petitioner' Memorial and 'R' for 'Respondent' Memorial and 'C' for 'Compendium (in case Compendium is prepared).
- Team shall cite authorities in the Memorial using footnotes following the Harvard Blue book 19th Edition. Explanatory or illustrative footnotes are not allowed.
- Colour of the cover page must be: Blue in case of Petitioner/Applicant & Red in case of Respondent/Defendant.
- The colour of the cover page shall compulsorily be Red and Blue (as the case may be) and no other variant of the colour shall be used.

#### 6.5 Compendium

All participating teams at their option can prepare a compendium as a supplement to their memorial submission. The compendium may contain all relevant provisions of law and important judgments cited if any. There can be no arguments/argumentative interpretation of facts/judgments in the compendium. Any such arguments will be disregarded and shall result in penalization. The compendium may be presented to the judges for further reference and clarity of argument presented by the speaker.

#### 6.6 Plagiarism

Participants must refrain from using same language or copying from other's memorials and other sources. Even use of publicly available information must be accompanied by proper citations.

These rules shall apply to all parts of the memorial and not just the Pleadings and Prayer. Failure to comply with this rule may result in the guilty participants being debarred from mooting in 1st N J YASASWY VIRTUAL NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2021. The Organizing Committee in consultation with the memorial judges, will take a final decision regarding determination of cases of plagiarism and penal measures for such action.

### 6.7 Changes in Soft Copy

An attempt at sending a different or shortened or corrected version of your pleadings as soft copy will result in disqualification from the selection process for the competition. The Organizing Committee shall take all decisions of disqualification after providing a hearing to the participants concerned.

#### 6.8 Condonation of Delay

Delay in submission of memorials will not be condoned on grounds like failure connection, network issues, etc. However, the CELPED Moot Court Committee shall have final discretion in case of application for condonation of delay. Decisions could range from full condonation to reduction of marks as the committee may deem fit.

# VII. MEMORIAL SCORING

The CELPED Moot Court Committee shall constitute a panel of judges with domain expertise, for the evaluation of the memorial. Both memorials shall be evaluated separately on a scale of 0-100.

# 7.1 Marking Criteria

S.NO.	MARKING CRITERIA	MARKS ALLOTTED
1	Application and Appreciation of Facts	20
2	Identification of Issues	10
3	Application of Legal Principles, Authorities and	20
	Precedents	and the second second
4	Ingenuity and Logical Reasoning	15
5	Lucidity and Writing Skills	15
6	Referencing	10
7	Formatting and Presentation	10
	TOTAL	100

# VIII. ORAL PLEADINGS

The order of oral pleadings shall be as follows:

- Petitioner/ Applicant Speaker 1;
- Petitioner/ Applicant Speaker 2;

- Respondent Speaker 1;
- Respondent Speaker 2;
- Rebuttal by Petitioner/ Applicant; and
- Sur-rebuttal by Respondent.

If in case, the petitioner/applicant do not raise for rebuttal, the sur-rebuttal is deemed to be cancelled.

Scoring of Rounds shall be solely based on the oral argumentation skills of the designated speakers of a particular team. Each Oral Round will be scored by a panel of two or more judges.

#### IX. ORAL PLEADINGS SCORING

S.NO.	MARKING CRITERIA	MARKS ALLOTTED
1	Knowledge and Marshalling of Facts	20
2	Application of Legal Principles and Usage of Authorities	20
3	Structure, Articulation and Clarity	20
4	Persuasiveness, Ingenuity and Response to Questions	20
5	Court Etiquette, Presentation Style and Time Management	20
	TOTAL	100

# X. MODE OF ONLINE ROUNDS

- The rounds will be conducted via Zoom (US). All teams are requested to download Zoom (US) on their laptops/phones beforehand. Finals will be conducted on Zoom app and Youtube Live.
- Participants have to ensure high speed 4G internet connection with good audio and video facilities. It is advisable to the participants to use laptops or PC for the oral pleadings.
- The background of the participants on video call shall be plane and shall not contain any symbol or representations.
- There must not be any noises other than the voice of the participant. In case other noises are audible and the judges find it to be disturbing, judges may stop the pleadings and the participants may be disqualified.
- At the time when the other participant is speaking, you are expected to keep your mic mute. In case a participant is found disturbing the other pleader anyway, he/she maybe disqualified.
- Teams must keep their cameras on at all times.

# XI. AWARDS

S.NO.	POSITION	AWARDS
1.	Winner	• Cash Prize of Rs. 10,000
		• The Constitution of India
		Civil and Criminal Practice Manual
		• Internship to each of the three member team
		• 3 months Manupatra subscription for all the 3 students
2.	Runners up	• Cash Prize of Rs. 7, 500
		The Constitution of India
	1.1.1	Civil and Criminal Practice Manual
	1.1	• Internship to each of the three member team
		• LawSkills course on Environment for all the 3 students
3.	2nd Runners up	• Cash Prize of Rs. 5,000
		• The Constitution of India
	11111	Civil and Criminal Practice Manual
		• Internship to each of the three member team
		LawSkills course on Environment for all the 3 students
4.	Best Speaker	• Cash Prize of Rs. 5,000
		The Constitution of India
		Civil and Criminal Practice Manual
	1	• Internship to each of the three member team
		LawSkills course on Environment
5.	Best Memorial	• Cash Prize of Rs. 5,000
	1.1.1	The Constitution of India
		Civil and Criminal Practice Manual
		• Internship to each of the three member team
		<ul> <li>LawSkills course on Environment for all the 3 students</li> </ul>
6.	Best Researcher	• Cash Prize of Rs. 5,000
		The Constitution of India
		Civil and Criminal Practice Manual
		• Internship to each of the three member team
		• 3 months Manupatra subscription for all the 3 students

Note: -

- For the convenience of the students, Gorkela Law office will provide pocket size version of The Constitution of India and Civil & Criminal Practice Manual.
- The internship shall be valid upto December, 2021

### XII. MISCELLANEOUS

- The Organizing Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional, immoral conduct and uncalled behaviour of the participants at the competition platform.
- If any situation arises which is not contemplated by the Rules, the decision of the Organizing Committee shall remain final and binding.
- The Organizing Committee reserves the right to vary, alter, modify and/or repeal any provision of the Rules if so required. The important deadlines for the competition are as follows:

DATES	PARTICULARS
10 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	Last date of Registration
12 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	Last date for clarifications
14 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	Release of clarifications
16 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	Last date for the submission of the softcopy of the memorial
23 <sup>rd</sup> April, 2021	Inauguration Orientation of Participants Researcher's Test Draw of Lots
24 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	Preliminary Round Quarter Final Round
25 <sup>th</sup> April, 2021	Semi Final Round Final Round Valedictory

#### **ORGANISING COMMITTEE**





PROF. (DR.) MUDDU VINAY VICE CHANCELLOR THE ICFAI UNIVERSITY, DEHRADUN BRIG. RAJIV SETHI (Retd.) REGSTRAR THE ICFAI UNIVERSITY, DEHRADUN



**PROF. (DR.) YUGAL KISHORE** DEAN ICFAI LAW SCHOOL, DEHRADUN



MRS. MONICA KHAROLA ACADEMIC COORDINATOR ICFAI LAW SCHOOL, DEHRADUN



MR. VISHAL BERA FACULTY CONVENOR ICFAI LAW SCHOOL, DEHRADUN



MS. ANUSHMI JAIN FACULTY CONVENOR ICFAI LAW SCHOOL, DEHRADUN

### **STUDENT COMMITTEE**

#### CONVENOR

#### Muskan Agarwal

#### **CO-CONVENORS**

Yash Kedia Ravi Prakash Mishra

# SECRETARIAT

# **Aviral Deep**

Kakuli Goyal

Arya Panda Nitya Jaiswal Harshwardhan Singh Rajawat AayushRaj

# **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Devanshi Bajpai

Shruti Goyal

Anjali Vishwakarma

Tewari Aditya Uttpal

Muskan Saha

**Tanay Dubey** 

# **REGISTRATION FORM**

Name of the Institution Address	:
-	:
Moot Court Society	:

# PARTICIPANT DETAILS

#### SPEAKER 1

Name	:	
Gender	:	
Email <mark>Addr</mark> ess	:	
Contact Number	:	Photograph
WhatsApp Number	:	1
Signature	L	

# **SPEAKER 2**

Name	:	
Gender	:	1 10.00
Email Address	:	1
Contact Number	:	Photograph
WhatsApp Number	:	
Signature	:	

#### RESEARCHER

Name	:	
Gender	:	
Email Address	:	
Contact Number	:	Photograph
WhatsApp Number	:	
Signature	:	

### **MOOT PROPOSITION**

- 1. The Garuda is a trans-boundary river of Asiana which flows through Indi and Banglidesh. The 2,525 km (1,569 mi) river rises in the western Hims in the Indin state of Uttara and flows South and East through the Gangetic Plain of North Indi into Banglidesh, where it empties into the Bay of Dongal. It is the third largest river on Earth by discharge.
- 2. The Garuda is the most sacred river to Hindus. It is a lifeline to millions of Indis who live along its course and depend on it for their daily needs. It is worshipped as the Goddess Garuda in Hinduism. It has also been important historically, with many former provincial or imperial capitals (such as Patali, Kann, Karan, Kashu, Patni, Hajipura, Mungeri, Bhagalpuram, Murshibad, Bahapur, Kapilya, and Kilkata) located on its banks. The main stem of the Garuda begins at the town of Devnagar, at confluence of the Vishwananda, which is the source stream in hydrology because of its greater length, and the Bhagyarathi, which is considered the source stream in Hindu mythology.
- 3. The Garuda is threatened by severe pollution. This poses a danger not only to humans but also to animals; the Garuda is home to approximately 140 species of fish and 90 species of amphibians. The river also contains reptiles and mammals, including critically endangered species such as the gharial and South Asiana river dolphin. The levels of fecal coliform bacteria from human waste in the river near Panasi are more than a hundred times the Indi government's official limit. The Garuda Action Plan, an environmental initiative to clean up the river, has been considered a failure which is variously attributed to corruption, a lack of will in the government, poor technical expertise, environmental planning, and a lack of support from the native religious authorities.
- 4. Garuda Mahasabhais an Indi organization dedicated to the Garuda, founded by Madan Krishna Malaviya in 1905. After a long struggle, Pritish Indi agreed on 5 November 1914 that the uninterrupted flow of the Garudais the rudimentary right of Hindu believers. The day is known as an 'Aviral Garuda Samjhauta Divas' (Uninterrupted Garuda flow agreement day) in the history of Indi and the agreement came into existence on 19 December 1916 which is known as Agreement of 1916. The sanctity of the agreement is not preserved by the state and central governments of Indi after independence though it is legally valid. More and more river water is being diverted for irrigation use, converting the river into a polluted sewer.
- 5. The Garuda Action Plan (GAP) was launched byformer Prime Minister of Indi, on June 1986 with covering 25 Class I towns (6 in Uttar Pradesh, 4 in Biham and 15 in West Dongal); Rs 862.59 crore were spent. Its main objective was to improve the water quality by the interception, diversion, and treatment of domestic sewage and to prevent toxic and industrial chemical wastes from identified polluting units from entering the river.
- 6. NRGBA was established by the Central Government of Indi, on 20 February 2009 under Section 3 of the Environment Protection Act, 1986. It declared the Garuda as the "National River" of Indi. The chair includes the Prime Minister of Indi and chief ministers of states through which the Garuda flows. In 2011, the World Bank approved \$1 billion in funding for the National Garuda River Basin Authority.

- 7. A Public Interest Litigation was filed that the banks of the river Garuda should not be grounds for the cremation ceremonies of the dead as it pollutes the water and a provision be made that a land may be given 2-5 km away from the river to perform such rituals with facilities such as bathing areas for the ritual performers and the quantity of the amount of the ashes be fixed as 10 gm for the disposal in the holy riverwith the direction that the body be completely cremated as the pollution occurs right from where the river originates to the end with the unburnt parts of the dead pollutes the water which is harmful and unsanitary for the environment. Any person who does not follow these guidelines and provisions shall be punished for imprisonment for up to 20 years as a criminal offence.
- 8. The petitioner himself belonging to the Hindu Religion claims that many religious rituals such as 'Sati pratha', 'jauhar', 'nar-bali' have been abolished by the courts. High Court has also ordered that animals are not to be sacrificed in temples, as protection of the Environment and Wildlife is more important than age-old holy traditions and rituals that causes harm to our environment and promotes killing of the animals.
- 9. The petitioner claims that he himself being a Hindu understands the importance of rituals but believes that it is more important to protect our surroundings and the environment we live in and since the cremation ceremonycreates drastic pollution of the river, it is in clear violation of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and also violates Article 21 of the Constitution of Indi.

This moot proposition has been authored by Mr. Manoj Gorkela, Dy. Advocate General at Supreme Court of India, Mr. Baldeep Gill, Advocate, Supreme Court of India and Miss Apurva, Advocate, Supreme Court of India.

Note: Canvassing in any form shall lead to the disqualification of the teams.