



SRI SATHYA SAI LAW COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

◆ BHOPAL, (M.P.) ◆



AAAYAM'26

◆ Think, Create and Compete ◆

SATHYA SAI LAW FEST, 2026

॥ कानून, विचार और अभिव्यक्ति के नए आयाम ॥

◆ COMPETITIONS ◆



1.
Paper
Presentation



2.
Arbitration
Competition



3.
Debate
Competition



4.
Quiz
Competition



5.
Poster
Making



6.
Nukkad
Natak



DATE
14TH – 15TH
OCTOBER 2026



VENUE
Sri Sathya Sai Law College
For Women, Bhopal



PARTICIPANTS
Students from Law Colleges
& Schools Across India

EMPOWER ◆ ARGUE ◆ LEAD



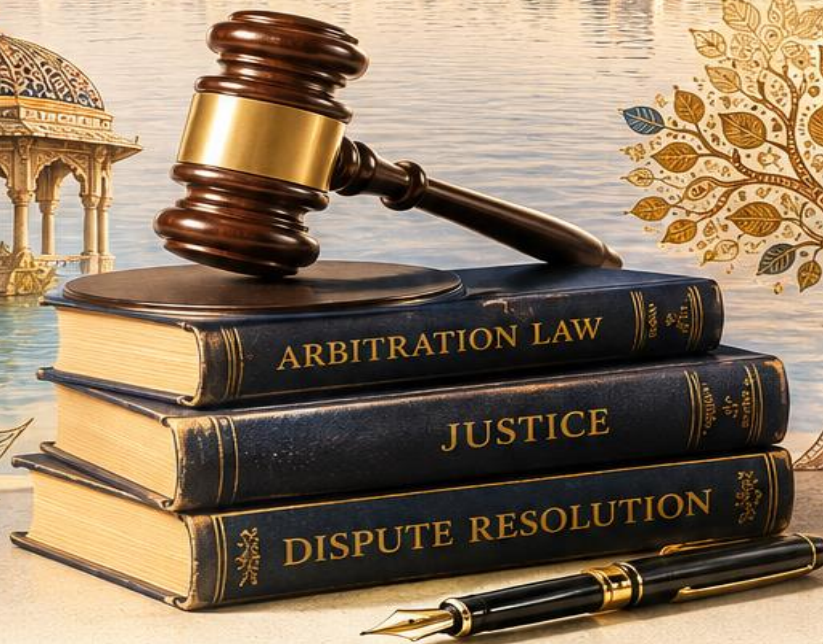
SRI SATHYA SAI LAW COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
BHOPAL (M.P.)

NATIONAL ARBITRATION COMPETITION 2026



Under AAYAM'26 | Sathya Sai Law Fest

14th – 15th OCTOBER 2026



AAYAM'26

EMPOWER • EQUIP • LEAD



AAYAM'26

EMPOWER • ARGUE • LEAD

INTRODUCTION

Where Law Meets Advocacy

At AAYĀM – Sathya Sai Law Fest 2026, the Arbitration Competition brings together young legal minds to enter the arena of dispute resolution, strategic reasoning and persuasive advocacy. It is a platform where complex legal questions meet rigorous research, and where every proposition must withstand the test of logic, authority and persuasion.

The Competition challenges participants to approach a dispute from both sides, developing compelling submissions as Claimant and Respondent. Through memorial drafting and oral pleadings before an arbitral tribunal, participants will be tested on their ability to interpret facts, apply legal principles, rely upon authorities and respond to challenging questions with clarity and precision.

Moving through the Preliminary Rounds, Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals and Final, the Competition is designed to progressively test legal acumen, advocacy and strategic thinking.

At its core, the Competition embodies the spirit of AAYĀM - dimensions of thought, argument and expression. Here, research becomes argument, argument becomes strategy, and strategy becomes advocacy. It is an invitation to question deeply, reason critically and advocate fearlessly.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENT

SR. NO.	CONTENTS	PAGE NO.
1.	Proposition	04
2.	Annexures	15
3.	Definitions	13
4.	Interpretation	14
5.	Eligibility	14
6.	Team Composition	14
7.	Registration	15
8.	Accommodation and Travel	16
9.	Clarifications	17
10.	Anonymity of Teams	17
11.	Memorials	18
12.	Judging of Memorials	20
13.	Compendium	21
14.	Oral Rounds	22
15.	Judging of Oral Rounds	24
16.	Competition Format and Procedure	25
17.	Conducting of Rounds	27
18.	Dress Code	29
19.	Prizes and Awards	29
20.	Payment Details	30
21.	Contact Details	34

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

IMPORTANT DATES

SR. NO.	EVENT(S)	DATE
1	Release of Brochure and Commencement of Registration	12th September
2	Release of Case Record	12th September
3.	Last Date to Register	6th October
4	Last Date to Seek Clarifications	3rd October
5	Release of Clarifications	5th October
6	Soft Copy Submission of Memorials and Compendiums	9th October
7	Draw of Lots and Memorial exchange online for Preliminary Rounds	13th October
8	Preliminary Rounds	14th October
9	Result Declaration for Preliminary Rounds	14th October
10	Draw of Lots for Quarter-Final Rounds and Submission of Hard Copy of Memorials	14th October
11	Quarter-Final	14th October
12	Semi-Final Rounds And Final Round and Valedictory Ceremony	15th October
13	Valedictory Ceremony and Prize Distribution	15th October
14	Garba Night	15th October

PROPOSITION

IN THE MATTER OF ARBITRATION

BETWEEN

Aarohan Renewable Energy Private Limited

Claimant

AND

Vindhya Infrastructure Solutions Limited

Respondent

IN THE MATTER OF ARBITRATION

BETWEEN

Aarohan Renewable Energy Private Limited

Claimant

AND

Vindhya Infrastructure Solutions Limited

Respondent

1. THE PARTIES

- Aarohan Renewable Energy Private Limited (“Aarohan” or the “Claimant”) is a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013, having its registered office in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Aarohan develops and operates renewable-energy projects.
- Vindhya Infrastructure Solutions Limited (“Vindhya” or the “Respondent”) is an infrastructure and engineering company incorporated under the Companies Act, 2013, having its registered office in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- Both parties are engaged in infrastructure and renewable-energy projects and have previously entered into commercial contracts with each other.

2. THE PROJECT

- In January 2023, Aarohan decided to establish a **150 MW solar power project in Sehore, Madhya Pradesh**. Following a competitive bidding process, Aarohan awarded the

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

Engineering, Procurement and Construction work to Vindhya.

- On **15 January 2023**, the parties entered into an **Engineering, Procurement and Construction Agreement (“EPC Agreement”)** for a total contract value of **₹85 crore**.

Under the EPC Agreement, Vindhya was required to:

- design the project;
 - procure the required equipment;
 - construct the solar project;
 - complete testing and commissioning; and
 - achieve commercial commissioning within **18 months** from commencement of work.
- Aarohan was required to:
 - provide access to the project site;
 - facilitate specified governmental approvals;
 - provide certain technical information and drawings; and
 - make payments upon achievement of contractual milestones.

3. THE ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

Clause 18 of the EPC Agreement provides:

“Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, including any question regarding its existence, validity, interpretation, performance, breach or termination, shall be referred to and finally resolved by arbitration.”

Clause 18 further provides:

“The arbitral tribunal shall consist of three arbitrators. Each party shall appoint one arbitrator and the two appointed arbitrators shall appoint the third arbitrator, who shall act as the presiding arbitrator.”

Clause 18 further provides that:

“The seat of arbitration shall be Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The language of the arbitration shall be English.”

The parties did not adopt any institutional arbitration rules.

4. COMMENCEMENT OF WORK AND DELAYS

- Vindhya commenced work in February 2023. By October 2023, the project had fallen

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

substantially behind the original schedule.

- Aarohan alleged that Vindhya had:
 - failed to deploy sufficient manpower;
 - delayed procurement of essential equipment;
 - failed to comply with contractual technical specifications; and
 - failed to achieve contractual milestones.
- Vindhya denied the allegations. Vindhya alleged that the delay was substantially caused by Aarohan because:
 - access to portions of the project site was delayed;
 - certain technical drawings were supplied late;
 - governmental approvals were not facilitated within the expected time; and
 - certain milestone payments were withheld despite substantial performance.
- Several emails and contractual notices were exchanged between the parties. The parties were unable to resolve their differences.

5. THE LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

- During the subsistence of the EPC Agreement, the parties entered into a **Letter of Understanding dated 20 July 2023 (“LOU”)** concerning specialised battery-storage equipment for the same solar project.
- Under the LOU:
 - Vindhya was required to procure and install the battery-storage system;
 - Aarohan was required to pay an additional **₹12 crore upon successful commissioning** of the battery-storage system.
- The battery-storage equipment was procured by Vindhya and substantial installation work was completed. However, the battery-storage system was not finally commissioned.
- Vindhya contends that substantial work had already been performed and that Aarohan was responsible for preventing completion of commissioning. Aarohan contends that payment under the LOU was expressly conditional upon successful commissioning and that the contractual condition was never fulfilled. The LOU does not contain a separate arbitration clause.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

- However, **Clause 6 of the LOU provides:**
“Except as expressly modified herein, the rights and obligations of the parties shall continue to be governed by the Engineering, Procurement and Construction Agreement dated 15 January 2023.”
- The LOU does not expressly state whether disputes arising under the LOU are subject to Clause 18 of the EPC Agreement.

6. TERMINATION OF THE EPC AGREEMENT

- On **5 November 2023**, Aarohan issued a notice alleging material breaches by Vindhya. Aarohan granted Vindhya thirty days to cure the alleged breaches.
- Vindhya denied the allegations and issued a response stating that the delays were substantially attributable to Aarohan. Vindhya further contended that Aarohan had itself committed breaches of the EPC Agreement by:
 - failing to provide timely site access;
 - withholding milestone payments;
 - failing to provide technical information within the required period; and
 - delaying approvals.
- On **12 December 2023**, Aarohan issued a notice terminating the EPC Agreement. Vindhya disputed the validity of the termination.

7. CLAIMS OF VINDHYA

- Following termination, Vindhya issued a notice claiming:
 - **₹18 crore** towards unpaid contractual dues;
 - **₹12 crore** towards losses allegedly suffered as a consequence of wrongful termination;
 - **₹6 crore** towards the value of work performed and expenditure incurred under the LOU; and
 - **interest and costs.**
- Vindhya contends that the termination was wrongful and that Aarohan's prior breaches prevented Vindhya from completing the project within the originally contemplated period.
- Vindhya further claims that the amount of ₹6 crore represents the reasonable value of procurement and installation work already undertaken in relation to the battery-storage

system.

8. CLAIMS AND DEFENCES OF AAROHAN

- Aarohan denies liability for the amounts claimed by Vindhya. Aarohan contends that:
- Vindhya failed to meet contractual milestones;
- Vindhya failed to deploy adequate resources;
- Vindhya failed to comply with technical specifications;
- The termination was contractually justified;
- Vindhya cannot claim damages arising from its own contractual breaches;
- Payment under the LOU was conditional upon successful commissioning; and
- The Arbitral Tribunal has no jurisdiction over a claim arising exclusively under the LOU.
- Aarohan further claims **₹8 crore** towards additional expenditure allegedly incurred in engaging another contractor to complete the remaining work.
- Aarohan contends that the additional expenditure was a foreseeable consequence of Vindhya's failure to perform its contractual obligations.
- Vindhya disputes the quantum and causation of Aarohan's alleged loss.

9. INVOCATION OF ARBITRATION

- On **8 January 2024**, Vindhya invoked Clause 18 of the EPC Agreement and commenced arbitration.
- Vindhya nominated **Mr. R.K. Malhotra**, a retired Chief Engineer, as its nominee arbitrator.
- Aarohan nominated **Justice (Retd.) S. Mehra**, a former High Court Judge, as its nominee arbitrator.
- The two arbitrators were required to appoint the presiding arbitrator.
- They proposed **Mr. Devendra Rao, Senior Advocate**, as the presiding arbitrator.
- Aarohan objected to the proposed appointment.
- Aarohan discovered that Mr. Rao had represented Vindhya as counsel approximately four years earlier in an unrelated commercial arbitration concerning a separate infrastructure project.
- Mr. Rao disclosed the previous professional relationship to both parties.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

- Vindhya contends that the previous engagement was:
 - a. unrelated to the present dispute;
 - b. concluded several years earlier;
 - c. limited to a previous arbitration; and
 - d. insufficient to create any justifiable doubt regarding Mr. Rao's independence or impartiality.
- Aarohan maintains that the previous professional relationship gives rise to justifiable doubts regarding the independence and impartiality of the proposed presiding arbitrator.
- Mr. Rao ultimately accepted the appointment.

10. PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1

- The Arbitral Tribunal was formally constituted on **15 March 2024**.
- At the first procedural hearing, the Tribunal issued **Procedural Order No. 1**.
- The Tribunal directed that the arbitration would proceed in the following stages:
 - a. Statement of Claim;
 - b. Statement of Defence and Counterclaim;
 - c. Reply to Defence and Defence to Counterclaim;
 - d. production of documents;
 - e. expert evidence, where necessary;
 - f. oral hearings; and
 - g. final submissions.
- The Tribunal further directed the parties to raise all jurisdictional objections at the earliest appropriate stage.

11. JURISDICTIONAL OBJECTION

- In its Statement of Defence, Aarohan raised a preliminary objection concerning the ₹6 crore claim under the LOU.
- Aarohan contends that:
 - a. the LOU does not contain an arbitration clause;
 - b. Clause 18 of the EPC Agreement cannot automatically be extended to a separate subsequent agreement;
 - c. the LOU created an independent contractual obligation; and

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

d. the Tribunal therefore lacks jurisdiction over the LOU claim.

- Vindhya disputes the objection.
- Vindhya contends that:

a. the LOU expressly preserves the rights and obligations arising under the EPC Agreement;

b. the LOU relates to the same project;

c. the LOU supplements the EPC Agreement rather than replacing it;

d. Clause 18 uses the broad expression “arising out of or relating to”; and

e. the parties intended disputes concerning the project to be resolved through the agreed arbitral mechanism.

- The Tribunal has **not yet finally ruled on the jurisdictional objection.**

12. PROCEDURAL DISPUTE REGARDING EXPERT EVIDENCE

- The Tribunal's procedural timetable required expert evidence to be filed by **30 August 2024.**
- On **18 September 2024**, Vindhya sought permission to place on record a technical report prepared by an independent engineering expert.
- Vindhya stated that the report became necessary after it examined technical documents produced by Aarohan during document disclosure.
- The report is approximately **75 pages** and contains:

a. technical analysis;

b. project data;

c. contractual specifications;

d. delay calculations; and

e. an assessment of the causes of project delay.

- Aarohan objected to the report on the ground that it was filed after the deadline.
- Aarohan further submitted that it required additional time to instruct its own expert and respond to the technical conclusions.
- Vindhya submitted that the report was necessary for determining the actual cause of delay and that Aarohan could respond to it during the hearing.
- The Tribunal has **reserved its final decision on the admissibility and weight of the expert report.**

13. THE CONTRACTUAL DISPUTE ON MERITS

- The parties are also in dispute regarding the interpretation and performance of the EPC Agreement.
- In particular, the Tribunal is required to determine whether Vindhya's failure to achieve the contractual milestones constituted a material breach.
- Vindhya contends that contractual completion dates were affected by Aarohan's delayed performance of its own obligations.
- Aarohan contends that the obligations concerning site access, approvals and technical information were independent obligations and did not excuse Vindhya from complying with its own contractual milestones.
- The parties further dispute the effect of the contractual **Extension of Time Clause** contained in the EPC Agreement.
- The relevant clause provides:

“Where delay in performance is directly attributable to an act or omission of the Employer, the Contractor shall be entitled to a reasonable extension of time, provided that the Contractor gives written notice of the delay within seven (7) days of becoming aware of the event causing such delay.”

- Aarohan contends that Vindhya failed to provide timely notices in respect of several alleged delaying events.
- Vindhya contends that its contemporaneous correspondence constituted sufficient notice and that Aarohan was fully aware of the circumstances causing delay.

14. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

- The EPC Agreement contains a limitation-of-liability clause.
- **Clause 14 provides:**

“Except in cases of fraud, wilful misconduct or breach of confidentiality, the aggregate liability of either Party arising out of or in connection with this Agreement shall not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the total Contract Price.”

- The parties disagree regarding the interpretation and applicability of this clause.
- Aarohan contends that its claim for additional completion costs falls within the limitation

clause.

- Vindhya contends that the limitation clause does not apply to losses arising from wrongful termination and/or deliberate contractual non-performance.

15. LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

- The EPC Agreement further provides:

“Where the Contractor fails to achieve the Scheduled Commercial Operation Date for reasons attributable solely to the Contractor, the Employer shall be entitled to liquidated damages at the rate of ₹10 lakh per week of delay, subject to a maximum aggregate amount of ₹3 crore.”

- Aarohan seeks liquidated damages under this clause.
- Vindhya disputes the claim and contends that:
 - a. the delay was not solely attributable to Vindhya;
 - b. the contractual prerequisites for imposing liquidated damages were not satisfied; and
 - c. the delay was substantially caused by Aarohan's own acts and omissions.

16. PAYMENT CERTIFICATION DISPUTE

- The EPC Agreement provides that milestone payments shall become payable upon certification by the project engineer.
- The relevant clause provides:

“Payment against each milestone shall be released within fifteen (15) days from certification of completion of the relevant milestone by the Employer's Engineer.”

- Vindhya claims that certain milestones were substantially completed but payment was withheld.
- Aarohan contends that certification was not issued because the contractual requirements for the relevant milestones had not been satisfied.
- The parties therefore dispute whether payment became contractually due notwithstanding the absence of formal certification.

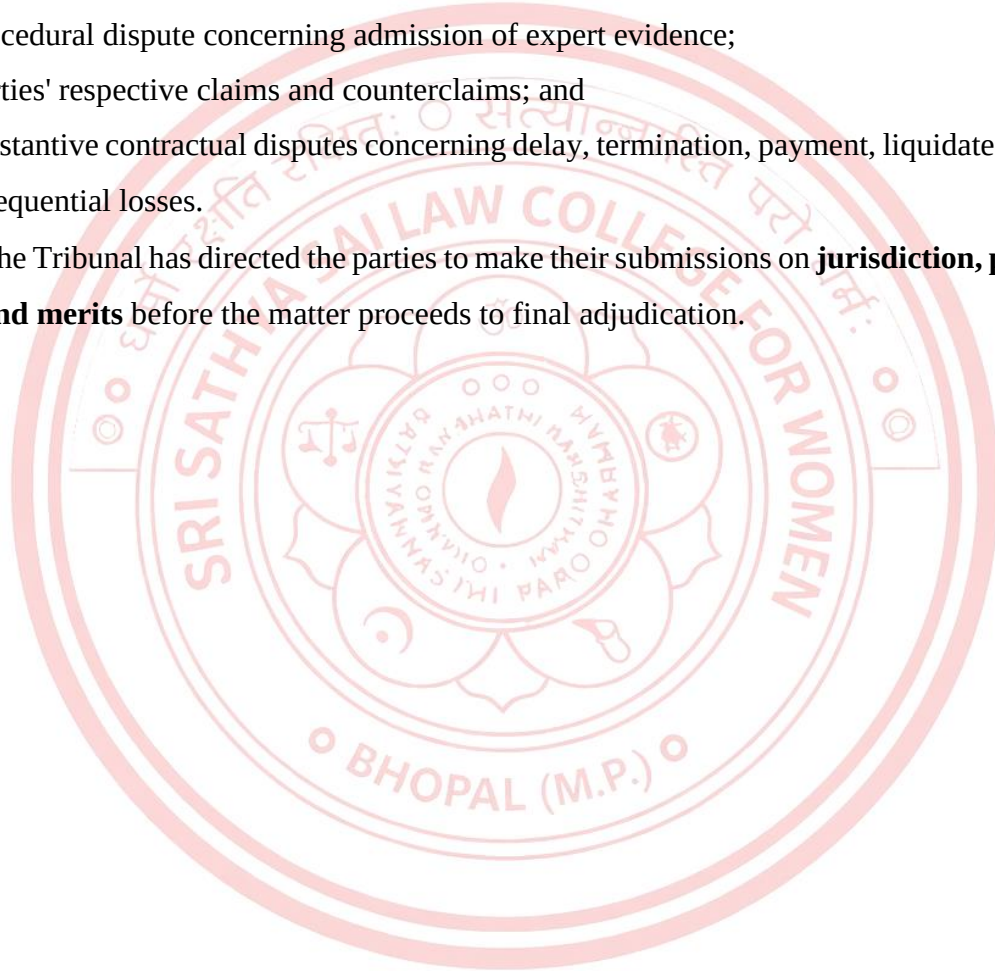
17. CURRENT STATUS OF THE ARBITRATION

- The arbitration is presently pending before the duly constituted Arbitral Tribunal.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

- **No final arbitral award has been passed.**
- Neither party has approached the court under Section 34 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.
- The Tribunal is presently seized of:
 - a. the jurisdictional objection concerning the LOU;
 - b. the objection concerning the constitution and independence of the Tribunal;
 - c. the procedural dispute concerning admission of expert evidence;
 - d. the parties' respective claims and counterclaims; and
 - e. the substantive contractual disputes concerning delay, termination, payment, liquidated damages and consequential losses.
- The Tribunal has directed the parties to make their submissions on **jurisdiction, procedure and merits** before the matter proceeds to final adjudication.



ISSUES FOR ADJUDICATION

The participants shall address the following issues before the Arbitral Tribunal:

ISSUE I — JURISDICTION

Whether the Arbitral Tribunal has jurisdiction to adjudicate Vindhya's claim arising under the Letter of Understanding dated 20 July 2023, notwithstanding the absence of a separate arbitration clause in the LOU?

ISSUE II — CONSTITUTION AND IMPARTIALITY OF THE TRIBUNAL

Whether the appointment of Mr. Devendra Rao as the presiding arbitrator is legally sustainable in view of his previous professional relationship with Vindhya?

ISSUE III — PROCEDURAL FAIRNESS AND EXPERT EVIDENCE

Whether the Arbitral Tribunal should admit Vindhya's technical expert report submitted after the prescribed procedural deadline, and what principles of equal treatment and reasonable opportunity to present one's case govern such admission?

ISSUE IV — BREACH AND TERMINATION

Whether Aarohan was justified in terminating the EPC Agreement on 12 December 2023, or whether Vindhya's failure to achieve the contractual milestones was excused or otherwise attributable, wholly or partly, to Aarohan's acts or omissions?

ISSUE V — CONTRACTUAL LIABILITY AND DAMAGES

Whether Vindhya is entitled to its claims for unpaid contractual dues, losses arising from termination and amounts claimed under the LOU, and whether Aarohan is entitled to liquidated damages and/or additional completion costs under the EPC Agreement?

ISSUE VI — LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Whether and to what extent Clause 14 of the EPC Agreement limits the liability of either party in respect of the claims and counterclaims before the Tribunal?

Note: The participants shall confine their submissions to the issues framed above and the applicable provisions of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, along with relevant judicial precedents.

This Case Record is a work of fiction created solely for academic purposes. Any resemblance to actual persons, entities, events, transactions, or disputes is purely coincidental. References to any

institution, legal framework, or commercial practice are made exclusively for educational purposes and do not imply endorsement, affiliation, or sponsorship.

ANNEXURES

**IN THE MATTER OF ARBITRATION BETWEEN
AAROHAN RENEWABLE ENERGY PRIVATE LIMITED
AND
VINDHYA INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS LIMITED**

**ANNEXURE I
EXTRACTS FROM THE ENGINEERING, PROCUREMENT AND
CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT**

This Annexure contains the contractual provisions relevant to the dispute between the parties. The remaining provisions of the EPC Agreement are not material for the purposes of the present arbitration.

Clause 3 – Scope of Work

Vindhya shall design, procure, construct, install, test and commission the 150 MW solar power project at Sehore, Madhya Pradesh, in accordance with the technical specifications, approved drawings and project schedule.

Clause 4 – Employer's Obligations

Aarohan shall provide reasonable access to the project site, provide or facilitate the technical drawings and information identified as Employer deliverables, obtain or facilitate specified governmental approvals, and make payments upon achievement and certification of the contractual milestones.

Clause 7 – Milestones and Payment

Payments shall become due upon achievement of the corresponding milestones and certification by the Employer's Engineer. A certified milestone amount shall be payable within fifteen days of certification.

Clause 10 – Extension of Time

Where delay in performance is caused by an act, omission or default of the Employer, the Contractor shall be entitled to a reasonable extension of time, provided that the Contractor gives written notice of the relevant delay within seven days of becoming aware of the event causing such delay.

Clause 11 – Delay and Liquidated Damages

Where completion is delayed solely due to the Contractor's default, the Employer may recover liquidated damages at the rate of ₹10,00,000 per week of delay, subject to a maximum aggregate amount of

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

₹3,00,00,000. No liquidated damages shall be payable for a period of delay attributable to the Employer or an event for which the Contractor is contractually entitled to an extension of time.

Clause 12 – Termination

The Employer may terminate the Agreement for material breach if the Contractor fails to cure the breach within thirty days of receiving written notice specifying the breach. The Contractor may dispute the alleged breach and may exercise its contractual rights in relation to amounts due and losses caused by wrongful termination.

Clause 14 – Limitation of Liability

Except in cases of fraud, wilful misconduct or breach of confidentiality, the aggregate liability of either party arising out of or in connection with the EPC Agreement shall not exceed twenty percent of the total Contract Price. Neither party shall be liable for indirect or consequential loss, including loss of anticipated profits, except to the extent expressly recoverable under the Agreement.

Clause 18 – Arbitration

Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement, including any question regarding its existence, validity, interpretation, performance, breach or termination, shall be referred to and finally resolved by arbitration. The arbitral tribunal shall consist of three arbitrators. Each party shall appoint one arbitrator and the two appointed arbitrators shall appoint the third arbitrator, who shall act as the presiding arbitrator. The seat of arbitration shall be Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The language of arbitration shall be English. The courts at Bhopal shall have exclusive jurisdiction in matters arising from the arbitration agreement.

ANNEXURE II

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING DATED 20 JULY 2023

The parties entered into a Letter of Understanding concerning the procurement and installation of specialised battery-storage equipment for the same solar power project.

Clause 1 – Scope

Vindhya shall procure and install the specialised battery-storage equipment identified for the project.

Clause 2 – Payment

Aarohan shall pay ₹12,00,00,000 upon successful commissioning of the battery-storage system.

Clause 4 – Status of Work

The equipment was procured and partially installed. The battery-storage system was not successfully commissioned before termination of the EPC Agreement.

Clause 6 – Governing Contractual Framework

Except as expressly modified herein, the rights and obligations of the parties shall continue to be governed by the Engineering, Procurement and Construction Agreement dated 15 January 2023.

The LOU does not contain a separate arbitration clause.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

ANNEXURE III **PROJECT MILESTONE SCHEDULE**

The following schedule formed part of the EPC Agreement.

Milestone	Contractual Target	Payment / Relevance
Mobilisation and site establishment	February 2023	Initial mobilisation
Engineering and approved drawings	March 2023	Required for procurement and construction
Major equipment procurement	April–June 2023	Linked to subsequent construction milestones
Civil and structural works	July–September 2023	Milestone payment upon certification
Installation and testing	October–December 2023	Milestone payment upon certification
Commissioning	Within 18 months from commencement	Final project completion milestone

ANNEXURE IV

SELECTED CONTRACTUAL CORRESPONDENCE

Email dated 14 August 2023 – Aarohan to Vindhya

Aarohan stated that the Contractor had failed to maintain the manpower levels contemplated by the project schedule and requested immediate mobilisation of additional personnel.

Email dated 22 August 2023 – Vindhya to Aarohan

Vindhya responded that deployment had been affected by the delayed release of portions of the project site and requested access to the remaining areas.

Email dated 5 September 2023 – Vindhya to Aarohan

Vindhya stated that certain technical drawings and approvals required for procurement and construction had not been provided within the expected timeframe and requested that the resulting delay be recorded.

Email dated 18 September 2023 – Aarohan to Vindhya

Aarohan disputed responsibility for the delay and stated that Vindhya remained responsible for meeting the contractual completion schedule.

ANNEXURE V

NOTICE OF BREACH DATED 5 NOVEMBER 2023

Aarohan issued a written notice alleging material breaches by Vindhya, including delay in procurement, insufficient deployment of manpower and failure to comply with specified technical requirements.

Aarohan granted Vindhya thirty days to cure the alleged breaches and stated that failure to do so would result in termination in accordance with the EPC Agreement.

ANNEXURE VI

REPLY TO NOTICE OF BREACH

Vindhya denied the alleged breaches and maintained that the delay was substantially attributable to Aarohan's failure to provide timely site access, technical information, governmental approvals and milestone payments.

Vindhya stated that it remained willing to complete the project subject to Aarohan fulfilling its corresponding contractual obligations.

ANNEXURE VII

TERMINATION NOTICE DATED 12 DECEMBER 2023

Aarohan terminated the EPC Agreement with effect from 12 December 2023, relying upon the alleged material breaches identified in its notice dated 5 November 2023.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

Vindhya disputes the validity of the termination and contends that Aarohan was itself in breach of the EPC Agreement.

ANNEXURE VIII

NOTICE INVOKING ARBITRATION DATED 8 JANUARY 2024

Vindhya invoked Clause 18 of the EPC Agreement and referred the disputes arising out of the EPC Agreement to arbitration.

Vindhya nominated Mr. R.K. Malhotra, retired Chief Engineer, as its nominee arbitrator. Aarohan nominated Justice (Retd.) S. Mehra, former High Court Judge. The two nominee arbitrators were required to appoint the presiding arbitrator.

ANNEXURE IX

DISCLOSURE AND OBJECTION CONCERNING MR. DEVENDRA RAO

During the constitution of the Tribunal, the nominee arbitrators proposed Mr. Devendra Rao, Senior Advocate, as the Presiding Arbitrator.

Aarohan objected on the ground that Mr. Rao had represented Vindhya as counsel in an unrelated commercial arbitration concerning a separate infrastructure project approximately four years earlier.

Mr. Rao disclosed the previous professional engagement to both parties. Vindhya maintained that the engagement was unrelated and sufficiently remote in time. Aarohan maintained that the circumstances gave rise to justifiable doubts regarding his independence and impartiality.

Mr. Rao accepted the appointment notwithstanding Aarohan's objection.

ANNEXURE X

PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 1

The Tribunal directed the parties to complete pleadings and file expert evidence according to a procedural timetable.

The deadline for filing expert evidence was fixed as 30 August 2024.

Vindhya sought permission to file a technical expert report on 18 September 2024. The report was approximately seventy-five pages and addressed project delay, technical specifications and delay calculations.

Aarohan objected to its admission on the ground that it was filed after the prescribed deadline. The Tribunal permitted the report to be placed on record.

Aarohan requested fourteen days to prepare a response and consult its technical expert. The Tribunal granted seven days. Aarohan submitted its response within the period granted while maintaining its objection that the time was inadequate.

ANNEXURE XI

STATEMENT OF CLAIM – SUMMARY OF RELIEF SOUGHT

Vindhya claims ₹18,00,00,000 towards unpaid contractual dues under the EPC Agreement; ₹12,00,00,000 towards losses allegedly caused by wrongful termination; ₹6,00,00,000 under the LOU towards work performed and expenditure incurred for the battery-storage system; interest; and costs.

Vindhya contends that the delays were substantially caused by Aarohan's defaults and that the termination was wrongful.

ANNEXURE XII

STATEMENT OF DEFENCE AND COUNTERCLAIM – SUMMARY

Aarohan denies liability for Vindhya's claims and contends that Vindhya failed to meet its contractual obligations concerning manpower, procurement, technical compliance and timely completion.

Aarohan contends that the termination was contractually justified. It further disputes liability under the LOU on the ground that the agreed payment was conditional upon successful commissioning, which did not occur.

Aarohan also relies upon the contractual limitation of liability and seeks appropriate relief for losses allegedly caused by Vindhya's breach, including additional completion costs, together with interest and costs.

NOTE ON THE ANNEXURES

The Annexures form an integral part of the Case Record. The documents and extracts contained herein are fictional and have been prepared solely for the purposes of the competition. Teams shall base their submissions on the Case Record, Annexures and Clarifications issued by the Administrators.

Where a document contains a factual inconsistency, omission or ambiguity, teams may address the same through appropriate legal submissions. No fact outside the Case Record, Annexures or Clarifications shall be presumed unless otherwise permitted by the Competition Rules.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

A. DEFINITIONS

- I. “**Administrators**” means the persons appointed by the Organising Committee for the administration and conduct of the Competition.
- II. “**Advanced Rounds**” means the Quarter-Final Rounds, Semi-Final Rounds, and the Final Round of the Competition.
- III. “**Case Record**” means the official hypothetical Case Record of the Competition released by the Administrators. Clarifications issued in accordance with the Rules shall form an integral part of the Case Record.
- IV. “**Claimant**” means the side that argues on behalf of the Claimant at any given point in the Competition.
- V. “**Clarifications**” refer to any procedural orders, responses, or explanations issued by the Administrators with respect to the Case Record, which shall form an integral part of the same.
- VI. “**Competition**” means the Arbitration Competition organised as part of the Aayam – SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026.
- VII. “**Memorial**” means the written arguments submitted by each team on behalf of the Claimant or Respondent.
- VIII. “**Oral Round**” means a team’s pleadings, comprising two Oralists, submitted orally before the Arbitral Tribunal on behalf of one of the parties against another team representing the opposing party.
- IX. “**Participant**” refers to any member of any team representing an institution participating in the Competition.
- X. “**Penalty**” refers to the deductions or other sanctions imposed upon a participating team in accordance with the provisions of this Rulebook.
- XI. “**Preliminary Round**” means the Oral Rounds which take place before the Advanced Rounds and for the purpose of determining which teams qualify for the Advanced Rounds.
- XII. “**Rebuttal**” refers to the arguments presented by the Claimant in response to the Respondent’s submissions at the end of the main pleadings of all the Oralists.
- XIII. “**Respondent**” means the side that argues on behalf of the Respondent at any given point in the Competition.
- XIV. “**Oralist**” refers to a Participant who presents oral arguments before the Arbitral Tribunal in any given round.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

- XV. “**Team Code**” refers to the code allotted to a participating institution by the Administrators after completion of the Registration, in accordance with the applicable provisions of this Rulebook.
- XVI. “**Arbitral Tribunal**” means the arbitrator or arbitrators adjudicating the dispute during an Oral Round.
- XVII. “**Tribunal**” shall have the same meaning as “Arbitral Tribunal” wherever used in this Rulebook.
- XVIII. “**Claimant Memorial**” means the Memorial containing the written submissions advanced on behalf of the Claimant.
- XIX. “**Respondent Memorial**” means the Memorial containing the written submissions advanced on behalf of the Respondent.
- XX. “**Case**” means the official hypothetical dispute forming the subject matter of the Arbitration Competition, as set out in the Case Record.
- XXI. “**Organising Committee**” means the committee responsible for organising and conducting the Competition as part of the Aayam – SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026.

2. INTERPRETATION

The Organizing Committee will have the exclusive authority to interpret the rules in the interest of fairness and equality. The interpretation placed upon these rules by the Administrators shall be conclusive and the decision of the Organizing Committee regarding the application of these rules shall be final.

3. ELIGIBILITY

3.1 Students enrolled in a three-year LL.B. programme, five-year integrated law programme (including B.A. LL.B. or equivalent), or LL.M. programme, in any year of study, at any recognized Law University, College or Institute, shall be eligible to participate.

3.2 A recognized institution shall be entitled to send a maximum of two (2) teams to the Competition.

3.3 No cross-institutional teams shall be permitted.

4. TEAM COMPOSITION

4.1 Each team may comprise:

- Two Speakers/Counsel, and
- One Researcher, if applicable.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

Only participants registered as speakers in the registration form shall be permitted to address the Bench.

4.2 Once registered, a team will not be permitted to vary the composition in any manner. Changes, if any, may only be made with the express permission of the Administrators (at their discretion), if due reason is shown for the same.

4.3 Certificates for participating team members will be prepared from the team lists submitted. The certificates for participation will show the names of the team members exactly as they have been submitted. It is, therefore, incumbent on teams to ensure that names are spelled and presented correctly.

5. REGISTRATION

5.1 Teams shall register for the Competition by filling the google form [link](#) or official QR Code, circulated by the Administrators, on or before **6th October, 2026**.

5.2 Registration shall be deemed complete upon submission of the form and payment of the registration fee, prescribed under Rule 5.3.

5.3 The registration fee for the Competition shall be as follows: Standard Registrations: ₹3000/- per team.

- Early Bird Registration Valid till 30th September :- 10% i.e. 2700 Rs

5.4 The aforesaid registration fee shall not include accommodation or any other incidental expenses. The only included with registration is 3 time meals for 2 days (14th and 15th October)

5.5 The registration fee, once paid, shall be strictly non-refundable under any circumstances.

5.6 Teams shall provide accurate details of all the members at the time of registration.

5.7 Each team shall designate one member as the primary contact person, who shall be responsible for all communication with the Administrators.

5.8 All official communication shall be made to the email address (ssswclawevents@gmail.com) provided at the time of registration.

5.9 Upon successful registration, each team shall be allotted a Team Code.

5.10 All references to teams during the Competition shall be made through the allotted Team Code.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

5.11 Registration for the Competition shall constitute deemed consent by the participants to comply with all rules and regulations of the Competition.

5.12 The Administrators reserve the right to use photographs, recordings, or other materials from the Competition for academic and/or promotional purposes.

6. ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL

6.1 Accommodation

6.1.1 Accommodation shall not be provided by the Organising Committee to participating teams, team members, coaches, faculty advisors, observers or accompanying persons.

6.1.2 All participants travelling from outside Bhopal or requiring overnight stay shall be solely responsible for making and bearing the cost of their own accommodation arrangements.

6.1.3 The Organising Committee may, where feasible, provide participants with suggestive information regarding nearby hotels, hostels or other accommodation options. Such information shall be provided only for the convenience of participants and shall not constitute a recommendation, booking, endorsement or guarantee by the Organising Committee.

6.1.4 Participants are advised to independently verify the suitability, safety, availability and terms of any accommodation before making a booking.

6.2 Travel and Local Transportation

6.2.1 All expenses relating to travel to and from the Competition venue, including railway, bus, air travel and local transportation, shall be borne by the participating teams or individual participants.

6.2.2 Unless specifically notified otherwise, the Organising Committee shall not be responsible for arranging or bearing the cost of transportation between:

- Railway stations, airports or bus stands and the participants' place of stay;
- The participants' place of stay and the Competition venue; or
- Any other location.

6.2.3 Participants are advised to make appropriate travel and accommodation arrangements well in advance to ensure timely reporting for the Competition.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

6.3 Responsibility

The Organising Committee shall not be responsible for any loss, cancellation, inconvenience or additional expense arising from accommodation or travel arrangements independently made by participating teams.

Any changes to the Competition schedule shall be communicated through the official channels of the Competition.

7. CLARIFICATIONS

7.1 The last date for submitting clarifications to the Case Record is **3rd October, 2026**. All such requests must be submitted only through the email I'd (ssswclawevents@gmail.com) provided by the Organising Committee via the registered email address of the primary contact person. No Party is allowed to submit more than ten questions.

7.2 The request for clarifications should be clear and related to the facts of the case and not related. The participants shall confine their submissions to the issues framed above and the applicable provisions of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, along with relevant judicial precedents.

7.3 All clarifications shall be issued as a Procedural Order and shall be notified through an email sent to the respective primary contact person of the team on **5th October, 2026**.

8. ANONYMITY OF TEAMS

8.1 Teams shall not reveal the name of their institution, or names of the participants, anywhere either in the memorials or during the course of the Oral Rounds. Teams must also not make use of, or display in, any manner whatsoever, any logo, pins, badges etc. in the memorials or during the course of the oral arguments.

8.2 A team must be identified only by the team code that will be allotted to it after final registration, as per Rule 5.9.

8.3 Violation of memorial anonymity at any stage of the Competition shall lead to immediate disqualification of the team, irrespective of the round or position attained.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

8.4 The Administrators' decision regarding the sharing of scoresheets of the Oral Rounds shall be final and binding. The scoresheets shall be provided to the participating teams one month after the conclusion of the Fest, and no team shall be entitled to seek or claim access to the same prior to such period.

9. MEMORIALS

9.1 General

9.1.1 Each team must prepare one Claimant Memorial and one Respondent Memorial. The language of all the memorials must be English.

9.1.2 The Administrators reserve the right to publish and disseminate memorials submitted to and for the Competition. The memorials shall be attributed to the relevant institution and participants during such publication and dissemination.

9.1.3 Submission of memorials in this Competition shall constitute consent to such publication and dissemination.

9.2 Submission of Soft Copies and Hard Copies

9.2.1 All teams shall send a soft copy of memorials for each side in both MS Word and PDF formats, latest by 11:59 PM IST on **9th October 2026**. The submission shall be made via a Google Form that shall be circulated beforehand. Any submission made after the said deadline, unless extended, shall be considered as late submission and penalized according to Rule 9.3 of the Competition. The submission shall be made through this [link](#)

9.2.2 Each memorial should be contained in a single file with the name of the file being the allocated team code followed by the first letter of the party whose arguments are presented in that memorial, i.e., an 'R' for Respondent and a 'C' for Claimant. For instance, the Claimant memorial of team code AR-02 should be named "AR-02C".

9.2.3 Hard Copies: Teams shall submit 5 hard copies of each memorial (Claimant and Respondent) at the time of registration on **14 October 2026**. Memorial Exchange: The Organising Committee shall conduct the exchange of memorials after the Draw of Lots on **14 October 2026**. Teams shall not directly exchange memorials with their opponents. Late submission may attract penalties as determined by the Organising Committee. Teams shall ordinarily be provided 20–30 minutes to review the opposing team's memorial before the commencement of the relevant oral round.

9.3 Format of Memorials

9.3.1 Each Memorial (one for claimant and one for respondent) shall contain the following components, in the order specified below:

- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- Table of Abbreviations
- Index of Authorities
- Statement of Jurisdiction
- Statement of Facts
- Issues Raised
- Summary of Arguments
- Arguments Advanced/Pleadings
- Prayer

9.3.2 The text of the Memorial, including headings and sub-headings, shall be in Times New Roman, font size 12, with 1.5-line spacing, and shall be justified.

9.3.3 The text of all footnotes shall be in Times New Roman, font size 10, with single line spacing, and shall be justified.

9.3.4 Each page of the memorial shall have margins of one inch (2.54 cm) on all sides, and a page size of A4.

9.3.5 The Cover Page of each memorial shall contain only the following:

- Team code
- Name of the forum
- Name and year of the Competition

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

- Name of the case
- Title of the memorial (Claimant or Respondent)

9.3.6 The Statement of Facts shall be limited to a concise statement of relevant facts and shall not exceed two (2) pages.

9.3.7 The Summary of Arguments shall not exceed two (1) pages.

9.3.8 The Arguments Advanced/Pleadings and Prayer shall not exceed twenty five (25) pages.

9.3.9 Exceeding the page limit(s), as prescribed shall lead to a penalty marking of 2 marks per page.

9.3.10 Citations shall conform to the **OSCOLA (4th edition)** citation style.

9.3.11 Footnotes shall not contain substantive arguments and shall be limited to citation of authorities only.

10. JUDGING OF MEMORIALS

10.1 The memorials submitted by the participating teams shall be evaluated based on the criteria set out below, and marks shall be awarded in accordance with the parameters specified herein

Criteria	Maximum Marks
Accuracy of Facts and Use of Record	10
Clarity, Coherence, and Organization	15
Depth and Relevance of Research	20
Formatting and Citation	10
Grammar, Language, and Style	5
Knowledge and Application of Law	20
Originality and Critical Thought	10
Quality of Legal Research and Articulation	10

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

10.2 In case of a tie in memorial scores, higher marks in Depth and Relevance of Research shall be taken into consideration followed by Knowledge and Application of Law and then, finally by a draw of lots.

10.3 For every hour of delay in submission of soft copies of the memorials from the prescribed time of submission, one mark shall be deducted, per side. Any memorial submitted 12 hours after the time prescribed shall render the team ineligible for the Best Memorial Award. The decision of the Administrators shall be final in this regard.

10.4 In case instances of plagiarism are found to be prevalent in a certain memorial, in reference to Rule 1.11, the Administrators may impose any sanction that they may deem fit, including disqualification from the Competition.

11. COMPENDIUMS

11.1 Submission of Compendium

11.1.1 Teams may, at their discretion, prepare and submit a compendium containing relevant authorities for the Oral Rounds.

11.2 Format and Requirements

11.2.1 The compendium shall contain a cover page indicating the Team Code and the side represented.

11.2.2 An index of authorities shall be provided at the beginning of the compendium.

11.2.3 Only relevant portions of authorities shall be included, and unnecessary or excessive material shall be avoided.

11.3 Usage during Oral Rounds

11.3.1 Teams may rely on the compendium during the course of their oral submissions.

11.3.2 Hard copies of the compendium may be presented to the Tribunal during the Oral Rounds, subject to the discretion of the same.

11.3.3 The compendium shall not contain any identifying marks, including the name of the institution or participants.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

11.4 Restrictions

11.4.1 The compendium shall not contain any written submissions, arguments, or notes prepared by the team.

11.4.2 Any violation of rules regarding compendium may attract penalties, including rejection of the compendium, as determined by the Organising Committee.

12. ORAL ROUNDS

12.1 General

12.1.1 The Oral Rounds shall be conducted in the English language, and all pleadings and submissions made before the Tribunal shall strictly adhere to the same.

12.1.2 Each team shall be represented by two (2) Oralists in every round of the Competition.

12.1.3 The Oral Rounds shall be conducted before a Tribunal comprising one or more arbitrators, as may be determined by the Organising Committee.

12.2 Structure of Rounds

12.2.1 Each team shall argue once as the Claimant and once as the Respondent during the Preliminary Rounds.

12.2.2 The Competition shall consist of Preliminary Rounds followed by Advanced Rounds, which shall include the Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, and the Final Round. *“The exact advanced-round structure may be modified depending upon the number of confirmed teams.”*

12.2.3 In the Advanced Rounds, the side to be represented by each team shall be determined through a draw of lots conducted prior to the commencement of the respective round.

12.3 Time Allocation

12.3.1 Each team shall be allotted a total of fifteen (15) minutes to present its case in the Preliminary Rounds.

12.3.2 Each team shall be allotted a total of fifteen (15) minutes to present its case in the QuarterFinal Rounds.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

12.3.3 Each team shall be allotted a total of twenty (20) minutes to present its case in the Semi-Final Rounds.

12.3.4 Each team shall be allotted a total of thirty (30) minutes to present its case in the Final Round.

12.3.5 The division of time between the Oralists, as well as the time reserved for rebuttal or surrebuttal, shall be at the discretion of the team, subject to the provisions of Rule 11.4.

12.3.6 Teams shall inform the Tribunal of the division of time prior to the commencement of the round, and such allocation shall not be modified thereafter.

12.4 Time Distribution

12.4.1 In the Preliminary and Quarter-Final Rounds, each oralist shall be allotted not less than six (6) minutes for the presentation of arguments, and not more than three (3) minutes may be reserved for rebuttal or sur-rebuttal.

12.4.2 In the Semi-Final Rounds, each oralist shall be allotted not less than eight (8) minutes for the presentation of arguments, and not more than four (4) minutes may be reserved for rebuttal or surrebuttal.

12.4.3 In the Final Round, each oralist shall be allotted no less than twelve (12) minutes for the presentation of arguments, and no more than six (6) minutes may be reserved for rebuttal or surrebuttal.

12.5 Order of Pleadings

12.5.1 The order of arguments shall ordinarily be as follows:

- a. Claimant Oralist 1
- b. Claimant Oralist 2
- c. Respondent Oralist 1
- d. Respondent Oralist 2

12.5.2 Rebuttal shall be presented by the Claimant, followed by sur-rebuttal by the Respondent.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

12.6 Rebuttal and Sur-Rebuttal

12.6.1 Rebuttal shall be strictly limited to responding to the arguments raised by the opposing side during their oral submissions.

12.6.2 Sur-rebuttal shall be limited to responding to the rebuttal made by the Claimant.

12.6.3 A team shall be permitted to present rebuttal or sur-rebuttal only if time for the same has been expressly reserved prior to the commencement of the round.

12.7 Conduct during Oral Rounds

12.7.1 Oralists shall address the Tribunal with due courtesy and shall maintain proper decorum and professionalism throughout the proceedings.

12.7.2 Participants shall not disclose their institutional affiliation during the course of the Competition, and oralists shall not refer to themselves or their co-counsel by their names during oral submissions.

12.7.3 No communication shall take place between the Oralists and any other person during the course of the round.

12.7.4 The use of electronic devices during Oral Rounds shall strictly be prohibited.

12.8 Powers of the Tribunal

12.8.1 The Tribunal may, at its discretion, extend the time allotted to any team, provided that both teams are treated fairly and equally.

12.8.2 The Tribunal shall have the authority to interrupt Oralists at any time for the purpose of seeking clarifications or testing the submissions made.

13. JUDGING OF ORAL ROUNDS

13.1 Each Preliminary Round shall be judged by a minimum of two (2) arbitrators. The number of arbitrators in each Advanced Round shall be at the discretion of the Administrators.

13.2 Each oral pleading will be marked on a maximum of one hundred (100) marks by each of the judges.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

13.3 The oral pleading shall be judged on the following criteria:

Criteria	Marks
Appreciation and Application of Facts	15
Clarity, Logic, and Structure of Presentation	20
Knowledge and Application of Legal Principles	15
Overall Presentation, Poise, and Demeanour	10
Response to Questions	15
Use of Authorities	15
Courtroom Manner and Persuasiveness	10

14. COMPETITION FORMAT AND PROCEDURE

14.1 The Competition shall consist of Preliminary and Advanced Oral Rounds. Each team shall argue in two (2) Preliminary Rounds: once as Claimant and once as Respondent. The Advanced Rounds shall, unless otherwise specified, consist of three knock-out rounds – the Quarter Finals, the Semi-Finals and the Final Round.

14.1.1 The exchange Of Memorial and the Draw of lots will be conducted on 13th October, 2026. It will be conducted through online mode and the contact person from each team must be present to receive their team codes for Preliminary round – I. the details regarding the Procedure and Platform for conducting the same will be notified to the teams beforehand. The other rounds shall be conducted manually efore the commencement of the respective rounds.

14.2 Preliminary Rounds

14.2.1 Each team shall participate in two (2) Preliminary Rounds.

14.2.2 In the Preliminary Rounds, each team shall argue once as the Claimant and once as the Respondent.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

14.2.3 The pairing of teams for the Preliminary Rounds shall be determined by a draw of lots conducted by the Administrators.

14.2.4 No two teams shall face each other more than once in the Preliminary Rounds.

14.2.5 The results of the Preliminary Rounds shall be determined on the basis of the cumulative scores obtained by each team.

14.3 Qualification to Advanced Rounds

14.3.1 The top eight (8) teams, based on their cumulative oral scores in the Preliminary Rounds, shall qualify for the Quarter-Finals.

14.3.2 In case of a tie, the higher ranking shall be determined on the basis of the following criteria, in order of priority: a. Aggregate memorial scores; b. Highest team score in a single preliminary round, being the highest score obtained by the team in any one of the preliminary rounds. For example, if Team A secures oral scores of 75 and 67 in the preliminary rounds, and Team B secures scores of 71 and 71, Team A shall be ranked higher on account of having the higher single-round score (75); c. Highest score obtained by an individual oralist in the preliminary rounds, being the highest score secured by any one oralist of the team in any one of the preliminary rounds. For example, if the highest score obtained by an oralist of Team A is 51, and the highest score obtained by an oralist of Team B is 54, Team B shall be ranked higher; d. In the event that a tie persists even after applying the above criteria, the same shall be resolved by a draw of lots conducted by the Organising Committee.

14.3.3 Decisions of the Organising Committee, in this regard, shall be final and binding.

14.4 Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals

14.4.1 The Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals shall be conducted as knockout rounds.

14.4.2 The pairing of teams in the Advanced Rounds shall be determined through a draw of lots conducted by the Organising Committee.

14.4.3 The winners of the Quarter-Finals shall advance to the Semi-Finals.

14.4.4 The winners of the Semi-Finals shall advance to the Final Round.

14.5 Final Round

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

14.5.1 The winners of the Semi-Finals shall compete in the Final Round.

14.5.2 The winner of the Final Round shall be declared the Winner of the Competition, and the other finalist shall be declared the Runner-Up.

14.6 Determination of Winners

14.6.1 In the event of a tie in the cumulative Preliminary Round scores, the following criteria shall apply sequentially:

- Higher combined oral score in both Preliminary Rounds;
- Higher score in Preliminary Round II;
- Higher Memorial Score;
- Higher score for application of law to facts;
- Decision of the Organising Committee, where necessary.

14.6.2 Quarterfinals, Semifinals and the Grand Final shall ordinarily be decided on the basis of the oral performance in the respective round. Memorial scores shall primarily be considered for determining rankings and qualification from the Preliminary Rounds, unless otherwise notified. The decision of the arbitral tribunal or judging panel in a knockout round shall be final.

14.7 Non-Appearance

14.7.1 If a team fails to appear within 15 minutes for a scheduled round, the round may proceed ex parte at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

14.7.2 The Organising Committee reserves the right to impose penalties or disqualify a team for failure to appear.

15. CONDUCTING OF ROUNDS

15.1 The Preliminary and Quarter-Final Rounds of the Competition shall be conducted in an offline mode on **14th October, 2026**.

15.2 The Semi-Final and Final Round shall be conducted in an offline mode on **15th October, 2026**, at the designated venue.

15.3 The Participants are not allowed to use any electronic devices during the rounds. Any team, if found to violate this rule shall be subjected to penalty as decided by the Administrators, which may include disqualification as well.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

15.4 Further details regarding the competition shall be communicated to the teams completing the final registration process within the deadline.

15.5 No audio or videotaping of the oral proceedings is permitted without the permission of the Organising Committee.

15.6 External Assistance

Once the oral rounds commence, team members shall not receive substantive assistance from:

- Coaches;
- Faculty members;
- Alumni;
- Other participants;
- Any external person.

Participants may be required to remain in designated areas before or during their rounds.

15.7 Code of Conduct

15.7.1 All participants are expected to uphold the highest standards of professional and academic conduct.

The following may constitute misconduct:

- Misrepresentation of identity or eligibility;
- Plagiarism (Maximum 10%);
- Disclosure of team identity where anonymity is required;
- Unfair communication with judges;
- External assistance during rounds;
- Misbehaviour towards participants, volunteers or officials;
- Damage to institutional property;

Any conduct prejudicial to the fairness or reputation of the Competition.

15.7.2 Force Majeure and Modification

The Organising Committee reserves the right to modify:

- The Competition schedule;
- The number of rounds;
- The format;
- The venue;
- The time limits;
- Any procedural requirement;

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

where necessary due to administrative, logistical, technical, security or other unforeseen circumstances. Participants shall be notified of any material modification through official communication channels.

15.8 Plagiarism

15.8.1 Memorials must represent the original work of the participating team. The Organising Committee reserves the right to conduct plagiarism checks.

If substantial plagiarism is established, the Organising Committee may:

- Deduct marks;
- Reject the memorial;
- Disqualify the team.

15.8.2 The use of Artificial Intelligence tools, including generative AI, for drafting, substantially generating, paraphrasing, researching or preparing any part of the memorial or oral submissions is strictly prohibited. All submissions must be the original work of the participating team. AI may be used only for basic proofreading, spelling, grammar or formatting assistance, provided it does not generate or substantially alter the substantive content. Violation may result in deduction of marks, rejection of the memorial, or disqualification, depending on the severity of the violation. The decision of the Organising Committee shall be final.

16. DRESS CODE

16.1 All participants shall adhere to a strict court attire dress code during the Oral Rounds.

16.2 Participants shall wear black trousers, white shirts, black blazers, black ties, and formal black shoes.

16.3 No casual or coloured attire shall be permitted.

16.4 Any deviation from the prescribed dress code may result in denial of participation in the round or such penalty as deemed appropriate by the Organising Committee.

17. PRIZES AND AWARDS

17.1 Attractive cash prizes and prestigious awards for outstanding performances.

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

The Competition may recognise the following:

- Winning Team
- Runner-Up Team
- Best Advocate
- Best Memorial
- Best Researcher

17.2 The Organising Committee may introduce additional awards or certificates. The nature and value of prizes shall be announced at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

17.3 All participants shall be awarded Certificates of participation and also Certificates of Merit for outstanding performers upon the successful completion of the Competition.

18. PAYMENT DETAILS

18.1 The registration fee shall be remitted only through the bank account specified hereinbelow.

18.2 Proof of payment, clearly indicating the transaction reference number shall be submitted to the Administrators in the prescribed manner for verification.

Payment Details	
Account No.	40072089272
IFSC Code	SBIN0003867
Name	Mrs. Priyamvada Bhargava

Aayam - 2026, National Arbitration Competition

SSSLCW Law Fest, 2026

P Priyamvada Bhargava

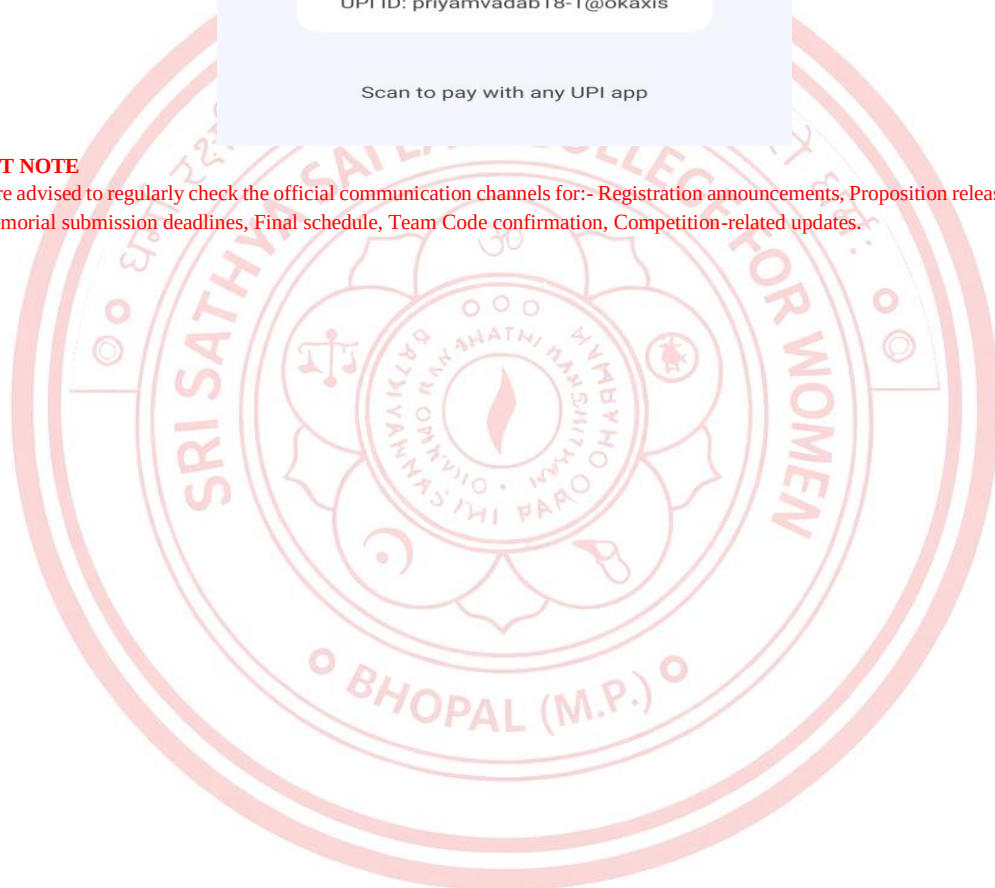


UPI ID: priyamvadab18-1@okaxis

Scan to pay with any UPI app

IMPORTANT NOTE

Participants are advised to regularly check the official communication channels for:- Registration announcements, Proposition release, Clarification deadlines, Memorial submission deadlines, Final schedule, Team Code confirmation, Competition-related updates.



ORGANISING COMMITTEE

PATRON-IN-CHIEF

SHRI JAMBOO BHANDARI

PATRON

SHRI K.K. NAIR

SSSCW DIRECTOR

DR. PRATIBHA SINGH

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

DR. RENU MISHRA
(PRINCIPAL, SRI SATHYA SAI
COLLEGE FOR WOMEN,
BHOPAL)

DR. ANJU BAJPAI
(PRINCIPAL LAW COLLEGE)

DR. MEENESH HINDOLIA
(H.O.D - LAW)

FACULTY CONVENERS

MS. PRIYAMVADA BHARGAVA
(ASSISTANT PROFESSOR)

FACULTY CO - CONVENORS

MS. AYUSHI TIWARI
(ASSISTANT PROFESSOR)

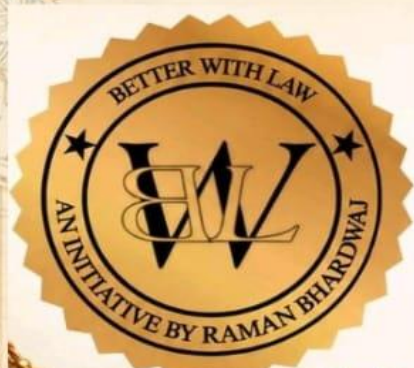
MS. POOJA CHOUHAN
(ASSISTANT PROFESSOR)

MS. PRISHITA SINGH
(ASSISTANT PROFESSOR)

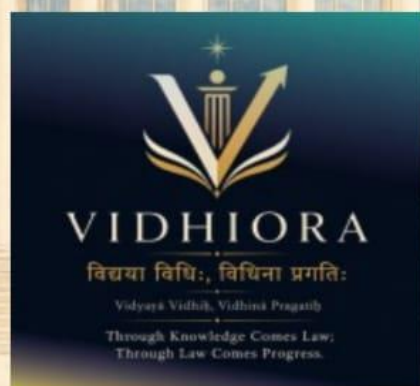
OUR COLLABORATORS



**ALL INDIA LAW
STUDENTS FORUM**



**Stephen & Shrestha
Eduhub LLP**



CONTACT DETAILS

Faculty Coordinator

Ms. Priyamwada Bhargava [Contact No. - 7470705644]

Ms. Ayushi Tiwari [Contact No. -6388121744]

Student Coordinators

Ms. Himanshi Malviya [Contact No. - 7089436051]

Ms. Nehal Gurve [Contact No. - 7999268182]

Mail id for Official Communication –

ssswclawevents@gmail.com

Venue – Sri Sathya Sai Law College for Women, Bhopal

