

Centre For Alternative Dispute Resolution,
Rajiv Gandhi National University Of Law, Punjab

&

Dr. P.C. Markanda Chair on Alternative Dispute
Resolution

6th RGNUL NATIONAL NEGOTIATION COMPETITION, 2026



Virtual Rounds:
25th October, 2026

Advanced Rounds:
21st-22nd November, 2026

CADR-RGNUL

Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (RGNUL), Punjab, is a premier law university, established in 2006. Known for its excellence in legal education, RGNUL offers a comprehensive curriculum that balances theoretical knowledge with practical skills. The university provides students with opportunities to participate in various competitions, including those focused on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), helping them develop crucial negotiation and mediation skills. With a modern campus, experienced faculty, and a strong emphasis on research, RGNUL prepares its students for successful careers in the legal field, fostering both academic and professional growth.

The Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution (CADR) at RGNUL, Punjab, is dedicated to advancing the study and practice of ADR methods. Established in 2018 to foster interest among students and researchers, CADR promotes ADR as a tool for achieving socioeconomic and political justice. The Centre aims to strengthen ADR mechanisms in India by providing a platform for students to explore and deepen their understanding of alternative dispute resolution. Through workshops, seminars, and research initiatives, CADR supports the development of future legal professionals skilled in ADR, contributing to a more effective and equitable legal system.



Dr. P.C. Markanda Chair on ADR



Late Advocate Dr. P.C. Markanda was one of the leading arbitration lawyers in India. He was popularly known as the Father of Indian Arbitration. His career spanning several decades saw him contributing immensely to the working and jurisprudence of arbitration in the country. Starting off as a civil engineer, he went on to earn a Doctor of Laws (LL.D.), and wrote several books on the law of arbitration, partnership, building and engineering contracts, for laypersons and experts. Dr. Markanda was also a honoured recipient of a posthumous degree of LL.D. (post-doctoral) from Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (RGNUL). To carry forward his legacy and vision, RGNUL has set up Dr. P.C. Markanda Chair on ADR.

The objective of the Chair is to set up RGNUL as a hub of Arbitration and to render training and technical assistance by way of setting up training institutes for Arbitration and Mediation, to conduct meaningful research in the areas of ADR and provide consultancy by way of introducing legal start-ups and collaborations in the country and further it aims to impart basic education by way of initiating new degree, diploma and certificate courses by uplifting the core principles and ethics behind ADR.

Previous Editions

The *Inaugural* RGNUL National Negotiation Competition was organized by CADR, RGNUL and was held online from October 8–10, 2021. Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas acted as the Chief Knowledge Partner, with CAMP as Supporting Partner, Justice Kuldip Prakash Bhandari Foundation, Chandigarh as Knowledge Partner, and SCC Online as Media Partner. The three-day event attracted 34 teams from premier law universities.

The *Second Edition* of the Competition took place physically from November 12–14, 2022, organized by CADR, RGNUL, and the Dr. P.C. Markanda Chair on ADR, RGNUL, Punjab. Knowledge partners and sponsors included Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas, Justice Kuldip Prakash Bhandari, and the Indian Dispute Resolution Centre. Media partners were Live Law, Lawoctopus, and Latest Laws, while Young Negotiators Club (YNC) India and Probono Club RGNUL served as Supporting Partners.

The *Third Edition* of the RGNUL National Negotiation Competition was hosted by the Centre from November 3–5, 2023. Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. continued its association as the Chief Knowledge Partner. With SCC Online as Media Partner, the event saw collaborations with Justice Kuldip Prakash Bhandari Foundation, Chandigarh, Eastern Book Company and Dr. P.C. Markanda Chair on ADR.

Previous Editions

The *Fourth Edition* of the RGNUL National Negotiation Competition was held online from February 7–9, 2025, organized by CADR, RGNUL with Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. as the Chief Knowledge Partner, Justice Kuldip Prakash Bhandari Foundation, Chandigarh, as a key collaborator, Manupatra as the Knowledge Partner, and LiveLaw as the Media Partner.

The *Fifth Edition* of the RGNUL National Negotiation Competition was held online from November 7–9, 2025, organized by CADR, RGNUL, with Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. as the Principal Knowledge Partner, Markanda Advocates as the Knowledge Partner, Justice K.P. Bhandari Foundation, Chandigarh, as the Chief Advisory Partner, the Centre for Trade and Investment Law as the Expert Partner, Kovise Foundation Conflict Resolution International as the Supporting Partner, and SCC Times as the Media Partner.



Our Collaborators

**Shardul Amarchand
Mangaldas & Co.**

Principle Knowledge Partner



Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas

Markanda Advocates

Knowledge Partner



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MARKANDA ADVOCATES
Arbitration & Contracts

**Justice KP Bhandari
Foundation**

Chief Advisory Partner



Justice Kuldip Prakash Bhandari
Foundation, Chandigarh

Our Collaborators

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co.



Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co (SAM), is one of India's leading law firms rated by International Organisations, Law Directories and Professional Journals. As a full-service law firm, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas and Co. is renowned in the business community for its ability to enable business, its innovative solutions, responsiveness and collaboration with its clients. The firm has over 700 lawyers, including over 150 Partners, offering legal services through their offices in New Delhi, Mumbai, Gurugram, Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Bengaluru and Chennai.



Markanda Advocates

Markanda Advocates, a top law firm in Delhi and a leading Arbitration Law Firm in India, specializes in handling significant claims. It serves as legal counsel in various domestic and international arbitrations, including investor-state arbitrations and construction disputes. The firm also assists in dispute resolution through negotiations and mediation, with lawyers often acting as arbitrators. Collaborating closely with clients' in-house legal teams, they offer expertise in resolving disputes and frequently partner with co counsel seeking a team that respects existing client relationships.

Our Collaborators

Justice KP Bhandari Foundation



Justice Kuldip Prakash Bhandari
Foundation, Chandigarh

The JKPF was founded by Mrs. Prabha Bhandari, Mr. Pradip Bhandari, and Ms. Varuna Bhandari Gugnani in 2017 in memory of the late Justice Kuldip Prakash Bhandari, who served as a judge on the Punjab and Haryana High Court, as the Advocate General for the State of Punjab, as the Chairman of the Punjab State Law Commission, and as a distinguished Senior Advocate on the Supreme Court of India. JKPF is a trust dedicated to spreading knowledge, promoting education in institutions, awarding fellowships, instilling a sense of responsibility to serve society, and educating students and researchers about their role in "National Development."



Format

The 6th National Negotiation Competition will be held in hybrid mode.

There shall be two preliminary rounds (online mode) followed by quarter finals, semi-finals, and finals (offline mode). The two-member Negotiating Team will comprise of a client and a counsel who will mandatorily have to play both roles atleast once during preliminary rounds.

Universities interested in sending more than one team are requested to express their intention by reaching out to the organizing committee. It should be noted that the allocation of slots to any university will be a decision made solely by CADR- RGNUL, and shall be final and binding.

Any student enrolled in Undergraduate or Postgraduate Law degree programme in any University recognised by the Bar Council of India as on 1st September 2026, is eligible to participate.

Each University must be represented by two students, i.e., one Client and one Counsel. The composition of the team will not be permitted to change once the same has been communicated to the Organising Committee.

The Registration Fee for the competition is INR 8,000/- per team (exclusive of GST). Teams qualifying for the Advanced Rounds shall be required to pay an additional fee of INR 4,000/- per team (exclusive of GST), which shall also cover accommodation for the team during the Advanced Rounds. The fees, once paid, are non-refundable.

[Provisional Registration Link](#)

[Documents](#)

Timeline

Dates of the competition

Online Preliminary Rounds: 25th October, 2026
Offline Advanced Rounds: 21st-22nd November, 2026



Last date to submit Negotiation Plan
22nd October, 2026



Final Registration Deadline
20th October, 2026



Last date to submit Clarifications
17th October, 2026



Provisional Registration Deadline
8th October, 2026



Release of General Information
03rd October, 2026



Provisional Registration Open
03rd October, 2026



Awards

Winners

The team with the highest marks in the final round of the competition shall be the Winners of the Competition.

Runner-Up

The team with the lower marks in the final round of the competition, shall be the Runners-up.

Best Negotiator

The participant with the highest individual score in the Preliminary Rounds will be awarded the Best Negotiator.

Best Negotiating Plan

The team with the highest average score of the two Negotiation Plans in the Preliminary Rounds will be awarded the Best Negotiating Plan award.

Certificate of Participation

All participating teams will receive a certificate of participation.

*Exciting cash prizes and internship opportunities will be conferred, with specific information to be released in due course.

Contact Details

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