



7TH RMLNLU – SCC ONLINE[®]

INTERNATIONAL MEDIA LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2019

March 1-3, 2019

RULES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| 1. | DEFINITIONS | 2 |
|-----|--|------|
| 2. | TEAM COMPOSITION AND ELIGIBILITY | 3 |
| 3. | LANGUAGE | 3 |
| 4. | REGISTRATION | 4 |
| 5. | REGISTRATION FEE | 4 |
| 6. | CLARIFICATIONS TO THE MOOT PROPOSITION | 4 |
| 7. | ANONYMITY | 5 |
| 8. | ACCOMMODATION, FOOD AND TRANSPORTATION | 5 |
| 9. | MEMORIAL | 6 |
| 10. | EVALUATION OF MEMORIAL | 9 |
| 11. | QUALIFICATION OF MEMORIALS AND SEEDING | 9 |
| 12. | EXCHANGE OF MEMORIALS | . 10 |
| 13. | ORAL SUBMISSIONS | .10 |
| 14. | STRUCTURE OF THE ORAL ROUNDS | .13 |
| 15. | SCOUTING | 17 |
| 16. | AWARDS | .17 |
| 17. | MISCELLANEOUS | .18 |
| AN | NEXURE | 20 |

1. **DEFINITIONS**

- **1.1** *"Competition"* means the 7th RMLNLU International Media Law Moot Court Competition, 2019.
- **"Court Bailiff"** refers to the student volunteer who shall be entrusted with duties such as maintenance of order in a courtroom during a round and letting speakers know the time duration for which they've spoken.
- "Institution" means any recognized law school/college or university.
- **1.4** *"Memorial"* means the written arguments submitted, on behalf of both the Applicants and Respondents, according to the official Competition Rules by each Team. Memorials are also referred to as written pleadings.
- **"Organising Committee"** includes the members of the RMLNLU Moot Court Committee.
- **1.6** *"Payment Receipt"* means a written acknowledgment that the payment of the registration fees has been made.
- **1.7** *"Petitioner"* means the party which is presenting a petition to the court alleging the commission of a wrong.
- **"Preliminary Seeding Chart"** means the chart that has been prepared on the basis of memorial scores wherein the top 50% teams with higher marks are made to face the bottom 50% teams in the preliminary oral rounds.
- **19** *"Researcher"* means the team member whose role is confined to preparation of the Memorial and is not allowed to speak in the oral rounds.

- **1.10** *"Respondent"* means the party against whom the petition is filed.
- **1.11** *"Rules"* means these official Competition Rules and any applicable supplements to these Rules published by the Organising Committee.
- **1.12** *"Speaker"* refers to the members of the team who will be pleading before the judges in the oral rounds.
- **1.13** *"Valedictory Ceremony"* refers to the closing ceremony of the 7th RMLNLU International Media Law Moot Court Competition, 2019 wherein the distribution of prizes shall also take place.

2. TEAM COMPOSITION AND ELIGIBILITY

- 21 Students pursuing the three or five year courses of the LL.B. degree or its equivalent in the academic year 2018 2019 from any recognized law school/college/university in India/abroad are eligible to participate.
- Any recognized law school/college/university shall be entitled to send only 1 (one) team to the Competition.
- The participating team shall comprise a minimum of two and a maximum of three members. In a team of two members, both the members shall be designated as Speakers. In a team of three members, two members shall be designated as Speakers and the third member of the team shall be designated as a Researcher.
- No additional member or team coach is allowed to accompany the team.

3. LANGUAGE

The official language of the competition shall be English.

4. REGISTRATION

- The Institutions should provisionally register themselves by sending an e-mail to_rmlscconlinemoot@gmail.com, latest by **November 10, 2018 (23:59 hrs IST)**.
- 42 Institutions must complete their registration by sending an e-mail to rmlscconlinemoot@gmail.com, latest by **December 5, 2018 (23:59 hrs IST).** The e-mail should include a scanned copy of the duly filled registration form.

5. REGISTRATION FEE

5.1 Indian Universities

The Registration Fee is INR 4000 for Indian teams. Indian teams must make the payment of such amount through the "State Bank Collect" multi-modal payment portal. [For Details see Annexure]

5.2 Foreign Universities

All teams from nations in the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) shall pay an equivalent sum of INR 8000 (excluding service/conversion charges, if any). All other foreign teams shall pay an equivalent sum of INR 15000 (excluding service/conversion charges, if any).

[For details, see Annexure.]

In case of a memo knockout, the teams shall be required to pay the registration fee only after they have cleared the memo knockout round by **February 10, 2019**.

6. CLARIFICATIONS TO THE MOOT PROPOSITION

6.1 Participating teams may request for clarifications to the official moot problem by

sending an email to rmlscconlinemoot@gmail.com latest by **December 5, 2018** (23:59 hrs IST).

62 A full list of clarifications shall be released by **December 15, 2018.**

7. ANONYMITY

- 7.1 The participating team shall be allotted a team code upon registration.
- 72 The student counsels shall not state their names or the names of the institution to which they belong during the oral rounds, and instead must use the code allotted.
- 73 The team shall not disclose their identity anywhere in their written Memorials and instead should use the code allotted.
- **74** Non-compliance with the Rules 7.2 and 7.3 shall result in immediate disqualification of the participant/team.
- 75 The decision of the Organising Committee in this regard shall be final.

8. ACCOMMODATION, FOOD AND TRANSPORTATION

- Accommodation shall be provided to all teams by the Organisers from the morning of March 1, 2018 to the evening of March 3, 2018. Teams who intend to arrive prior to or leave after the specified dates are required to inform the Organising Committee in advance.
- **8.2** Food and Transportation to and from the venue shall be provided to all the teams for the aforementioned duration.
- 83 Teams should send their travel plan, as and when asked by the Organising

Committee, once the Payment Receipt has been submitted and the registration is completed.

9. MEMORIAL

- **9.1** Each team shall prepare an Applicant and a Respondent Memorial.
- One (1) soft copy (only in MS Word .doc/.docx format) must be emailed to rmlscconlinemoot@gmail.com latest by **January 15, 2019** (23:59 hours IST) with the subject "Memorials for Team Code". The file names of the electronic copies of the Memorials must contain only the team code and the side being represented in the following format: e.g. (for Team Code 13) 13P or 13R, "P" being for "Petitioner" Memorial and "R" for "Respondent" Memorial and so forth.
- 9.3 The Memorial for each side should be submitted as one single file and not in multiple files. Any violation of this rule shall invite penalty in accordance with rule 9.7.
- 9.4 Six (6) hard copies for each side of the Memorial must be submitted to the organisers at the time of registration on March 1, 2019.
- 95 The hard copies must be identical to the soft copy. Violation of this rule would entail disqualification from the Competition.

9.6 Format of Memorials

- **9.6.1.** The Memorials shall necessarily consist of only and only the following sections:
 - a) Cover Page
 - b) Table of Contents
 - c) List of Abbreviations
 - d) Index of Authorities (with page number where the authority has been cited)

-RMLNLU-SCC Online® Moot/ 2019/ Rules-

e) Statement of Jurisdiction

f) Statement of Facts (not exceeding 2 pages)

g) Statement of Issues

h) Summary of Arguments (not exceeding 2 pages)

i) Arguments Advanced (not exceeding 20 pages)

j) Prayer (not exceeding 1 page)

9.6.2. Each Memorial shall have the following and only the following on its cover page:

a) The team code on the upper right hand corner of the cover page

b) The name and place of the forum

c) The relevant legal provision under which it is filed

d) Name of parties and their status

e) On whose behalf the memorial is filed

9.6.3. Teams shall cite authorities in the Memorial using footnotes following the Harvard Bluebook 19th Edition (Blue Pages). Explanatory or illustrative footnotes

are not allowed.

9.6.4. The Memorial shall be printed on A4 size paper, with the following mandatory

formatting specifications:

a) Font Type: Times New Roman

b) Font Size: 12

c) 1.5 line Spacing

d) Margins: 1 inch on each side.

For footnotes, the formatting specifications are:

a) Font type: Times New Roman

b) Font Size: 10

c) Single Line Spacing

9.6.5. The Memorials shall be spiral bound. The following colour scheme shall be

followed for the Cover Page of the Memorial:

Petitioner: Blue Respondent: Red

9.7 Penalties

| Late Submission | 1 mark per memorial every 12 hours after the deadline of submission. Disqualification beyond 48 hours. |
|---|---|
| Wrong File Name | 1 mark per Memorial |
| Failure to submit Memorial as one File | 1 mark per Memorial |
| Exceeding page limits (Refer to Rule 9.6.1) | 1 mark per exceeding page |
| Failure to include the sections in the Memorial (Refer to Rule 9.6.1) | 3 marks per section |
| Failure to include the required information on the cover page (Refer to Rule 9.6.1) | 1 mark per violation |
| Failure to use the correct colour coding as per Rule 9.6.5. | 2 marks per Memorial |

10. EVALUATION OF MEMORIAL

- **10.1** Every Memorial will be marked on scale of 100.
- 102 The Memorial shall be evaluated according to the following criteria:
 - a) Knowledge of Law and Facts: 20 Marks
 - **b)** Proper and Articulate Analysis: 15 Marks
 - c) Depth and Use of Research: 15 Marks
 - d) Organisation, Presentation and Overall Formatting: 15 Marks
 - e) Grammar and Language: 10 Marks
 - f) Novelty of arguments: 15 Marks
 - g) Clarity of Thought and Originality: 10 Marks

11. QUALIFICATION OF MEMORIALS AND SEEDING

- 11.1 There shall be a Memorial Elimination Round subsequent to the submission and evaluation of the Memorials.
- The top 32 teams shall be selected based on their Memorial scores. Only these 32 teams shall be eligible to participate in the Oral Rounds of the Competition.
- The Result of the Memorial Elimination Round shall be notified to the teams latest by **February 5, 2019.**
- 11.4 The top 32 teams from the Memorial Elimination Round shall be seeded or ranked on the basis of their memorial scores and thus a Preliminary Seeding Chart shall be prepared.

12. EXCHANGE OF MEMORIALS

- There shall be an exchange of Memorials between the respective opposing teams, in accordance with the fixtures as determined by Seeding, prior to all the rounds of the Competition.
- The teams are prohibited from making any marks on the exchanged Memorials.
- The teams are prohibited from making any copies of the exchanged Memorials.
- At the conclusion of their respective Rounds, the teams are required to return the exchanged Memorials to the Court Bailiffs of that Court Room.

13. ORAL SUBMISSIONS

- 13.1 The time split between the speakers must be communicated to the Court Bailiff prior to the commencement of each Round. Once so informed, these timings shall not be changed.
- Use of any electronic gadgets is not permitted during the course of oral proceedings.
- Teams shall not disclose, in any manner whatsoever, for the entire duration of the Rounds, either their own individual identities or the identity of the institution that they represent, even if asked by the judges.
- Teams can pass on compendium of the sources they cite in their Memorials if so permitted by the judges.
- 135 Team scores shall not be disclosed after every round. Teams must not make

any attempt to gather any such information, until notified by the Organising Committee.

- Delay in appearance for a round exceeding five (5) minutes will render disqualification of the team for that round. In such a case, their opponent shall make their oral submissions *ex parte*.
- 13.7 Evaluation shall be done on the basis of the following criteria:
 - a) Knowledge of Law & Use of Authorities: 10 Marks
 - b) Application of Law to Facts: 10 Marks
 - c) Ingenuity and Ability to Answer Questions: 10 Marks
 - d) Time Management and Organisation: 10 Marks
 - e) Style, Poise, Courtesy, Demeanour: 5 Marks
 - f) Effective Rebuttals: 5 Marks

138 Preliminary Rounds

- **13.8.1** Each team will have the opportunity to argue from both the sides.
- **13.8.2** Time limit for the oral submissions shall be thirty (30) minutes for each team. This shall include the submissions of both the speakers from the team and the time reserved for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal. No speaker may reserve more than fifteen (15) minutes for his/her individual oral submissions.
- **13.8.3** No team shall be allowed more than 5 minutes for rebuttal or sur-rebuttal.
- **13.8.4** The sur-rebuttal shall be limited to the rebuttals made by the opponent team.
- **13.8.5** Only one (1) speaker from each team shall be permitted to rebut/sur-rebut.

13.9 Quarter Final Rounds

- **13.9.1** Time limit for the oral submissions shall be thirty (30) minutes for each team. This shall include the submissions of both the speakers from the team and the time reserved for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal.
- **13.9.2** The sur-rebuttal shall be limited to the rebuttals made by the team.
- **13.9.3** No speaker may reserve more than fifteen (15) minutes for his/her individual oral submissions.
- **13.9.4** Only one (1) speaker from each team shall be permitted to rebut/sur-rebut, as the case may be, subject to a maximum time limit of five (5) minutes.

13.10 Semi Final Rounds

- **13.10.1** Time limit for the oral submissions shall be forty-five (45) minutes for each team. This shall include the submissions of both the speakers from the team and the time reserved for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal.
- **13.10.2** No speaker can speak for more than 25 minutes for his/her individual oral submissions.
- **13.10.3** No team shall be allowed more than 05 minutes for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal.

13.11 The Final Round

- **13.11.1** Time limit for the oral submissions shall be forty-five (45) minutes for each team. This shall include the submissions of both the speakers from the team and the time reserved for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal.
- **13.11.2** No speaker can speak for more than 25 minutes for his/her individual oral submissions.
- **13.11.3** No team shall be allowed more than 05 minutes for rebuttal/sur-rebuttal.

14. STRUCTURE OF THE ORAL ROUNDS

- 14.1 The Oral Rounds of the Competition shall be held over a period of two daysi.e., March 2 and March 3, 2019. The Inaugural Function and the OrientationProgramme shall be held on March 1, 2019.
- 14.2 The Competition shall consist of four sets of rounds: the Preliminary Rounds, the Quarter Final Rounds, the Semi Final Rounds and the Final Round.

143 Preliminary Rounds

- 14.3.1 The Preliminary Rounds shall be held on March 2, 2018. In the Preliminary Rounds, each team shall have to argue twice, once as the Applicant and once as the Respondent.
- **14.3.2** The teams shall be paired on the basis of the Preliminary Seeding Chart as per the provisions of Rule 11. Following shall be the pairing of teams in the two Preliminary Mooting rounds.

| ROUND 1 | | | | |
|------------|----|------------|--|--|
| Petitioner | | Respondent | | |
| Seed 1 | v. | Seed 32 | | |
| Seed 2 | v. | Seed 31 | | |
| Seed 3 | v. | Seed 30 | | |
| Seed 4 | v. | Seed 29 | | |
| Seed 5 | v. | Seed 28 | | |
| Seed 6 | v. | Seed 27 | | |
| Seed 7 | v. | Seed 26 | | |
| Seed 8 | v. | Seed 25 | | |
| Seed 9 | v. | Seed 24 | | |
| Seed 10 | v. | Seed 23 | | |
| Seed 11 | v. | Seed 22 | | |
| Seed 12 | v. | Seed 21 | | |
| Seed 13 | v. | Seed 20 | | |
| Seed 14 | v. | Seed 19 | | |
| Seed 15 | v. | Seed 18 | | |
| Seed 16 | v. | Seed 17 | | |

| ROUND 2 | | | | | |
|------------|----|------------|--|--|--|
| Petitioner | | Respondent | | | |
| Seed 17 | v. | Seed 1 | | | |
| Seed 18 | v. | Seed 2 | | | |
| Seed 19 | v. | Seed 3 | | | |
| Seed 20 | v. | Seed 4 | | | |
| Seed 21 | v. | Seed 5 | | | |
| Seed 22 | v. | Seed 6 | | | |
| Seed 23 | v. | Seed 7 | | | |
| Seed 24 | v. | Seed 8 | | | |
| Seed 25 | v. | Seed 9 | | | |
| Seed 26 | v. | Seed 10 | | | |
| Seed 27 | v. | Seed 11 | | | |
| Seed 28 | v. | Seed 12 | | | |
| Seed 29 | v. | Seed 13 | | | |
| Seed 30 | v. | Seed 14 | | | |
| Seed 31 | v. | Seed 15 | | | |
| Seed 32 | v. | Seed 16 | | | |

14.3.3. These two Rounds shall be jumbled and divided into three Preliminary Sessions.

Explanation: Dividing the Preliminary rounds into three Sessions does not mean that a team shall argue thrice. Rather, a team shall argue in any two of the three sessions, once as the Applicant and once as the Respondent.

- **14.3.4** The Seeding chart shall not be disclosed until the Valedictory Ceremony in order to maintain the spirit of the Competition.
- 14.3.5 No team shall be provided with any information regarding the identity of their opponent team or any other team.
- 14.3.6 No two teams will argue against each other more than once in the Preliminary Rounds.
- 14.3.7 In the preliminary rounds, in case of a division bench, the team with the higher aggregate speaker scores (including the rebuttal scores) shall win that round and in case of a bench strength of three judges, the ratio of the bench i.e. the majority opinion of the judges on the bench shall prevail (see rule 12.3.6 for clarification). If there is a tie in the aggregate speaker scores in case of a division bench, then the team with the higher memorial scores shall win that round.
- 14.3.8 The top 8 teams based on their Win/Loss ratio and Total Preliminary Score in the Preliminary Rounds, shall qualify for the Quarter Final Rounds. Win/Loss Ratio shall be the ratio of number of Wins versus the number of Losses in the Preliminary Rounds. Total Preliminary Score is the total score obtained by both the speakers (including the rebuttal score) in both the Preliminary Rounds. Total Preliminary score does not include the memorial scores. Following shall be the system for determining the teams that advance to the Quarter Final Rounds:
- 14.3.9 If there are more than 8 teams that have a Win/Loss ratio of 2:0, then out of such teams, the top 8 teams based on their Total Preliminary Score, shall qualify for the Quarter Finals.

- 14.3.10 If there are less than 8 teams that have a Win/Loss Ratio of 2:0, then firstly, all such teams that have a win/loss Ratio of 2:0 shall advance for the Quarter Finals Rounds. Secondly, out of the teams that have a Win/Loss Ratio of 1:0, the remaining spots in the Quarter Final Rounds shall be filled, based on the Total Preliminary Score of such teams.
- **14.3.11** If there continues to be a tie, then the team with the higher Memorial scores shall qualify to the Quarter Final Rounds.

14.4 Advanced Rounds

- **14.4.1** All the advanced rounds will be knock-out rounds.
- **14.4.2** For deciding match-ups in case of Quarter Final Rounds, the teams shall be seeded again on the basis of their Win/Loss Ratio and Total Preliminary Score.
- **14.4.3** While seeding the teams for the Quarter Final Rounds, first preference shall be given to the teams that have a Win/Loss Ratio of 2:0. Thereafter, the rankings shall be decided on the basis of Total Preliminary Score. If a tie still continues, then the team with higher memorial score shall be seeded higher.
- **14.4.4** For the Semi Final Rounds, seeding shall be done on the basis of the Total Score obtained by team in the Quarter Final Rounds. If there is a tie, the team with higher memorial score shall be seeded higher.
- **14.4.5** The side a team will be arguing in Quarter Final Rounds will be decided by a draw of lots, with the Teams picking the lots.
- 14.4.6 Team will be credited with a win in the Quarter Final Rounds on the basis of the

- -RMLNLU-SCC Online® Moot/2019/Rulesratio of the judgement delivered by the Bench. Memorial marks will not be considered in the Ouarter Final Rounds as well.
 - **14.4.7** A similar procedure will be followed for Semi Final Rounds and the Final Round.

15. SCOUTING

- Scouting shall be deemed to have happened if the speakers, researcher or any other person affiliated with a team is found:
 - **15.1.1** Witnessing, hearing, observing, etc. The oral submissions in a Round, except where the Round is one in which the team to which he/she is affiliated is participating in; or
 - 15.1.2 Reading a Memorial of a team except where: it is of the team to which he/she is affiliated; or the Memorials have been obtained on account of an exchange of Memorials prior to a Round of the team to which he/she is affiliated.

16. AWARDS

- The speaker with the maximum score in the Preliminary Rounds (Total Preliminary Score) will be declared the "Best Oralist".
- The team with the maximum Memorial scores will be awarded "The Best Memorial".
- All participants shall be awarded Access Cards to SCC Online Web Edition.
- 164 The prize money to be awarded to the winners are as follows:
 - a) Winning Team: Rs. 25,000 and SCC Online Web Edition Platinum card including English Law One Year Subscriptions to Supreme Court Cases Print Edition.
 - **b)** Runners Up: Rs. 15,000 and SCC Online Web Edition Platinum card

-RMLNLU-SCC Online® Moot/ 2019/ Rules-

including English Law One Year Subscriptions to Supreme Court

Cases – Print Edition.

Best Memorials: Rs. 10,000 and SCC Online Web Edition Platinum c)

card including English Law One Year Subscriptions to Supreme

Court Cases – Print Edition.

Best Oralist: Rs. 10,000. d)

10 Practical Lawyer Subscriptions for the Winning team, Runner up e)

Team, Best Memorial Team and the Best Oralist.

17. MISCELLANEOUS

17.1 In implementation and interpretation of rules regarding Moot Court practice and

procedures, the final decision lies with the Organising Committee.

17.2 If any one of the members of a team is notified or informed of any detail or

information concerning the Competition, it shall be deemed as if the said team as

a whole has been duly been notified or informed.

17.3 The dress code to be adhered to for the duration of the Competition is:

Ladies: Black Western or Indian formals.

Gentlemen: Black Western formals.

17.4 The Proposition is neither intended to nor does it attempt to resemble any incident

or any person, living or dead. Any such resemblance is purely coincidental. The

Proposition is a fictitious factual account prepared for the purposes of the present

Competition only and it does not attempt to influence or predict the outcome of

any matter whatsoever.

The copyright in the Memorials submitted by the teams shall vest jointly with

RMLNLU and SCC Online. The acceptance of such vesting is a precondition to

participation in the Competition. The Rules governing the conduct of the

-18-

- -RMLNLU-SCC Online® Moot/ 2019/ Rules-
 - Competition should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation thereof can attract penalties or disqualification at the sole discretion of the Organising Committee.
 - 17.6 The Organising Committee reserves the right to amend, alter, vary or change, in any manner whatsoever, the Rules governing the Competition, which would be communicated to the teams within a reasonable period of time.
 - 17.7 The Chairperson of the Organising Committee of RMLNLU shall be the final arbiter for these Rules and any such decision made by him on any issue/dispute arising in relation to the Competition shall be final and binding on all concerned.
 - 178 The Organising Committee, as mentioned in these Rules, refers to the Moot Court Committee of the RMLNLU.

ANNEXURE

FOR INDIAN TEAMS

- 1. The registration fee payable by Indian teams is Rs. 4000 (four thousand) per team.
- 2. The payment of fee is to be made through the "State Bank Collect" Multi Modal Payment Portal.
- 3. Please access this web-link_
 https://www.onlinesbi.com/prelogin/icollecthome.htm?corpID=288415 for the payment gateway.
- 4. After agreeing to the T&Cs please select "REGISTRATION FEE" as payment category from the drop down list.
- 5. In the next web page please select "MOOT COURT" as the Event/Academic Activity from the drop down list.
- 6. Please fill in "RML SCC ONLINE MOOT" as the name of the event.
- 7. Fill in the details as mandated thereafter.
- 8. Payments can be made through debit/credit cards, net banking and also through physical counters at any SBI after generating a pre-acknowledgement slip.

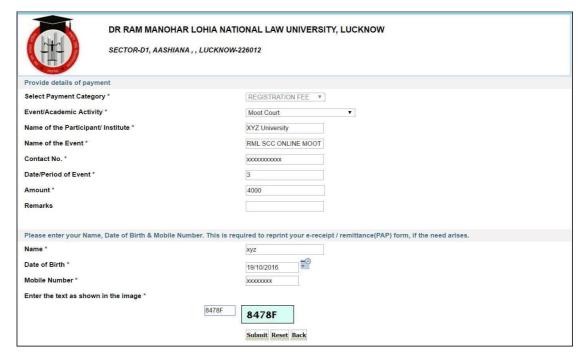


ILLUSTRATION - 1

9. Please send us the transaction details at rmlnluscconlinemoot@gmail.com after successful remittance to enable us to trace the same back to you.

FOR INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

- 1. All teams from nations in the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) shall pay an equivalent sum of INR 8000 (excluding service/conversion charges, if any). All other foreign teams shall pay an equivalent sum of INR 15000 (excluding service/conversion charges, if any)
- 2. The mode of payment is through International Fund Transfer.
- 3. The amount is exclusive of any service/conversion charges.
- 4. The beneficiary account details is as under
 - a. Bank Name State Bank of India
 - b. Branch Aashiana
 - c. City Lucknow
 - d. State Uttar Pradesh
 - e. Country India
 - f. A/C Holder Name RMLNLU Misc. Account
 - g. A/C No. 00000035763171774
 - h. IFSC SBIN0012734
 - i. SWIFT SBININBB500
- 5. Please mention your team details in the "transaction remarks" if applicable.
- 6. Please send us the transaction details at rmlnluscconlinemoot@gmail.com after successful remittance to enable us to trace the same back to you.