

REPORT ON 1st INTRA MEDIATION COMPETITION

BY ADRC, SLS NAGPUR

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In continuation to its commitment to provide the students with opportunities the Alternative Dispute Resolution Cell (ADRC) of SLS-Nagpur organized its first ever Intra Mediation Competition on 05th March, 2022, for all the batches of the institution whereby the students participating were exposed to the practicality of Mediation. It was organised with an endeavour to inculcate and foster the skills along with the proficiency in relation to the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution. Through this competition the ADRC aimed at selecting the best candidates amongst the participants who shall be representing Symbiosis Law School, Nagpur in further External Alternative Dispute Resolution Competitions organised by various law schools across the nation.

Over the years, mediation has gained immense importance as an alternative dispute mechanism. And because of its merits over litigation, today this format of alternative dispute has become an indispensable skill that every lawyer should inculcate. And the ADRC team owe this opportunity of being able to organise this successful event to the director of SLS Nagpur, **Dr. Sukhvinder Singh Dari** who has been guiding the students on every aspect and giving them exposure to outshine in all fields of their respective careers.

Even though the competition was scheduled for a day i.e. 05th March, 2022, the work that went behind the same was worth over two months. Considering the format of the competition to be online, the line of work began by aligning the obvious procedural ground work through the help and guidance of **Dr. Shilpa Sharma**, faculty in-charge, the ADRC. Her support and faith upon the entire team has played a valuable role in letting the team out shine themselves in their

respective work. Dr. Shilpa Sharma had been thoroughly supervising the ADRC team and ensuring that the members are able to hone excellent skills of multi-tasking and managing such events on such scale. It is very evident that the members of the ADRC are spell bound and eternally grateful to her for believing them throughout.

From the ADRC team, opportunity of conducting the very first event of the cell were given to **Ms. Pratikshya Priyadarshini & Ms. Mahak Agarwal**, third yr. law students of the institute. They were at the position of student in-charges for this event following which their work began by laying the foundation for proper execution of all the work and brainstorming over the timeline for the event on an intricate level. It led them to analysing the work that would go for this event so that it would go well-managed by the entire team members on the very day of the competition. After the finalisation of the initial work, the entire ADRC team, which formed the Organising Committee, started to execute the work according to what had been brainstormed.

It is certain that for every competition the most important aspect is to make students aware about the intricate facet of format of the competition and understanding the importance of this notion, the ADRC team thought it important to make the students of SLS Nagpur be aware about the theoretical and relevant aspect of Mediation. Thereby the team organised a national webinar on "*Mediation and its relevance in today's time*" on 29th January, 2022 whereby an eminent advocate and arbitrator, **Mr. Ananya Pratap Singh** was being called upon. Following which the registration for the first Intra Mediation Competition was opened for the students of all the batches of SLS Nagpur. During the ongoing registration process, considering the novelty for such a format of competition, the team went ahead to organise another student briefing session on practical aspects of Mediation Competition and its participation where the ADRC's advisory board's members **Adv. Vivek Joshi**, Associate, PSL Chambers & **Mr. Rohan Gulati**, final year law student from SLS Hyderabad addressed the students. Following this, the Cell got the registrations closed for both the volunteers and participants and the ADRC received an overwhelming response of over 90 teams as participation for the competition.

Thereafter for bolstering the students for the competition and ensuring that the students are braced up with the practical aspects of the competition, the ADRC team organized another training session for all the students on "*How to participate in Mediation Competition*" on 26th February 2022 whereby **Mr. Pitambar Yadav**, was being called upon to address the students.

Following the training session by Mr. Pitamber Yadav, on 27th February 2022, the entire ADRC team conducted a Mock Drill where all the participants were shown an exact simulation of how a mediation competition works and this entire drill was an immense success and was conducted and moderated entirely by the ADRC team members.

The next according to the timeline framed was the Volunteers' briefing sessions which were yet again taken by ADRC team where the registered volunteers were briefed about their work in detail and were told as to what is expected from them on the day of competition. The sessions also dealt with the allotment of their roles which was bifurcated on the basis of already decided roles being the Timekeeper, Student Coordinator and Supervisor as per each conference rooms.

A day prior to competition day, along with numbers of dry runs that were conducted by the ADRC team with all the Volunteers to ensure smooth functioning of each conference rooms, an extensive Judges' Briefing Session was held which was conducted and moderated by the student in-charges of this event. In this session, the assessors for each conference rooms were briefed about the format of the competition and about how things will run on the very day of competition.

Now on the day of the Competition, i.e. on 05th March, 2022, the first mediation session was scheduled at 10 AM for every conference rooms, prior to which the assessors were asked to join their respective conference rooms and each conference room's volunteers were duly briefed upon by the ADRC team. There were total of **ten conference rooms** and each conference room had total of four mediation rounds that were scheduled. The mediating pairs received their respective set of confidential information about twenty minutes prior to the time slot allotted to them. The management of sharing the confidential information was duly taken care by the assigned ADRC's team members.

Every session ended with the feedback being shared by the assessors in their conference rooms and the response to the same by the participants were well received. No wonder, the valuable feedback given by the assessors was helpful in rectifying their mistakes and for the preparation of the External Competitions.

Over all every session and rounds went smooth and were managed very responsibly both by the volunteers and OC members and with the constant help and support from the technical support of SLS Nagpur, Mr. Rameshwar Sir, the competition ended on a fine note.

PICTURES FROM THE DAY OF COMPETITION



Screenshot from Conference Room no.1



Screenshot from Conference Room No. 2



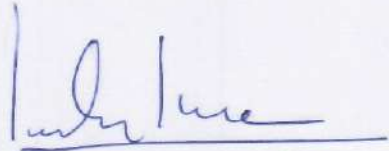
Screenshot from Conference Room No. 6



Screenshot from Conference Room No. 7

Sample copy of the certificate given to the participants, Volunteers and Merit holders.




Director
Symbiosis Law School,
Nagpur