

SAMATVA: LEGAL AID SOCIETY, NMIMS INDORE

presents

1st NATIONAL LEGAL AID POLICY DRAFTING COMPETITION

14th April, 2024







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ABOUT US

SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), Indore

With a legacy of 40 years, NMIMS has grown to being not only one of the top 10 B-schools in India but has also emerged as a multi-disciplinary University with 7 campuses at Mumbai, Shirpur, Bengaluru, Hyderabad. Indore and Navi Mumbai and 13 constituent schools. Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS) was established under the patronage of SVKM in 1981. SVKM is currently one of the largest educational societies in Mumbai which has catered to the mission of creating modern education systems and has been committed to developing numerous academic institutes and platforms for imparting knowledge to more than 40,000 students every year in over 33 educational institutions that offer premium education across schools, colleges and universities. In keeping with the university's mission to provide good quality socially sensitive human resources to the nation, the mission of NMIMS, Indore is to be an institution of excellence for learning & collaborative research in Management with a deep commitment to people.







ABOUT:

SCHOOL OF LAW, NMIMS, INDORE

School of Law, Indore is a constituent school of SVKM's Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (Deemed to be University), with balanced focus on academics, professional virtues, social, cultural and moral values producing legal professionals with compassion and humility. The School of Law, after getting due approval from the Bar Council of India was established in the year 2019. Currently, it offers B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) and B.B.A., LL.B. (Hons.) courses in 5 years of semester-based study. The penultimate and ultimate semesters of the study offer a host of specializations to the students in order to develop a mastery in a specific branch of Law.

School of Law aspires to be a world acclaimed center of professional excellence dedicated to the noble cause of law and justice. It aims at preparing versatile lawyers and legal professionals to help the entire mankind in delivering them their basic rights and dues. It promotes exponential academic growth of the faculty and students through seminars, conferences, workshops and trainings.

The School hosts numerous co-curricular, extra-curricular and cultural activities periodically for chiseling the personality of the students which include Moot Court Competitions, Client Counselling Competitions, Mock Trials, Parliamentary Debates, Legal Aid Camps as well as Specifically Tailored Programs to commemorate occasions like Hindi Diwas, Law Day, Human Rights Day, to name a few. The School has connections with members of the Bar, members from the Law Firms as well as those from the Judiciary to provide the best professional exposure as well as to cater for the Internship requirements of the students. It also has a well-knit Placement Committee to ensure a decent placement of the students.







ABOUT:

SAMATVA: LEGAL AID SOCIETY

SAMATVA: The Legal Aid & Awareness Society of NMIMS-Indore, epitomizes its core principles by advocating for public awareness, equal opportunity, and just dispensing legal aid. Committed to serving the underprivileged, Samatva devises strategic legal service programs to bridge socio-economic disparities and foster a fair, accessible, and enlightened legal landscape working closely with the Legal Services Authorities and stakeholders for a coordinated approach.

In addition, Samatva has actively organized Legal Awareness Campaigns, Legal Aid Camps, Street Vendoring Awareness Programs, Speed Mentoring Programs in 10+ schools, Non-Profit partnering, Prison Visits, Seminars, Workshops, and Lok Adalat Awareness programs to educate individuals about their rights and responsibilities which an inclination towards significant aspects of contemporary legal scope and limitations. Additionally, it disseminates daily news updates and resources through our social media handles which raise students' understanding of the law, as well as any recent legislation or policy changes that may affect them, along with any legal aid or support that may be accessible to them. It acts as a means for creating an informed and engaged community better equipped to navigate the complex world of legal issues.

The past accomplishments of the committee demonstrate its unwavering commitment to promoting access to justice and upholding the rule of law.

Together, we strive to create a more equitable society!

















FROM THE DESK OF DIRECTOR

Welcome to SVKM's NMIMS, Indore and the National Policy Drafting Competition 2024! At NMIMS, we recognize the paramount importance of providing students with exposure to the practical intricacies of real-world challenges. Our commitment lies in fostering virtues such as equal opportunity, integrity, and respect for dissent, as we firmly believe in the significance of learning, unlearning, and relearning throughout one's professional journey. In our pursuit of excellence, we understand the responsibility of instilling the highest ethical, moral, professional, and personal standards in our students, ensuring their proactive engagement with societal concerns. As an institute, we are collectively accountable to various stakeholders in upholding these principles and delivering quality education and services to practitioners, abiders, and beneficiaries of the law. The National Policy Drafting Competition embodies our commitment to this goal by providing a platform for numerous intellectual minds to convene and share their expertise. It offers students from across the nation the opportunity to showcase their drafting skills and engage with other intellectually stimulating individuals. I extend a warm welcome to all participants and encourage you to embrace the challenges, exhibit professionalism, and relish the experience. May this competition serve as a transformative moment in your academic journey, moulding you into competent professionals and conscientious contributors to society. We eagerly await your participation at NMIMS, Indore, and anticipate a memorable and enriching event.



DR. ANSHUMAN JASWAL

DIRECTOR, NMIMS INDORE





FROM THE DESK OF ASSOCIATE DEAN

As the Associate Dean of the School of Law, NMIMS, Indore, I am pleased to announce the forthcoming National Legal Aid Policy Drafting Competition organized by SAMATVA: The Legal Aid and CSR Society. This competition holds a distinct significance as it is uniquely curated with a thematic focus on the Specially Abled Section of our society. By entering the discourse on this marginalized demographic, the competition not only underscores our commitment to inclusivity and social justice but also presents a valuable opportunity for participating law students to engage with real-world challenges and propose innovative solutions. The students are being encouraged to think beyond conventional boundaries, to cultivate a culture of creativity and critical analysis. I ardently believe that a well-articulated policy can act as a catalyst for positive change in society by promoting accessibility, inclusion, empowerment, and achieving other goals enshrined in the principles of our Indian Constitution. Moreover, the art of policy drafting is an indispensable skill for aspiring students in the legal field, and this competition offers a unique opportunity for them to hone their drafting skills. By actively participating in this competition, students will not only sharpen their skills but also contribute meaningfully to the advancement of legal discourse and the pursuit of social equity. With these objectives, the School of Law, NMIMS, Indore invites you to the first edition of the National Legal Aid Policy Drafting Competition.



DR. ASHUTOSH HAJELA

ASSOCIATE DEAN, SCHOOL OF LAW





FROM THE DESK OF FACULTY COORDINATORS

SAMATVA: The Legal Aid and CSR Society of NMIMS- Indore has always been at the core of my journey at NMIMS, Indore. The committee is dedicated to serving society by imparting legal awareness and giving legal aid to those in need. In furtherance of our vision, we chalked out a plan to organize a National Legal Aid Policy Drafting Competition with a special focus on the Specially Abled Section of the society. This competition demonstrates our steadfast commitment to social responsibility. It will inculcate a sense of compassion, empathy, and creativity in the participants while elevating the significance of this competition by addressing the challenges of the real world and promoting thoughtful policy development. We look forward to welcoming participants from across the nation to contribute their ideas and advance the cause of justice and equality in its truest sense.



MR. AMAN DEEP SINGH

ASST. PROFESSOR, NMIMS INDORE



We, at SAMATVA, have witnessed the transformative power of collaborative efforts. Our dedicated team of students has tirelessly worked to provide essential legal assistance to those in need. It's truly inspiring to witness the growth of our Legal Aid Cell, and I am privileged to be the Faculty Coordinator of SAMATVA. In continuation of our commitment towards positive change, we are delighted to announce the upcoming National Legal Aid Policy Drafting Competition. I am confident that this competition will serve as a platform for the brilliant legal minds who wish to contribute in the drafting of an effective legal framework for the concerned people. Let's make a positive difference in the lives of those who haven't got a lot!





RULEBOOK

DEFINITION CLAUSE

- 1. "Competition" shall refer to the National Policy Drafting Competition, 2024.
- 2. "IST" shall refer to the Indian Standard Time.
- 3. "Organizing Committee" shall refer to the Organizers of the given Policy Drafting Competition.
- 4. "Preliminary Round" shall refer to the Written Submission of the Policy Drafts made that will determine which teams shall advance to the Final Round.
- 5. "Rules" shall refer to the Official Rules of the Competition and shall apply to any supplementary Rules published by the Organizing Committee.
- 6. "**Team Code**" refers to the unique code allotted to a Team after the completion of their registration process.
- 7. "Written Submission" refers to the Submission of the Policy Draft in the Preliminary Round.

CONCEPT NOTE

The theme of this competition is 'Equal Justice, Accessible Paths: Legal Aid Policy Making Competition for Divyaangjan'.

Specially Abled or "Divyaangjan" are one of those vulnerable sections of society, who face myriads of challenges in their day to day life. There are legislations and government schemes in place to ensure their rights. However, legal guarantees have proven to be insufficient in ensuring equal access to justice for the specially abled at ground level. This competition seeks innovative policy solutions to bridge the gap and create an inclusive legal aid ecosystem for the specially abled community. The aim of this competition is to enhance creativity & practical problem solving aptitude of students, and to encourage them in creating innovative policies that can ensure effective & accessible legal aid to the specially abled in India.

PUBLIC POLICY





PROBLEM STATEMENT

Meera, an 18 year old girl with strong determination, made her way into the merit list of a premier law college of her state. Being a diligent and sincere student, Meera worked very hard to ace the entrance test of her college, and even attained a scholarship. This achievement, brought immense joy to not only Meera, but also to her parents. Meera still recalls vividly the day her results got out. Meera's father, who used to work as a daily wage labourer at construction sites, and her mother, who used to work as domestic help to financially support her husband, shed tears of joy on hearing the news. Patting their wonderful daughter's head, the couple was brimming with joy over the fact that their daughter would be the one breaking the shackles of poverty and societal stereotypes in their family. The parents of Meera stood proud, as their special daughter had achieved something very special.

Meera, was indeed special. She was deaf since birth. However, she never considered this to be a hindrance in her development. Her parents put her in a normal school, as they believed in equality. The support received by Meera from her parents gave her the confidence to pursue her dreams.

Fast forward to present, Meera has completed a semester in college. Meera is no more the jolly and confident person she used to be. Her classmates continuously ridicule her for being deaf. Even her seniors bully her. One day, she was going to college with her friend, Anand, who was also a special child, having lost both his legs in a car accident. It was then when a group of boys of his college passed sexually coloured remarks on her. When Anand confronted them, they slapped Anand, threw him out of his wheelchair and ran away.

This incident had a very disturbing effect on both Meera and Anand. They immediately went to the nearest police station, to report the incident. Meera tried narrating the incident to the police officers, but they could not comprehend her sign language. Meera asked for an interpreter, but the police officers told her that they did not have any. As a result, Anand narrated the entire story, and asked for a lawyer, to seek legal action against the perpetrators.





PROBLEM STATEMENT

The police arranged a lawyer empanelled under the Legal Aid Scheme of the government. The police and lawyer then interrogated Anand and Meera, in order to register a complaint. However, both of them felt that they were insensitive in their conversational approach. Both Anand and Meera got uncomfortable after the interrogation, and became indifferent towards the police and lawyer. The police officers and lawyer had no clue about this sudden behavioural change in the two. Frustrated by the entire discourse, Anand and Meera left the police station, disappointed in the efficacy of the justice delivery mechanism for the specially abled.

The story of Meera and Anand, though fictitious in nature, highlights some of the key challenges faced by specially abled people in seeking justice in India. As per Census 2011, the number of Persons with Disabilities in the country are 2.68 crore, which is 2.21 percent of the total population of the Country. The National Crimes Records Bureau (NCRB) prepares statistical report of crimes committed in India, but unfortunately, it does not have a disaggregated data highlighting the crime rate against specially abled. However, research by independent non-profit organisations reveal that crimes against specially abled have been on the rise. Although there are legislations such as The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 and government schemes in place to ensure legal aid & assistance for protecting the rights of 'Divyaangjan', there are loopholes present in the law, such as limited scope and inadequate remedies, which coupled with ethical considerations of societal stigma, insensitivity of people towards specially abled etc. further dilute the object of the legislations. There is also an absence of care-based approach in dealing with cases relating to abuse or exploitation of specially abled, which results in them feeling marginalised by the country's legal aid system. This, it is high time that we move from the idea of "legal aid," towards the idea of "inclusive legal aid."

The Central Government, being committed to the welfare of specially abled, has constituted a high level Committee, in order to invite policy recommendations to ensure better access to legal aid and justice for specially abled. You have been appointed as members of this committee to propose an appropriate policy.





LANGUAGE OF THE COMPETITION

The official language of the Competition shall be English. Therefore, all final rounds, including policy drafts, shall be in English.

MODE OF THE COMPETITION

The Competition would be held virtually, on the video conferencing platform, Zoom.

COMPOSITION OF TEAMS

- Each participating team shall consist of 2 members.
- Participants are not allowed to form inter-institutional teams for the Competition.
- A maximum of Four teams per law school are allowed to participate.

FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

The competition will have 2 stages:

- 1. Preliminary Round: This involves the submission of policy drafts within the stipulated timeline.
- 2. Final Round: It involves the presentation of top 5 policies selected by Evaluation Committee, before a panel comprising esteemed personalities.

ELIGIBILITY

Participation is open to all undergraduates, enrolled in a five-year or three-year law programme, of any recognized College/Institution/University.





ANONYMITY OF THE TEAMS

- Each participating team shall be provided with a Team Code post successful registration.
- All communications shall be made through this Team Code.
- The Written Submission shall not bear the logo, name, etc. of the Team, its members or the Institution/College/University represented by the Team. Violation of this rule shall result in disqualification of the team.

TERMS OF USE

All intellectual property rights associated with the policies drafted by participants in the National Policy Making Competition shall be reserved by the Organizing Committee. Participants will be deemed to have granted the Organizing Committee a non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free license to use, reproduce, modify, publish, and distribute the policy proposals for any purpose related to the competition, policy development, or public education. The Organizing Committee will attribute co-authorship to the participants in any such use.

AMENDMENTS TO RULES

The organizing committee reserves the rights to alter any rules or add any rules for the competition at any time before the commencement of the competition. In exercising such right, the Organising Committee shall provide reasonable notice to the participants.





IMPORTANT TIMELINES

16.03.2024
31.03.2024
06.04.2024
09.04.2024
14.04.2024
14.04.2024

PRIZES AND REWARDS

WINNER	RS. 5000/- + TROPHY
FIRST RUNNERS-UP	RS. 3000/-+ TROPHY

All participants shall be awarded E-Certificates of Participation. Furthermore, the 5 shortlisted teams for policy presentation round shall also be awarded Certificates of Merit.

Note: The trophies and certificates of winners and runners-up shall be sent by post to their respective institutions.





REGISTRATION PROCESS

- 1. All interested students shall be required to register for the competition in order to be eligible to participate in the same before **30.03.2024** (**11:59 PM**).
- 2. The registration fee is **Rs. 700/-(inclusive of GST)**. The same shall be non-refundable.
- 3. The link for registration form https://forms.gle/UftV9uYhscZ2w5QN7
- 4. The teams shall ensure that the details filled by them in the above form are correct, as they will be used for preparing certificates.
- 5. The payment of the registration fee must be made according to the payment guidelines provided in this brochure. For payment details, kindly refer to the Payment Guidelines section of the brochure.
- 6. The registration shall be deemed to be successful only when the participating team receives confirmation of mail along with their team code from the Organising Committee.
- 7. Any changes in the contact details of Team members must be notified to the Organising Committee through mail at the earliest.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- 1. The name of the document must be 'Team Code: Policy Draft Submission'. Furthermore, the subject of the submission mail should be 'Team Code- Written Submission | Policy Draft'
- 2. The submissions can be made in both .doc and .pdf format. The file should not be password protected.
- 3. All the submissions shall be made through mail at samatva.indore@nmims.edu before 05.04.2024 (11:59 p.m).
- 4. No submissions shall be entertained post the submission deadline.





FORMATTING GUIDELINES

- 1. The language of policy draft must be English and it shall not be indecent or defamatory. The language shall also not hurt any religious, socio-cultural or political sentiments of any person.
- 2. The Main Body must be in Times New Roman, 12 points, 1.5 line spacing, Justified, and 1-inch margins on all sides.
- 3. The relevant sources/references must be mentioned as footnotes.
- 4. The Footnotes must be in Times New Roman, 10 points, 1.0 line spacing, Left Aligned.
- 5. The Footnotes must strictly conform to the standards laid down in the Bluebook 21st Edition(July, 2020).
- 6.Cover Page: The Cover Page has to be designed page, mention the title of the Policy Draft, and other details (i.e., the Team Code).
- 7. The written submission shall not exceed ten pages (excluding the cover page).
- 8. The written submission shall contain the following:
- Cover Page with the Team Code in the upper right-hand corner and a suitable title for the Policy Draft.
- Introduction
- Target Groups
- Analysis of existing legislations and schemes, and the loopholes present in their implementation
- Judicial Approach
- Need for new policy
- Object of the policy
- Policy Recommendations.
- Conclusion





GENERAL GUIDELINES

- 1. Usage of AI Tools such as ChatGPT and Gemini is strictly prohibited.
- 2. Paraphrasing as well as verbatim usage of content without appropriate citation of authorities shall amount to plagiarism. A maximum of 7% plagiarism is allowed.
- 3. The organizers reserve the right to amend any condition or rule in the competition.
- 4. Non-adherence to any of the guidelines may lead to disqualification of the participants.
- 5. The decision of organising committee shall be binding in case of any dispute.

PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

- 1. Five policy submissions would be shortlisted by the Evaluation Committee, and those Participating Teams will qualify for the Presentation round of competition.
- 2. The Presentation Round of the competition shall consist of deliberations on the policy prepared by the participants.
- 3. Deliberations shall be made through a PowerPoint Presentation prepared by the Participants.
- 4. Each team shall be allotted 20 minutes for presentation. Out of the 20 minutes, 15 minutes shall be allotted for policy deliberation & 5 minutes shall be a question-answer session with the judges.





DRESS CODE

The Dress code for the Competition is Court Formals. Court formals shall include following attire.

- Males: White Shirt, black trousers, black coat & black tie.
- **Females**: White Shirt, black trousers, black coat & black tie or white kurta, black salwar, black coat

FORMAT OF PRESENTATION

- 1. Presentation shall include the following slides:
 - a. Title Slide
 - b. Policy issue
 - c. Current Landscape
 - d. Proposed Policy
 - e. Policy Benefits
 - f. Implementation Plan
 - g. Conclusion & Call to Action
- 2. The presentation **must not exceed 15 slides**.
- 3. Presentation is expected to be clear, concise and based on data, statistics, and visuals.





PAYMENT GUIDELINES

To complete your registration payment, kindly visit the provided link or scan the QR code below.



Payment Link

https://nmims.edu/payments/final/dataFrom.php

To complete the payment process kindly refer to the following guidelines:

1. Fill out the Payment Form:

- Amount: [Registration Amount 700]
- Student Number: Ten Digit Personal Mobile Number starting with Zero [OXXXXXXXXX]
- Name of Participant: [Your Full Name]
- Program Name: NPMC
- Purpose of Payment: EVENT REGISTRATION (Select from dropdown)
- Campus: INDORE
- Personal Contact Number: [Your Contact Number]
- Email Address: [<u>samatva.indore@nmims.edu</u>]
- Other Required Details

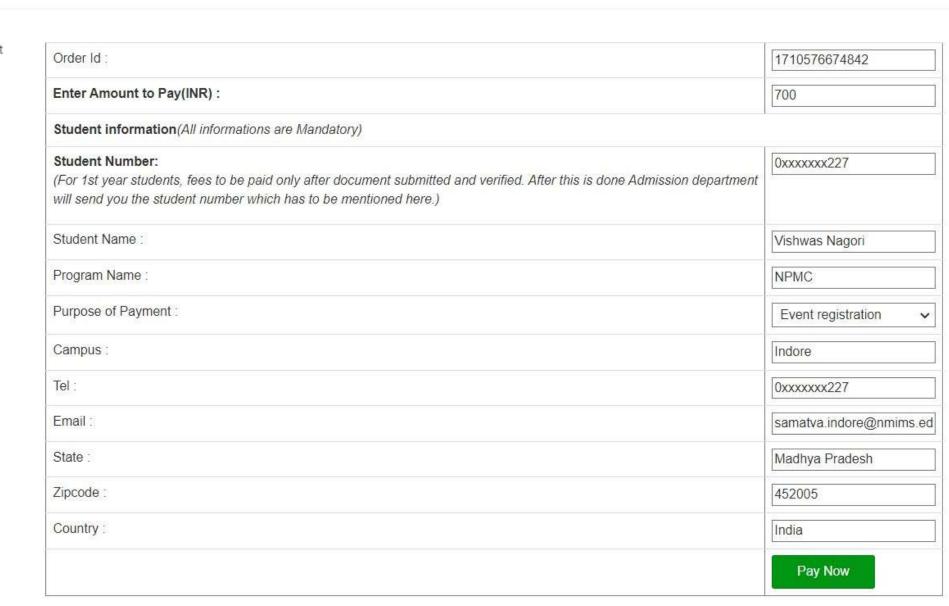
2. Proceed to Payment:

After filling in all the required details, click on "Pay Now." You will be redirected to a new window for payment processing.



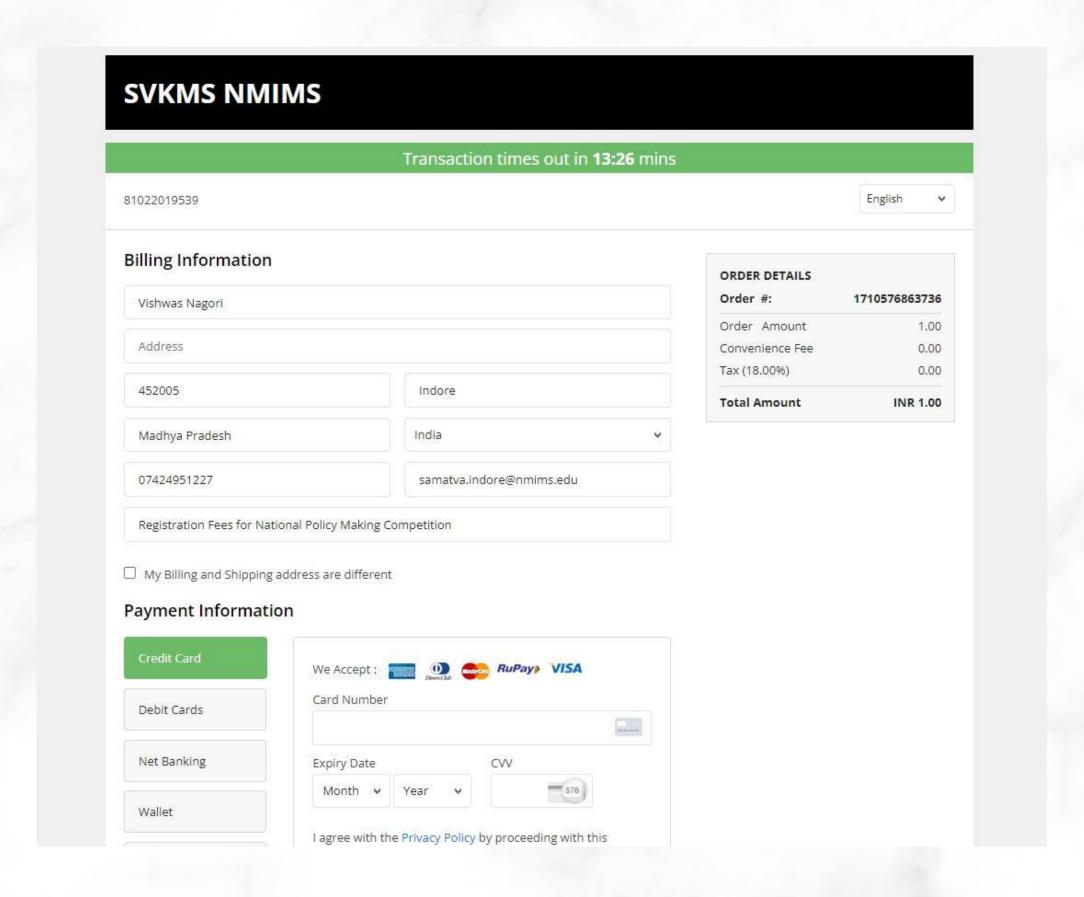






3. Complete Payment Information:

- In the new window, please re-check the details.
- Ensure to fill the following Email address [samatva.indore@nmims.edu] in all boxes where email id is required. Do not fill your personal e-mail id.
- Include a note: "REGISTRATION FEE FOR NATIONAL POLICY MAKING COMPETITION"
- Choose your preferred payment mode: UPI, Card, or Other.







MARKING CRITERIA

FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

S.No.	PARTICULARS	MARKS (out of 100)
1	Drafting	15
2	Originality and Innovation	10
3	Research	20
4	Quality of the arguments	20
5	Practical Applicability of the solutions	20
6	Overall Articulations	15





MARKING CRITERIA

FOR PRESENTATIONS

S.No.	ASPECTS TO BE SCRUTINIZED	MARKS (out of 100)
1	Understanding of the Issue	25
2	Policy Framework	30
3	Implementation Strategy	25
4	Sustainability	10
5	Presentation & Communication Skills	10





PICTURE GALLERY











GLIMPSES

FROM THE DIARIES OF SAMATVA



LEGAL AWARENESS SESSIONS CONDUCTED BY SAMATVA IN SCHOOLS OF INDORE ON SOCIO-LEGAL TOPICS SUCH AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, CHILD MARRIAGE, SEXUAL ABUSE ETC. HAVE SENSITIZED MORE THAN 1100 STUDENTS







STREET VENDORS LEGAL AID & AWARENESS PROGRAMME OF SAMATVA HAS HELPED MORE THAN 180 STREET VENDORS OF INDORE IN AVAILING BENEFITS OF GOVT. SCHEMES SUCH AS AADHAR, PAN, AYUSHMAN, SAMAGRA, MADHYA PRADESH KAMGAR YOJNA.





GLIMPSES

FROM THE DIARIES OF SAMATVA







PRISON AID CLINICS ARE SET UP BY SAMATVA AT DISTRICT JAIL & CENTRAL JAIL IN INDORE, IN COLLABORATION WITH JAIL AUTHORITIES AND DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (DLSA), TO ASSIST THE LEGAL AID DEFENCE COUNSELS (LADC), IN HANDLING CASES, AND SPREADING AWARENESS AMONGST THE INMATES REGARDING LEGAL AID.







LEGAL AID CAMPS & LOK ADALAT AWARENESS DRIVES ORGANISED BY SAMATVA IN COLLABORATION WITH DISTRICT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (DLSA), HAVE PROVEN TO BE A GREAT MEDIUM TO SENSITISE PUBLIC ON DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISMS, AND PROVIDING THEM APPROPRIATE LEGAL ADVICE, FREE OF COST.







SAMATVA, IN ITS COLLABORATIONS WITH NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS WORKING FOR RIGHTS OF DEAF, SPECIALLY ABLED, CHILDREN, WOMEN ETC. WORKS FOR MAKING LEGAL AID ACCESSIBLE TO VULNERABLE GROUPS & PROMOTE INCLUSIVE LEGAL AID.





ORGANIZING BOARD

CHIEF PATRONS

DR. DURGAMBINI PATEL Dean Kirit P. Mehta School of Law DR. ANSHUMAN JASWAL **Director NMIMS, Indore Campus**

CHAIRPERSON

DR. ASHUTOSH HAJELA Associate Dean, School of Law, NMIMS, Indore

FACULTY CO-ORDINATORS

MR. AMAN DEEP SINGH **Assistant Professor** School of Law, NMIMS, Indore

MS. SUNISHTHA MOGHE **Assistant Professor** School of Law, NMIMS, Indore

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