



PROF. (DR.) ANIL KUMAR THAKUR DEBATING SOCIETY
DEPARTMENT OF LAWS, PANJAB UNIVERSITY

is organising its

5th PROF. (DR.) ANIL KUMAR THAKUR MEMORIAL
NATIONAL DEBATE COMPETITION

on the theme

SPECIAL INTENSIVE REVISION
SHOULD IT BE DONE OR NOT?

on

30TH OCTOBER 2026 & 31ST OCTOBER 2026

COORDINATOR

Prof. (Dr.) Supinder Kaur
Faculty
Department of Laws

PATRON

Prof. (Dr.) Vandana Arora
Chairperson
Department of Laws

PATRON-IN-CHIEF

Prof. (Dr.) Meenakshi Goyal
Vice Chancellor
Panjab University



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ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Laws, originally established at *Lahore in 1889*, was re-established at *Shimla in 1948*, shifted to *Jalandhar in 1950* and finally re-located at the *University Campus in Chandigarh in 1959*. Its alumni include Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, Union Cabinet Ministers, State Chief Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, Ambassadors, Senior Bureaucrats, Police Officers and other legal luminaries. The Department provides practical training to the students to hone their skills in various fields for overall development of personality including *Debate, Moot Court, Client Counselling*, and organises various competitions and seminars for the same.

ABOUT THE DEBATING SOCIETY

The Prof. (Dr.) Anil Kumar Thakur Debating Society, founded in 2022 in memory of late Prof. (Dr.) Anil Kumar Thakur, promotes interdisciplinary research, competitive debating, and public speaking among students. It features several sub-groups including the *Family Law and ADR Center, MUN Club, Awaaz – a student-led, apolitical, weekly discussion group, Law Fest, Scholar Talk, and Prof. (Dr.) Anil Kumar Thakur Memorial Lecture Series* – addressing key issues like same-sex marriage, social media ethics, and fake news, etc.

The Prof. (Dr.) Anil Thakur Debating Society stands as a *dynamic institution* dedicated to upholding academic excellence, promoting intellectual curiosity, and empowering students to become informed *leaders in law and society*. Through its diverse programs and initiatives, the society continues to honor and advance the legacy of its founder, inspiring future generations to pursue excellence in legal education and societal impact.



ABOUT PROF (DR.) ANIL KUMAR THAKUR



Professor (Dr.) Anil Kumar Thakur (1976–2021) was a multifaceted academican, an eminent professor, and a sage counselor; and an expert in Constitutional Law, Economics, Jurisprudence. His unwavering optimism and positive attitude under all circumstances made his advice eagerly sought within the Department. He was a driving force in fostering an intellectual and jurisprudential environment, making enduring contributions including the establishment of the Debating Society, aimed at developing students' linguistic abilities, confidence, and impromptu thinking skills.

Born on 15th March 1976 in Jamshedpur, he completed his schooling there and graduated with Honors in Economics from Shri Guru Gobind Singh College, Sector 26, Chandigarh. He pursued his master's and doctorate in Law from the Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh. He began teaching as an Assistant Professor in 2004 at Panjab University Regional Centre, Shri Muktsar Sahib, joining his alma mater in 2005. He published extensively and participated in numerous national and international seminars and conferences. In recognition of his contributions, the Department bestowed upon him an honorary professorship posthumously. He was strongly opposed to artificial intelligence and duplicate professionalism. A unique combination of artistic talent and academic brilliance, he is remembered with respect and affection by his colleagues and students alike.



ABOUT THE COMPETITION

The Department of Laws is going to organise the 5th edition of Prof. (Dr.) Anil Kumar Thakur Memorial National Debate Competition on 30th & 31st October, 2026, in the loving memory of late Prof. (Dr.) Anil Kumar Thakur.

Earlier, the Department has successfully organised four editions of the said competition on the themes:

1. "Sexual Offenses And Criminal Laws Whether We Need Social Reforms Or Legal Reforms?" on October 15, 2024,
2. "Uniform Civil Code (Should be or Should not be)" on October 18, 2023,
3. "Same Sex Marriages: Rejection or Recognition?" on November 10, 2022,
4. "Social Media and Right to Privacy" on March 15, 2022.

ABOUT THE THEME

The theme explores the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, a comprehensive drive by the Election Commission of India to overhaul voter registries under Article 324 of the Constitution of India, 1950, and Section 21(3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

Unlike routine updates, SIR involves intensive door-to-door verification by Booth Level Officers to register newly eligible citizens while removing deceased, duplicate, or relocated electors. The structured process progresses from house-to-house enumeration to draft publication, a period for public claims and objections, and final roll publication. Conducted prior to major election cycles or following rapid urbanisation, SIR serves as a vital administrative mechanism to ensure error-free voter lists, validate residence across constituencies, and uphold the constitutional guarantee of universal adult suffrage.



IN FAVOUR OF THE MOTION

SPECIAL INTENSIVE REVISION SHOULD BE DONE



Proponents may highlight the administrative necessity of updating electoral rolls under *Article 324 of the Constitution of India, 1950*, and *Section 21(3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950*. They can argue that door-to-door verification purges duplicate, fake, or deceased voters while registering newly eligible electors, ensuring accurate data reflecting current demographics. Legally, this side can emphasise that clean voter lists enforce the democratic principle of "one person, one vote," drawing upon landmark rulings on electoral transparency such as *PUCI v. Union of India AIR 2014 SC 561*, and statutory frameworks governing free and fair elections.

IN OPPOSITION TO THE MOTION

SPECIAL INTENSIVE REVISION SHOULD NOT BE DONE

Opponents may argue that intensive revisions impose onerous burdens of proof on citizens, risking widespread voter disenfranchisement—particularly among rural, migrant, and marginalised populations lacking formal documentation. They can contend that aggressive verification drives create administrative overreach and act as de facto citizenship scrutiny without explicit parliamentary mandates. Legally, this view finds support in the constitutional guarantee of universal adult suffrage under *Article 326 of the Constitution of India, 1950*, leveraging doctrines of proportionality and precedents safeguarding voter rights to argue that arbitrary deletions undermine democratic inclusion.

In conclusion, this debate encourages participants to explore the balance between electoral accuracy and administrative access, questioning where legitimate voter roll verification ends and voter exclusion begins.



ELIGIBILITY

1. Any *bonafide* student is eligible to take part in this competition.
 2. Only one team per university/college/Institute is allowed to take part in the competition.
 3. Multiple entries from the same institution shall not be entertained in any case.
 4. Entry in this event shall be on first-come-first-served basis.
- Along with the online registration form, it is mandatory for the participants to attach the payment receipt to confirm their participation.
 - The registration form is required to be sealed and signed by the concerned competent authority.
 - Students from the Department of Laws, Panjab University being host of the event shall be ineligible to take part in the competition.

LANGUAGE

The medium of communication for this debate competition shall be **ENGLISH** only.

DATES & VENUE

<u>Dates:</u>	30.10.2026 & 31.10.2026
<u>Last Date of Registrations:</u>	20th October 2026 (Early Bird - 10 th October 2026)
<u>Day-1 Timings:</u>	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
<u>Day-2 Timings:</u>	10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
<u>Venue:</u>	Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh



ACCOMMODATION



Registered participants will be provided accommodation only on the basis of the response filled in Google Form.

Last minute requests for accommodation will not be entertained

REGISTRATION FEE DETAILS

Participants have to submit a Registration Form via below given link along with proof of payment of the Registration fee (inclusive of breakfast & lunch).

1. Early Bird Registration Fee is INR 1800/- per team (without accommodation), and INR 2100/- per team (with accommodation).
2. Non-Early Bird Registration Fee is INR 2100/- per team (without accommodation), and INR 2700/- per team (with accommodation).

[REGISTRATION LINK](#)

*Early Bird Registration ends on 10th October, 2026.

*There shall be no refund of the fee under any circumstance.

*Accommodation will not be provided on the spot.

BANK DETAILS

Account Holder Name: HEAD DEPTT OF LAW MISC

Account Number: 10444977656

Bank: STATE BANK OF INDIA

IFSC: SBIN0000742

Bank Branch: PANJAB UNIVERSITY, CHANDIGARH

The online pre-registered teams should also bring the printed copy of enclosed registration form duly signed by the competent authority of University / Department/ College/ Institute along with hard copy of payment receipt.



RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Each team should comprise of two members. A single-member team would be disqualified. Only one team per university/college/institute is allowed to take part in the competition.
2. The competition shall comprise of 4 rounds. The team should prepare from both sides of the motion for the competition. Before the beginning of rounds, the teams will be allotted the side via a draw of lots before each round.
3. Only 24 teams shall be considered for the Preliminary Round of the Debate Competition based on a first-come-first registered basis i.e. the first duly completed online registration form along with the payment of the registration fee on or before the last date of online registration i.e., 20th October 2026 till 12:00 midnight.
4. The 24 teams shall go through 2 Preliminary rounds. Top 08 teams from Preliminary rounds will move to the Quarter Finals which shall be a Knockout Round.
5. A total of 04 teams will move to the Semi Finals which shall also be a Knockout Round.
6. Finally, 02 teams will be competing in the Finals.

(The detailed rules for execution of each round would be shared at the time of registration at venue, thus, it is mandatory to reach the venue at least one hour prior to the commencement of the event.)

PRIZE & PERKS

<u>Winners:</u>	₹ 6500/- (cash) + Trophy + Certificate
<u>Runner-Ups:</u>	₹ 3500/- (cash) + Trophy + Certificate
<u>Best Team:</u>	₹ 3500/- (cash) + Trophy + Certificate
<u>Best Debater:</u>	₹ 2500/- (cash) + Trophy + Certificate



PRIZE & PERKS (CONTD.)

1. Winner and Runner-up prizes shall be awarded based on total team marks.
2. Best Team shall be determined by marks secured in the preliminary round.
3. Best Debater shall be decided by overall scores across all rounds.
4. Ties shall be resolved through a tie-breaker.
5. Detailed rules shall be shared at the venue registration.
6. Participation certificates shall be handed over at the valedictory round on Day-2.

GUIDELINES FOR PRELIMINARY ROUNDS

1. There shall be two Preliminary Rounds.
2. Both speakers of a team shall speak for the motion or against, as per the allotments made by draw of lots.
3. Each team will argue for the opposite side in the subsequent preliminary round. (*Example - If Team A gets a chit saying For the Motion in Preliminary Round 1, it will argue against the motion in Preliminary Round 2.*).
4. Each Speaker will be given $4+1 = 5$ minutes to speak.
5. There shall be intimation after 4 minutes and then another after 1 minute for time up, next speaker of same team shall proceed after this.
6. After both the members of a team have finished, the Judge/panel of Judges will have 3 minutes which can be utilised in any of the following ways:
 - i. Ask questions individually to both member of team;
 - ii. Address questions collectively to both speakers;
 - iii. Ask the opposite team to ask questions (rebuttal);Cross questioning after the permission of the Judges.



GUIDELINES FOR QUARTERS & SEMI-FINAL ROUNDS



1. One team would be for the motion and the other would be against, such allotment shall be made by a draw of lots.
2. Each Speaker will be given $8+2 = 10$ minutes to speak. There shall be intimation after 8 minutes and then another after 2 minutes for time up, next speaker of same team shall proceed after this.
3. After both the members of a team have finished, the Judge / panel of Judges will have 3 minutes which can be utilised in any of the following ways:

- i. Ask questions individually to both member of team;*
- ii. Address questions collectively to both speakers;*
- iii. Ask the opposite team to ask questions (rebuttal);*

Cross questioning after the permission of Judges.

GUIDELINES FOR FINAL ROUND

1. One team would be for the motion and the other would be against the motion, such allotment shall be made by draw of lots.
2. Each Speaker will be given $5+2 = 7$ minutes to speak. There shall be intimation after 5 minutes and then another after 2 minutes for time up, next speaker of same team shall proceed after this.
3. After both the members of a team have finished, the Judge / Panel of Judge will have 3 minutes which can be utilised in any of the following ways:

- i. Ask questions individually to both member of team;*
- ii. Address questions collectively to both speakers;*
- iii. Ask the opposite team to ask questions (rebuttal);*

Cross questioning after the permission of the Judges.



GENERAL RULES FOR ALL ROUNDS



1. The competition will be held in-person at the venue mentioned above; therefore, participants should make sure of their physical presence at the venue before the commencement of the event. Failure to present in due time would result in disqualification of the team.
2. All participants should reach the registration desk at least 15 (fifteen) minutes before the competition starts. If the participants are late, then the organisers shall have the final say with respect to their participation.
3. During the competition, participants are expected to maintain the decorum of the house and disturbance caused may lead to disqualification.
4. Participants should not disclose their identity except the team code provided at time of registration at the venue. However, Student ID card is mandatory at the time of registration at venue along with duly filled Annexures.
5. During the competition, the registered participants cannot be represented by anyone else, or otherwise will be disqualified.
6. During presentation, strict adherence of the time limits shall be observed otherwise there shall be deduction of 2 marks wholly on extending every single minute.
7. Use of unparliamentary language or shouting shall lead to disqualification.
8. Use of Unfair Means would lead to disqualification of team. Furthermore, all perks would be forfeited.
9. Paper reading is strictly prohibited. However, reference to paper material is allowed.
10. No objections shall be entertained as the decision of Judge shall be final and binding



TIE-BREAKER ROUND



Detailed rules would be disclosed at the time of registration at the venue.

TIMINGS

DAY-1 (30th October 2026)

Registration Desk & Breakfast: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Preliminary Round 1: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Preliminary Round 2: 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Lunch: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Quarter Finals: 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

DAY-2 (31st October 2026)

Breakfast: 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Semi-Final Round: 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Lunch: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Final Round: 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Valedictory Ceremony: 2:30 p.m. onwards

No late entries shall be entertained for registration on DAY-1.



LOCATE US ON GMAPS

CONTACT US

Chandini Jaswal
+91 82880 30573

TEACHER INCHARGE
Dr. Manisha Garg

Durgeish Damini
+91 98054 53866



MARKING & EVALUATION PARAMETERS



S.No	PARTICULARS	MARKS
1.	Content Quality	10
2.	Knowledge of Subject	10
3.	Confidence	05
4.	Command on Language	05
5.	Time Management	05
6.	Question & Answer	05
7.	Dress Code & Conduct	10

Total Maximum Marks of Each Member
50

Total Maximum Marks of Team (50x2)
100

DRESS CODE

*Participants are required to wear formal attire
during the competition.*



REGISTRATION FORM SPEAKER DETAILS



SPEAKER 1

Name: _____
 Gender: _____
 Department/ Class/ Section/ Stream/ Branch: _____
 Institute/Department Roll no.: _____
 Contact Number: _____
 Alternate Contact Number: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Address: _____

SPEAKER 2

Name: _____
 Gender: _____
 Department/ Class/ Section/ Stream/ Branch: _____
 Institute/Department Roll no.: _____
 Contact Number: _____
 Alternate Contact Number: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Address: _____

Accommodation Required: Yes/No
 Faculty Accompanying: Yes/No

FACULTY DETAILS

Name: _____
 Gender: _____
 Designation: _____
 Contact Number: _____
 Alternate Contact Number: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Address: _____

Scanned Copy of Registration Form to be uploaded on Google Form as well.



ACCOMMODATION FORM TRAVEL DETAILS



Mode of Transportation: _____

Date of Arrival: _____

Timings: _____

Date of Departure: _____

Timings: _____

Number of Males: _____

Name: _____

Contact No: _____

Number of Females: _____

Name: _____

Contact No: _____

Accompanying Person: _____

Name: _____

Contact No: _____



PAYMENT DETAILS



Mode of Payment: _____
(Credit Card/Debit Card/Net Banking/UPI/Others)

Transaction Number: _____

Transaction Date: _____

Transaction Amount: _____

*Please do bring the physical print of “proof of payment”
at the time of registration.*



DECLARATION



We, under named solemnly declare that the above-mentioned information is true and correct to our belief and knowledge. We haven't provided any false/ misleading information to seek any benefit. If we are found guilty of providing any false/ misleading information, then our team participation should stand cancelled ab-initio and we would be liable to return all the benefits received from the organizers with a penalty. We do undertake to follow the rules and regulations prescribed by the organiser pertaining to the event and social conduct. Furthermore, we provide consent on behalf of the whole team to use the aforementioned information for all and every purpose of this academic event only.

Speaker 1 Name: _____
Sign: _____

Speaker 2 Name: _____
Sign: _____



DETAILS OF INSTITUTE



Name: _____

University/Department/College/School: _____

Address of Institute: _____

Name & Contact Details of Competent Authority: _____

Contact Number of Institute: _____

E-mail: _____

(Seal and Signature of Competent Authority)

Date:

