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4th VGU R.K. RASTOGI MEMORIAL NEGOTIATION COMPETITION



 24th – 25th October, 2026

 VGU Campus

VGU in association with

Shri Rajdeepak Rastogi,
Sr Advocate and Former Additional
Solicitor General of India

 **Prizes Worth 1,00,000**



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ABOUT LATE SHRI R.K. RASTOGI



Shri Radha Krishna Rastogi was born in 1909 and became, in time, one of the defining figures of the Rajasthan Bar. He served as the first Member of the Legislative Assembly from Jaipur. He was appointed Advocate General by the erstwhile Rajpramukh of Rajasthan, and was appointed to that office again in 1978. He was a founding member of the Rajasthan High Court Bar Association, an elected member of the Bar Council of Rajasthan, and a member of the Bar Council of India. He also sat as a Judge of the then Election Tribunal.

Those who appeared against him called him a master of facts. Justice V.S. Dave gave him several pages in his biography. He was known for the trouble he took over his juniors, one of whom, Mr. Justice D.P. Gupta, went on to become Chief Justice of the High Court of Rajasthan. He is one of only three advocates of Rajasthan to find mention and a place in the Rajasthan High Court Museum at Jaipur, and the Bar Council of Rajasthan continues to hold the R.K. Rastogi Memorial Law Lecture in his honour.

A lawyer remembered for mastery of facts and for the care he gave to those learning the work is a fitting name for a competition about listening closely and negotiating well.

ABOUT SHRI RAJDEEPAK RASTOGI



The competition is organised in collaboration with Shri Rajdeepak Rastogi, Senior Advocate and Former Additional Solicitor General of India, who has supported it from its first edition and serves as Patron of the event. His association has given the competition its continuity.

ABOUT DEPARTMENT OF LAW

Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur

At the Department of Law, **Vivekananda Global University**, Jaipur our focus is to develop and advance interdisciplinary legal education and scholarship. We challenge normative pedagogy and believe in establishing and implementing new approaches to teaching and learning, an approach that carried the University to NAAC A+ accreditation within a decade of its inception.

Our programmes are approved by the Bar Council of India. The Faculty is ranked 2nd in Rajasthan and 29th in India for Law in the Outlook Best College Rankings, and 66th in India by India Today. In the GU World Subject Rankings 2026 the University placed 25th in India and 628th in the world for Law and Humanities.

As a research-oriented institute we encourage unrestricted academic imagination, in the belief that thinking outside the box leads to original and impactful work. We incubate research across a wide range of ideas, including intellectual property, constitutional law and criminal law, and that research has been recognised on numerous occasions.

Teaching here does not stop at the classroom. The Department runs moot court competitions, trial advocacy and ADR training, a legal aid clinic and community outreach, and it hosts the VGU Ranka Moot Court Competition, which in 2026 reached its fifth edition and drew 60+ teams from law schools across the country.

Since our inception in 2013 our students have gone on to academia, legal practice, the administrative services and entrepreneurship. That is a testament to their drive and intellect, and to our own sincerity and diligence. We value diversity of thought, opinion and expression, and we believe educational institutions should be fair and inclusive spaces that help everyone reach their potential.



ABOUT VIVEKANANDA GLOBAL UNIVERSITY, JAIPUR

Vivekananda Global University is a multidisciplinary State Private University established under Act 11 of 2012 of the Government of Rajasthan and covered under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956. It is accredited NAAC A+ and teaches across fourteen faculties, at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level, to students drawn from across the Indian subcontinent and some twenty countries.

In the QS Asia University Rankings 2026 the University was placed 666 th in Asia, 200th in South Asia and 95 th in India, entering the top hundred Indian universities for the first time. It was ranked in the 151–200 band of the NIRF India Rankings 2025. The WEEK placed it 8 th in the North Zone and 14 th in India, and Outlook 11 th among private universities. It has also been recognised by the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of MSME, NITI Aayog, SIDBI, National Human Rights Commission, Competition Commission of India, Indian Council for Social Science Research, the Department of Science and Technology, and ASSOCHAM.

Beyond the rankings, the University has built an unusually active research and innovation culture for an institution of its age, with an on-campus incubator, hundreds of patents filed, and partnerships including Rajasthan's first Generative AI Campus with Google Cloud.

The campus at Jagatpura, Jaipur, hosts the competition.



ABOUT THE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CELL

The ADR Cell of the Department of Law exists on a simple premise: most disputes are not resolved by judgment. They are settled, mediated, arbitrated, or negotiated away, often by lawyers who were never taught how. The Cell is the Department's answer to that gap.

It runs the training, workshops and simulation exercises through which our students learn to negotiate, mediate and arbitrate, and it prepares and sends teams to ADR competitions across the country. Its flagship undertaking is this competition, which the Cell has organised every year since 2023 and which now brings teams from law schools across India to Jaipur each year.

What the Cell teaches is not a softer version of advocacy. It is a different discipline, with its own rigour, and it asks students to do the harder thing: to understand what the other side actually needs, and to build something both sides can sign.



ABOUT THE COMPETITION

The competition is held in memory of Late Shri R.K. Rastogi. It gives law students from across the country a place to practise and improve their negotiation skills, and it is built to simulate the way legal negotiations actually run, which makes it particularly useful for students who intend to work in dispute resolution.

There is no memorial to write and nothing to submit in advance. Teams of two appear as client and counsel, receive facts known to both sides and instructions known only to their own, and have to do the work in the room, under time, in front of judges who will afterwards ask them why they moved when they did. Participants exchange the roles of client and counsel between rounds, so that each of them takes a turn at both.

Since 2023 the competition has grown into one of the larger negotiation events in the country, and it has drawn to Jaipur a remarkable body of judges and speakers. Successive editions have been graced by Learned Judges of the Supreme Court of India: Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Mithal, Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.K. Maheshwari, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Augustine George Masih, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Rastogi and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dinesh Maheshwari.

From the High Court of Rajasthan we have hosted Learned Chief Justices and Judges: Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.M. Shrivastava, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma, Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.K. Lohra, Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.K. Jain, Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.K. Vyas, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Goverdhan Bardhar, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Kumar Gaur, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Bhandari, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudesh Bansal, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anoop Kumar Dhand, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sameer Jain, and Professor (Dr.) S. Sivakumar, Senior Professor at the Indian Law Institute and former Member of the Law Commission of India.

Alongside them, senior advocates and practitioners have sat as judges in the negotiation rounds themselves, which is where most participants say they learn the most.



GLIMPSES OF PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THE COMPETITION



प्रधान मंत्री
Prime Minister

MESSAGE

It is a pleasure to learn about the organisation of 'R.K. Rastogi Memorial National Negotiation Competition' by Shri Rajdeepak Rastogi at Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur. Greetings and best wishes for this commendable initiative in the memory of Late Shri Radha Krishna Rastogi Ji.

Justice has been a central element of our societal and cultural framework for centuries. Judicial mechanisms play a key role in the establishment of an inclusive and equitable society.

With a longstanding tradition of resolving outstanding issues through dialogue in India, negotiation and mediation are embedded as key processes in delivery of justice. Be it at the local, national or global level, negotiation remains an integral part of dispensation of justice.

Alternative dispute resolution mechanisms offer a faster and cost-effective way for resolution of cases. Negotiation can bring about a significant reduction in the burden in terms of caseloads and pendency. Ease of Justice is one of our topmost priorities in the nation's development journey and negotiation mechanisms play an important role in ensuring this.

A nation's progress gets greater momentum through the empowerment of youth. May this Negotiation Competition attract the participation of youth in large numbers so that they can benefit from this learning experience. I am sure that the legal luminaries present on the occasion will share their knowledge and practical experiences of negotiation with law students and young lawyers.

Powered by the collective resolve of 140 crore Indians, the period till 2047 is an opportunity to realize the vision of building a just, developed and self-reliant India.

Best wishes to R.K. Rastogi Memorial and Vivekananda Global University for making the Competition a huge success.

Narendra Modi
(Narendra Modi)

New Delhi
कार्तिक 10, शक संवत् 1945
01st November, 2023



NEGOTIATION PROBLEM

One problem, four rounds.

The 4th edition moves to a single negotiation problem that runs through the entire Competition. All teams work with one common fact matrix from the Preliminary Rounds to the Final. As the Competition progresses, fresh Confidential Information and further developments in the same dispute are released round by round, so the negotiation deepens.

This lets teams live with one client and one set of realities across two days, much closer to how a real negotiation unfolds.

Please note that the outcome of a negotiation in one round has no bearing on any subsequent round. Fresh confidential information and new developments will be released for each round, and teams are expected to approach every round as a fresh negotiation.



STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

I. The Family

Dr. Ira Malhotra and Mr. Vedant Rao were married at Suryagarh, in the Union of Bharatania, in 2013. Ira is a computer scientist. Vedant trained as a child psychologist and practised at a paediatric hospital until 2019. In 2016 the couple incorporated Paalan Labs Pvt. Ltd. and launched Sahaj, an application that helps parents track a child's speech, motor and emotional development. Ira is Chief Executive Officer. Vedant is Chief Science Officer and gave up clinical practice in 2019 to take over most of the caregiving at home.

Their daughter, Anaya, was born in March 2017. She turned nine in March 2026. The marriage broke down in 2025. Ira petitioned for divorce in January 2026. Vedant moved out of the matrimonial flat in September 2025 and rents a flat four kilometres away. Since then Anaya has lived with Vedant from Monday to Friday and with Ira from Friday evening to Sunday evening.

Vedant does the school runs, holds the school and medical files, and attends appointments.

There is no interim order. The Family Court at Suryagarh recorded only that the existing arrangement should continue until the parties report back, without expressing any view on its merits. Either parent remains free to resile from it. Anaya has not been separately represented.

The law of Bharatania casts a duty on the Family Court to endeavour, in the first instance, to assist and persuade the parties to arrive at a settlement, and permits the Court to adjourn the proceedings and to adopt whatever procedure it thinks fit for that purpose. Acting under that power, the Family Court has adjourned the petition and directed the parties to confer directly through counsel and to file a joint report on the outcome. That meeting is convened for 26 March 2026.

Anything the parties agree must be reduced to writing and signed before the Court will record it and pass a decree in its terms. The Court will not do so unless it is satisfied that the terms are lawful, that they have been accepted voluntarily, and that what is proposed for Anaya serves her welfare.

II. The Anaya Corpus

Between 2017 and 2024 the couple recorded approximately 11,000 hours of audio and video of Anaya at home: babbling, tantrums, first words, mealtimes, bedtime, and structured play sessions designed by Vedant. Most of the volume came from an always-on nursery device that recorded continuously and was reviewed and clipped afterwards. Within the company the material is known as the Anaya Corpus.



It is the longest continuous record of a single child the company holds, and the app's developmental milestones – which Sahaj sells to parents, to paediatricians and to two State education departments were built from it. The company's engineers accept that most of what Sahaj knows about early childhood, it learned from Anaya. Rebuilding the app without her would be expensive and would take the better part of a year.

Both parents gave their consent to the recording in 2017. In November 2025 Vedant withdrew his, by email.

Sahaj has a friendly guide inside the app called Nani. Nani's voice was built from recordings of Anaya at five years old, and Nani's face was drawn to look like her. It is the part of the app children like best.

III. The Sale

On 1 March 2026, Kestrel Health Group, a digital health company headquartered in Singapore, offered INR 640 crores for Paalan Labs. The offer lapses on 15 April 2026. Ira and Vedant are the two largest shareholders. Neither of them can sell the company without the other agreeing.

Kestrel has one condition. Everything the app learned from must be backed by consent that is written down and still valid. The Anaya Corpus is the only thing that is not.

Teams are not asked to negotiate the price, the shares or the money. The sale matters only because it is the reason the question about the recordings cannot be left open.

IV. Law and Publicity

The law of Bharatania says a child's personal information may not be used without a parent's consent. It makes room for things done for a child's health, education or wellbeing — which is how Sahaj itself is allowed to operate — but only where the consent behind it is good. What the law does not say is what happens when two parents disagree: whose consent counts, or whether one parent can withdraw it on their own. No court has decided the point.

The regulator has not started an inquiry into Paalan Labs. It has written to three similar companies in the past year.

A technology publication, The Circuit, has approached the company's communications head with questions about, in its words, the child whose life trained Sahaj. No story has been published.

V. The Co-Parent Coordinator

Since January 2025 Ira and Vedant have used a feature of their own app, the Co-Parent Coordinator, to arrange handovers, split expenses and message each other. It records the time of every exchange, gives each parent a cooperation score, marks any message it reads as hostile, and produces a report each month.



Fourteen months of these records now exist. Vedant scores 82. Ira scores 61, mostly because she missed or moved handovers during a busy period at work. Neither parent has agreed that the records may be used in the divorce. Neither has agreed that they may not.

VI. Issues for Negotiation

There are three. Teams are not required to resolve all of them, and should prioritise according to their client's instructions.

1. Where Anaya lives, and with whom

- Where should she live, how should the time be divided, and who decides about her school and her health?
- Should either parent be allowed to take her abroad to live? If so, how much warning must the other get, and what protection should there be?
- She is nine. How much should what she wants count, and how should anyone find out what that is?

2. The recordings, and Nani

- Should the recordings be destroyed, kept as they are, kept only in a form where Anaya cannot be identified, or handed to someone neutral to hold? And by when?
- Should somebody independent check that whatever is agreed actually happens? How often, and who gets to see what they find?
- Should Nani's voice and face be retired, replaced, or paid for?
- Should Anaya herself get the right to be told, to object, and to have the recordings destroyed – and from what age?

3. The app the parents use, and its records

- Should they keep using the Co-Parent Coordinator? Should it go on scoring them and flagging their messages?
- What happens to the fourteen months of records it has already collected – kept, destroyed, or sealed?
- Should either parent be allowed to use those records in court, or anywhere else? And what happens if they do it anyway?



VII. The Task

Teams appear for their respective party at the settlement meeting directed by the Family Court. There is no mediator and no neutral third party. The two sides confer directly, and what they produce goes to the Court as a joint report.

They are to attempt terms capable of being written down, signed by the parties, and recorded by the Court. Terms too vague to be written down are not terms.

Afterwards the judges will ask each team to explain what it was trying to achieve. That discussion is scored. The session is without prejudice. Nothing said in it may be relied on in the proceedings unless it is recorded in agreed terms. Teams may not introduce facts of their own. Where a fact is not supplied, teams may reason from what is given, but may not invent an answer that happens to favour their client.



RULES & REGULATIONS

Structure of the Competition

- The Competition is built around a single negotiation problem that applies to every round.
- There will be two preliminary rounds of 60 minutes each.
- The four highest scoring teams representing Dr. Ira Malhotra and the four highest scoring teams representing Mr. Vedant Rao will advance to the Quarter-Final Rounds, making eight teams in all. Each Quarter-Final Round will run for 60 minutes.
- The two highest scoring teams representing Dr. Ira Malhotra and the two highest scoring teams representing Mr. Vedant Rao will advance to the Semi-Final Rounds, making four teams in all. Each Semi-Final Round will run for 90 minutes.
- The highest scoring team representing Dr. Ira Malhotra and the highest scoring team representing Mr. Vedant Rao will advance to the Final Round. Each Final Round will run for 90 minutes.

General Information

Registration Fee

A registration fee of INR 6,000 per team including accommodation for three nights (23, 24, and 25 October) will be charged, to be paid in advance at the time of registration itself, to be deposited online. All meals will be covered at the VGU Campus by the organisers after the physical registration and till the valedictory ceremony.

A registration fee of INR 4,000 per team excluding accommodation will be charged, to be paid in advance at the time of registration itself, to be deposited online.

Registration and Payment Link

<https://vgu.ac.in/vgu-rk-rastogi-memorial-negotiation-competetion>



Register Here



Pay Here



Travel Expenses and Accommodation

Each participant will be responsible for his or her own travel expenses. VGU Jaipur can provide accommodation to the participants on the days of the competition, charges for which are included in the registration fee.

Accommodation for participating teams will be arranged at a property located a short distance from the University. Transport between the accommodation and the VGU Campus will be arranged and borne by the organisers for the duration of the Competition.

Accommodation will be available from 12:00 PM on 23rd October, 2026 until 12:00 PM on 26th October, 2026.

Teams requiring accommodation prior to the above period must inform the organisers in advance and pay an additional sum of INR 1,500 per day along with the registration fee.

Teams wishing to extend their stay beyond 12:00 PM on 26th October, 2026 may arrange the same directly at the reception of the property, at their own cost and responsibility.

Team Composition and Eligibility Criteria

Each team shall comprise of two (2) members only.

The competition is open for bonafide students pursuing 3 Year Law Programme or Five Year Law Programme, duly recognized and affiliated by Bar Council of India.

General Rules

The participating students, acting as client and counsel, will negotiate a legal simulation. The simulation, which is based on real life examples, comprises:

1. A common set of facts known to all participants.
2. Confidential information known only to the participants representing a particular side.



RULES & REGULATIONS

Negotiation Simulation

- The Negotiation Simulation consists of General Information available to all parties and Confidential Information issued separately to each party.
- A single problem governs the whole Competition. All Participating Teams will receive the General Information in the Brochure.
- The Participating Teams will be assigned the party that they will represent in the Competition at the Draw of Lots on 23rd October, 2026.
- Each team will receive Confidential Information pertaining to the interests of the party it represents in the Competition, along with the General Information.
- Confidential Information for the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final Round, together with any further factual developments in the same dispute, will be provided after the results of the Preliminary Rounds have been announced.
- The Participating Teams will not disclose the Confidential Information to anyone else at any time between the receipt of this information and the conclusion of the Competition, save that disclosure by the Participating Teams during a Negotiation Session, to the extent they consider necessary or appropriate, is permitted.

Clarifications to the Negotiation Simulation

Every effort will be made to ensure that the Negotiation Simulation is clear; however, if a Participating Team has any questions, clarifications or interpretations in relation to the Negotiation Simulation then these can be submitted to the Organizers latest by 10 days prior to the competition, that is, by 14th October 2026.

Interpretation of the Negotiation Simulation

- Whilst the Participating Teams are not allowed to create new facts, the Negotiation Simulation is subject to reasonable interpretation and the Participating Teams may draw reasonable conclusions from it. Whether a Participating Team's interpretation is reasonable is a matter entirely within the discretion of the Judges.
- Failure to stay within a reasonable interpretation of the Negotiation Simulation may result in a penalty in accordance with the Competition Rules. In case of any doubt in the understanding or interpretation of any matter concerning the Competition, the decision of the Organizers will be final and binding.



RULES & REGULATIONS

Roles and Rounds

- In a Negotiation Session, each Participating Team will be represented by not more than two participants, with one taking the role of 'Counsel' and the other taking the role of 'Client'.
- A team will represent the same party throughout the Competition. Sides are allotted at the Draw of Lots.
- Participants are mandated to exchange the roles of Client and Counsel between the two Preliminary Rounds. The Best Negotiator Title will be adjudged accordingly.

Time Limits

Preliminary & Quarter-Final Rounds

Each Negotiation Session will consist of 60 minutes, allocated as follows:

1. 6 minutes for opening the negotiation session, being 3 minutes per Participating Team.
2. 40 minutes for the actual negotiation.
3. 6 minutes for closing the negotiation session, being 3 minutes per Participating Team.
4. 8 minutes for questions from the Judges, being 4 minutes per Participating Team.

Semi-Finals and Final Round

Each Negotiation Session will consist of 90 minutes, allocated as follows:

1. 8 minutes for opening the negotiation session, being 4 minutes per Participating Team.
2. 60 minutes for the actual negotiation.
3. 8 minutes for opening the negotiation session, being 4 minutes per Participating Team.
4. 14 minutes for questions from the Judges, being 7 minutes per Participating Team.

The Judges will have complete discretion to:

1. alter the restriction on time limits set out above; and
2. impose a Penalty of 1 mark for every 30 seconds exceeded beyond the time limits for the actual negotiation prescribed herein.

Any change will be notified to the Participating Teams in advance to ensure that no Participating Team has any unfair advantage or is otherwise prejudiced in relation to its participation in any of the Competition Rounds.

Anonymity

Participating Teams must not disclose the names of their coach or institution to the Judges during the Negotiation Session.



RULES & REGULATIONS

Judges

General

Alternative Dispute Resolution Cell, Department of Law, VGU will be responsible for selecting the Judges for the Competition and for allocating them to a Negotiation Session in each round of the Competition. Every attempt will be made for the Participating Teams to face different Judges in each round; however due to limited availabilities, this might not always be possible.

Judging Criteria

The Judges will evaluate and score the performance of the Participating Teams according to the judging criteria (the “Judging Criteria”) which will include the following:

- **Introduction and identification of issues**

Each Participating Team must provide an accurate assessment of the fact situation and identify the key issues for each of the parties at the beginning of the Negotiation Session. The introduction can be used to set the agenda or structure for the Negotiation Session.

- **Team work**

The Negotiation Session should ideally have equal contribution by the four participants. Counsels are expected to focus on the legal and technical issues in the negotiation and the Clients are expected to focus on the commercial aspects and take final decisions on the issues.

- **Building relations with the other party**

Whilst teams should stick to their respective interests, they should also recognize and appreciate the position and interests of the other party. Participants should aim to develop a positive environment for communication.

- **Generation of creative legal solutions**

Teams are encouraged to think out of the box and come up with creative legal solutions.

- **Analysis of interests and answering questions during the feedback session**

Teams should be:

1. in a position to identify their main interests for the Negotiation Session; and
2. able to explain the strategies adopted, solutions suggested and rationale thereof to the Judges at the end of the Round.



Questioning by Judges

Once the time allotted for the actual negotiation has ended, the Judges may ask questions from each team relating to their negotiation strategy and their actions during the Negotiation Session. During this part of the session, the Judges will not reveal to any Participating Team the results of their individual determinations, the Participating Teams' scores or the contents of the Confidential Information.

Number of Judges in each round

There will be two Judges for each Preliminary Round, three Judges for the Semi-Finals and five Judges for the Final Round. The Organizers will use their reasonable efforts to ensure that all teams will be judged by the same number of Judges within each round.

Best interests and settlement

The Participating Teams are encouraged to act in the best interests of the party they represent during a Negotiation Simulation. It is not necessary that the Participating Teams reach a settlement during the Negotiation Session.



RULES & REGULATIONS

Ranking and Progression

Ranking

Each judge will mark the team according to the Judging Criteria outlined in the Brochure.

- The Judges will be informed that they cannot mark both teams with an equal score and must necessarily give higher marks to one of the two teams.
- At the conclusion of the Preliminary Rounds, Participating Teams will be ranked separately within each party group, that is, teams representing Dr. Ira Malhotra will be ranked against one another and teams representing Mr. Vedant Rao will be ranked against one another. Ranking within each group will be determined in the following order of priority:

1. the total number of overall points scored across both Preliminary Rounds;
2. in case of a tie, the total number of Score Sheets designating that team as the "Win";
3. in case the tie persists, the cumulative point differential across both Negotiation Sessions, being the sum of the margins by which the team won or lost on each Score Sheet, with the team having the smaller cumulative differential ranked higher;
4. in case the tie still persists, the higher single round score obtained by the team in either Preliminary Round.

Progression

- The four highest ranked teams from each party group, being eight teams in all, will advance to the Quarter-Final Rounds. Each Quarter-Final Round will run for 60 minutes.
- Fixtures for the Quarter-Final Rounds will be determined on the basis of high-low power matchups, so that the highest ranked qualifying team of one party group is paired with the lowest ranked qualifying team of the other, and so on. By way of illustration, the team ranked first among those representing Dr. Ira Malhotra will face the team ranked fourth among those representing Mr. Vedant Rao, the team ranked second will face the team ranked third, and so on.
- Fixtures for the Semi-Final Rounds will be determined on the basis of high-low power matchups, so that the highest ranked qualifying team of one party group is paired with the lowest ranked qualifying team of the other, and so on. By way of illustration, the team ranked first among those representing Dr. Ira Malhotra will face the team ranked second among those representing Mr. Vedant Rao, and so on.
- Fixtures for the Final Rounds will be determined on the basis of high-high power matchups, so that the highest ranked qualifying team of one party group is paired with the highest ranked qualifying team of the other. By way of illustration, the team ranked first among those representing Dr. Ira Malhotra will face the team ranked first among those representing Mr. Vedant Rao.



AWARDS

Categories

The Competition will involve the following:

Winner's Trophy

To be awarded to the Participating Team declared as the winner of the Final Round of the Competition, which will include a cash prize of INR 50,000.

Runner-up Trophy

To be awarded to the Participating Team coming in second in the Final Round of the Competition, which will include a cash prize of INR 30,000.

Best Negotiator Award

To be awarded to the individual who has received the highest cumulative score in the Preliminary Rounds, which will include a cash prize of INR 10,000.

Spirit of the Competition Award

Awarded to the team that best demonstrates professionalism, respect, communication, and sportsmanship in the Preliminary Rounds. Each team is scored by its judges (1 to 5 points per round), and the team with the highest total wins. In case of a tie, the highest single-round score prevails; if still tied, judges decide. It will include a certificate and a cash prize of INR 10,000.

Certificate of Participation

To be awarded to each member of all Participating Teams.

Awards ceremony

All Participating Teams shall attend the awards ceremony, which will be held on the last day of the Competition. No competition awards, including Certificates of Participation, shall be awarded in absentia.



SCHEDULE

DAY 1

(23rd OCTOBER, 2026)

Arrival of Teams at VGU Campus	03:00 PM
High Tea	04:00 PM - 05:00 PM
Registration, briefing of teams for Preliminary Rounds, and Draw of Lots	05:00 PM - 06:30 PM
Dinner	07:00 PM - 08:30 PM

DAY 2

(24th OCTOBER, 2026)

Arrival of Teams at the VGU Campus	08:00 AM
INAUGURAL CEREMONY	09:00 AM onwards
Lunch	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
PRELIMINARY ROUND 1	01:00 PM - 02:00 PM
Release of Supplementary Information & Additional Confidential Information	02:15 PM
PRELIMINARY ROUND 2	03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
Declaration of Results & Fixtures for Quarter-Final Rounds	05:00 PM
Quarter-Final Rounds	06:00 PM - 07:00 PM
GALA NIGHT, Declaration of Results Fixtures for Semi-Final Rounds	07:30 PM - 09:00 PM
Dinner	09:00 PM - 10:00 PM

DAY 3

(25th OCTOBER, 2026)

Arrival of Teams at VGU Campus	09:00 AM
SEMI-FINAL ROUNDS	10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
Declaration of Results & Fixture for Final Round	12:00 PM
Lunch	12:00 PM - 01:00 PM
FINAL ROUND	01:30 PM - 03:00 PM
VALEDICTORY CEREMONY & AWARDS DISTRIBUTION	03:30 PM - 05:30 PM



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PATRONS

Dr. K Ram (Retd. IPS)

Chief Patron, VGU and Chairman,
VTS Rajasthan

Shri Rajdeepak Rastogi

Senior Advocate & Former Additional
Solicitor General of India

Dr. Lalit K Panwar (Retd. IAS)

Chairperson, VGU
Former Chairman, RPSC

Dr. K R Bagaria

Founder & Vice Chairperson, VGU
Former Member, RPSC

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CONVENOR

Dr. Shilpa Rao Rastogi

Associate Professor and Head of
the Department (Law)

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जयपुर



The City of Royal Negotiations

Welcome to Jaipur, the Pink City where every wall whispers stories of strategy, persuasion, and power plays. While you sharpen your skills in the competition, step out and explore a city that has been negotiating cultures, trade, and traditions for centuries.

Attractions That Speak the Language of Negotiation

Amber Fort – Where rulers sealed alliances and treaties in grand halls. Today, you negotiate your way through winding corridors for the best view of Jaipur!



Hawa Mahal – Built so queens could observe city life without being seen—a silent negotiation between privacy and power

City Palace – A royal residence that balanced politics and power. Here, negotiation wasn't just an art—it was survival.



Jantar Mantar – The astronomical observatory that negotiated with the stars to measure time and destiny.

Nahargarh Fort – Once the city's watchful negotiator, guarding Jaipur from hilltops. Now, your best bet for sunset deals with the sky.





जयपुर



The City of Royal Negotiations

Albert Hall Museum – A cultural dialogue through art and history, bridging past and present.



Jal Mahal – A palace in the middle of the lake, perfectly negotiating with land and water for its charm.

Local Bazaars (Johari & Bapu Markets) – The ultimate training ground in bargaining—test your persuasion skills outside the courtroom!



Chokhi Dhani – Experience cultural negotiations in action: folk artists, food, and traditions creating a perfect balance of Rajasthan's heritage.

Why Jaipur & Negotiation Belong Together

Every fort is a fortress of strategy. Every market is a lesson in persuasion. Every palace echoes past treaties. Jaipur is not just your host city—it's a living case study in negotiation itself.

Come. Compete. Explore.

Negotiate with history, culture, and yourself.



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