



SRM

INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
Deemed to be University u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956

SRM SCHOOL OF LAW PRESENTS



9TH ANNUAL NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION

14TH - 16TH | MARCH | 2024

Knowledge Partner

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OFFICIAL INVITE



We, School of Law, SRMIST, take immense pleasure in inviting you to the 9th Annual SRM National Moot Court Competition, 2024 scheduled from 14th to 16th March, 2024 at our institution. This year's moot proposition would be based on Intellectual Property Law. The Rounds will be judged by Sitting and Retired High Court Judges, Legal Luminaries and Legal Experts to maintain the vigour and to get the best out of the teams.

Interested Institutions are requested to register through email on or before 2nd March 2024 and send their soft copies of registration form along with payment details before 2nd March, 2024.

DR. VINCENT COMRAJ J

Dean i/c

SCHOOL OF LAW, SRMIST



MOOT PROPOSITION

The Republic of Indiga is a parliamentary democracy and the 7th largest economy in the world. The Republic of Indiga introduced a 'Make in Indiga' scheme under which they constituted a 'Public Innovation Body'. The body was established to encourage various exceptional tech initiatives. Out of which one of them was to provide financial grants to create Artificial Intelligence Robots. Based on the proposal submitted by M/S Creative AI Ltd, a tech giant in the Republic of Indiga, was selected for funding by the Public Innovation Body. A contract was signed between the Public Innovation Body and M/S Creative AI Ltd and consequently funds were released for the creation of advanced AI robots capable of creating artistic works.

M/S Creative AI Ltd was a tech start-up company started in the year 2018. Its proprietor Dr. Evan used cutting edge technology to create advanced AI robots. A series of AI robots were developed by him. The AI robots worked by ingesting large amounts of labeled training data which were analysed for correlations and patterns. These patterns were in turn used by the AI, to come up with future predictions. After receiving the funding from Public Innovation Body several AI robots were created by M/S Creative AI Ltd. The latest was an AI humanoid named 'Raha', which was specifically designed to create novel digital art works.

Raha was a highly advanced autonomous AI humanoid which used state of the art machine learning algorithms to produce unique digital artworks onto a screen. Over a period of time Raha had created several digital art paintings which were highly popular, leading to exhibitions and commercial use of its generated artworks both within and outside Indiga. The paintings also were subject of criticism from many quarters alleging that the AI obtains inputs from various websites and other internet sources and that the paintings were a mere modification of existing well known paintings and photographs.



MOOT PROPOSITION

In January 2023 M/S Creative AI Ltd released the latest digital art of Raha at an art gallery 'DigiART'. DigiART was an art gallery that specialised in portraying digital art made by artists. DigiArt exhibited artworks after review and also based on the terms agreed with the owner. The work of Raha, titled 'Beauty Queen' was showcased at DigiArt's special display, focusing on digital artworks created by Artificial Intelligence robots. The artwork 'Beauty Queen' portrayed the picture of a poised and confident woman, adorned in a resplendent maillot, exuding timeless elegance and intelligence, embodying a harmonious blend of classic refinement and contemporary allure.

The artwork received widespread attention, pursuant to which M/S Creative AI Ltd decided to proceed for copyright registration. In the application Raha was named as the author of the work. The Copyright Registry rejected the application stating that an AI cannot be an author within the purview of the Copyright Act against which an appeal is pending.

Lidia is a famous actress of Indiga. She is a celebrated actress whose talent has left an indelible mark on the entertainment industry. With a magnetic on-screen presence and versatility in portraying diverse roles, Lidia has garnered a devoted fan base. In 2023 August, she filed a copyright infringement case against M/S Creative AI Ltd stating that the artwork resembles her copyrighted work (photograph which she had uploaded in Facebook). Further she alleges that the digital art depicting her amounts to obscenity and violation of her privacy.



MOOT PROPOSITION

In the midst of this legal dispute, the trial court's findings unveil a nuanced scenario. Raha's algorithms, in their learning process, inadvertently incorporated elements from various internet sources without proper authorization. The generated artworks share semblance with pieces by multiple traditional artists. The court observes that the digital art by Raha resembles Lidia's face, intensifying the legal complexity. This intricate backdrop prompts a myriad of legal queries concerning copyright infringement, obscenity, privacy breaches, and the ethical implications of AI in artistic creation. The case has come up before the High Court of Waren. The laws of Indiga are *pari-materia* with India.

The following issues has come up before the High Court of Waren for consideration:

ISSUES

1. Whether the Copyright law of Indiga recognises artificial intelligence humanoids like Raha as the author of the generated artworks?
2. Whether the artistic work created by Raha passes the originality test under the Copyright Act?
3. Whether using copyrighted material to train AI can be treated as fair use/dealing?
4. Whether an AI is capable of committing a criminal offence?

Date & Venue Of the Competition :

9th Annual SRM National Moot Court Competition, 2024 is scheduled to be held from 14th March 2024 to 16th March 2024 at the School of Law, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur-603203.

Official Language :

The Official Language of the competition shall be English. All competition rounds, memorial and compendiums must be in English.

Eligibility :

All students enrolled in a 3-year LLB programme or a 5-year integrated LLB programme shall be eligible to participate in the 9th Annual SRM National Moot Court Competition, 2024

Team Composition :

The team composition shall be as follows: 2 Speakers & 1 Researcher. The teams may choose to participate without a Researcher.

Teams are barred from disclosing the identity of their institution during the course of proceedings in the Court Rooms. Any disclosure of team identities shall invite penalties including disqualification.

Each team shall be provided with the team code at the time of the registration.



RULE BOOK

Registration :

The registration fee for the Competition is INR 3,500/ (Rupees Three Thousand Five hundred only). Registration fee is only payable by way of Account Transfer.

Bank Name: Indian Bank

A/C No. 6314094173

Name of the account: SRM School of Law

IFSC code : IDIB000S181

Branch: SRM university, Potheri

Registration Link : <https://forms.gle/yMTPyPgfSPkCnRRR6>

Hard copy submission postal address:

Dean, School of Law,

SRMIST, Kattankulathur, Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu- 603203

The last date for receiving the soft copies of the Registration Form and payment details via email to **srm.nmcc@srmist.edu.in** is 12 Noon, 2nd March 2024.

Note: Soft-copy of the Registration Form and the Travel Form should be sent to the aforementioned email address.

Dress Code:

Inside the court room the participants shall follow the below mentioned dress code:

Females: White Kurta, Black Salwar and Black Dupatta or White Formal Shirt and Black formal Trousers/skirt along with the Black Blazer and Tie(Optional).

Male: White Shirt, Black Trousers, Black Tie along with Black Blazer and Black Shoes.

Accommodation And Food :

Accommodation and food to the participating teams will be provided by the Organizer only from 14th March 2024 to 16th March 2024 (8.30 p.m). The teams must bring along a maximum of three (3) members. Any additional member shall not be entertained during the competition.

The participants must abide by the rules and regulations observed in the campus, non-compliance with which may lead to disqualification.

Note: *Intake/use/mere possession of any prohibited substance (e.g. cigarette/alcohol/narcotic substance) is strictly prohibited during the stay throughout the competition, non-compliance with which may lead to immediate disqualification.*



RULE BOOK

Clarifications :

Clarifications to the Moot Proposition and the Rules regarding submission of the memorial shall be sought by sending an e-mail to **srm.nmcc@srmist.edu.in** on or before 28th February 2024. Clarifications sent after this date shall not be entertained at any cost. The List of clarifications shall be released on 2nd March 2024.

Memorial/Written Submissions :

- a. Teams shall e-mail Soft Copies of both the memorials, in PDF and Microsoft Word formats, i.e., two (2) separate file attachments for the Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant and Defendant/Respondent, on or before 4th March 2024, 11:59 PM to **srm.nmcc@srmist.edu.in**. Late submissions will attract penalties.
- b. Only the Team Code shall be specified on the memorial. Any reference regarding the participating institution shall result in immediate disqualification.
- c. Amendment to the memorial shall not be permitted after submission of the soft copies. **Variation found in the Hard Copy shall be penalised.**
- d. Six (6) Hard Copies of each of the Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant and Defendant/Respondent Memorials shall be submitted on or before 7th March 2024. Participants are advised to carry additional copies of their memorial for their own use. Copies submitted to the Organising Committee shall be used for the evaluation of the memorial and for the Judges Bench for each of the Oral Rounds.

There shall be no memorial exchange.

The Organising Committee reserves the right to use the memorial submitted by the participating teams, as it deems appropriate. The memorial submitted shall not be returned to the participants.

All memorial must be typed and printed on A4 sized white paper with font size 12, font type Times New Roman, line spacing 1.5 and justified alignment. The Summary of Arguments and Arguments Advanced shall not exceed 25 pages in total.

Contents

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



MEMORIAL

The cover page must only include the following in justified alignment except mentioned otherwise,

- Team Code on the right-hand top corner
- Name of the forum being approached
- Case type and number
- Case name
- Memorial on behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant or Defendant/Respondent.

Note: *The colour scheme for the cover page of the Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant Memorial must be blue and of the Defendant/Respondent Memorial must be red. Citations for the memorial are to be in the form of footnotes only, endnotes are not permitted. Footnotes must not contain substantive pleadings and should not be communicative. All footnotes must adhere to the 21st edition of bluebook citation format.*

The footnote font size is 10 and font type is Times New Roman. The memorial must not contain annexures, photographs, sketches, exhibits or affidavits etc., violation of the said provision will attract penalties.

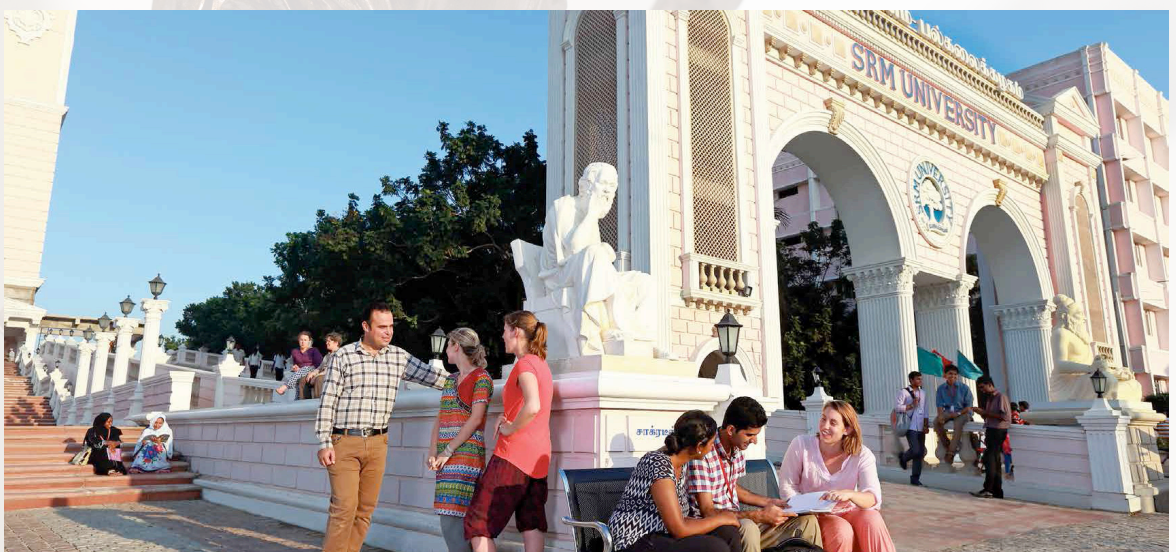


MEMORIAL

Memorial Scoring

The Organizing Committee shall constitute a panel of judges with domain expertise, for the evaluation of the memorial. Both memorial shall be evaluated separately on a scale of 0-100. The criteria for evaluation are as follows:

CRITERIA	MARKS
Depth and quality of research	15
Proper and articulate analysis & clarity	15
Knowledge and application of facts	20
Legal analysis	20
Referencing	10
Presentation	20
Total	100





PENALTY

Penalty shall be imposed by Negative marking as per the following criteria:

Late Submission of Memorials: 2 marks per memorial for the first 12 hours after the deadline and 1 mark for every next 6 hours.

Wrong File Name: 1 mark per Memorial.

Exceeding page limit prescribed: 1 mark for each exceeding page.

Excluding relevant / Including irrelevant items on the cover page: 1 mark per violation.

Exclusion of sections mentioned in 9.1: 3 marks per exclusion.

Failure to comply with Bluebook 21st Edition for Footnotes: 0.25 mark per footnote.

Wrong Font Size: 0.5 mark per page.

Wrong Font Style: 0.5 mark per page.

Wrong Line Spacing: 0.5 mark per page.

Failure to use correct colour coding: 2 marks per Memorial



ORAL ROUNDS

Oral Rounds Format and Scoring Procedure

Preliminary Rounds :

The preliminary rounds shall be conducted in two stages. Each stage will be one preliminary round where each team will represent either the Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant or Defendant/Respondent for that round. Sides will be determined by way of draw of lots. Each team will face a separate team and a separate bench in both the preliminary rounds.

Each preliminary round shall be for 40 minutes in total. Each team will be given a total time of 20 minutes comprising of oral pleadings, rebuttal/ sur-rebuttal. Time management is at the discretion of the team subject to a maximum of 12 minutes per speaker. The same must be communicated to the designated Court Officer of the Court Hall prior to the commencement of each round.

Each preliminary round will be judged by two judges, each of whom shall score every speaker on a scale of 0-100. The teams winning both the preliminary rounds will automatically qualify for the quarter final rounds. In case of one win and one loss, the total score of both the rounds will be taken in consideration. In case of tie, the memorial score of both the teams will be taken into consideration.

In case there are more than 8 teams with two wins, the first eight shall qualify for the quarter finals.



ORAL ROUNDS

Quarter-Final Round :

The top eight (8) teams shall qualify for the quarter-final round. The sides and against whom the team shall argue will be determined by way of draw of lots.

Each Quarter-Final round shall be for 60 minutes in total. Each team will be given a total time of 30 minutes comprising of oral pleadings, rebuttal/ sur-rebuttal.

Time management is at the discretion of the team subject to a maximum of 20 minutes per speaker. The same must be communicated to the designated Court Officer of the Court Hall prior to the commencement of the round.

The Quarter-Final round shall be judged by two judges, each of whom will score every speaker on a scale of 0-100. The team securing the higher marks will qualify for the Semi-Final Rounds, by virtue of a knockout win.

Semi-Final Round :

The top four (4) teams shall qualify for the semi-final round. The sides and against whom the teams shall argue will be determined by way of draw of lots.

Each Semi-Final round shall be for 90 minutes in total. Each team will be given a total time of 45 minutes comprising of oral pleadings, rebuttal/ sur-rebuttal. Time management is at the discretion of the team subject to a maximum of 25 minutes per speaker. The same must be communicated to the designated Court Officer of the Court Hall prior to the commencement of the round.



ORAL ROUNDS

The Semi-Final round shall be judged by three judges, each of whom will score every speaker on a scale of 0- 100. The team securing the higher marks will qualify for the Final Round, by virtue of a knockout win.

Final Round :

The top two (2) teams shall qualify for the final round. Sides will be determined by way of draw of lots.

The Final round shall be for 90 minutes in total. Each team will be given a total time of 45 minutes comprising of oral pleadings, rebuttal/ sur-rebuttal. Time management is at the discretion of the team subject to a maximum of 25 minutes per speaker. The same must be communicated to the designated Court Officer of the Court Hall prior to the commencement of the round.

The Final round shall be judged by a panel of judges, each of whom will score every speaker on a scale of 0- 100. The team securing the higher marks shall be adjudged as the winners of the Competition.



ORAL PLEADINGS

Order of Oral Pleadings :

The order of oral pleadings shall be as follows:

- Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant Speaker 1;
- Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant Speaker 2;
- Defendant/Respondent Speaker 1;
- Defendant/Respondent Speaker 2;
- Rebuttal by Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant;
- Sur-rebuttal by Defendant/Respondent.

During the course of the oral pleadings, no speaker shall disclose his/her identity or the identity of his/her institution by any means whatsoever.

If in case, the Plaintiff/Petitioner/Appellant does not raise for rebuttal, the sur rebuttal is deemed to be cancelled.

Submission of compendiums, case laws, authorities to the judges must mandatorily be done through the Court Officer. All such materials must be verified by the Court Officer before the commencement of the round. Disclosure of the institutions name in any manner including abbreviations in such materials shall not be allowed for submission to the judges.



ORAL PLEADINGS

Oral Pleadings Scoring :

The oral pleadings of each speaker shall be evaluated on a scale of 0-100 as follows:

CRITERIA	MARKS
Research Preparation and organisation	10
Answering questions/responsiveness to questions	10
Courtroom conduct	05
Knowledge and use of facts	10
Knowledge of the law	15
Organisation & time management	05
Legal analysis	15
Quality of Argument	10
Structure of argument	10
Rebuttal	10
Total	100

Scouting is not permitted and it shall be deemed to have happened if the Speaker(s), Researcher, or any other person affiliated with a Team is found:

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;

Reading the memorial of a Team except where, it is of the Team to which he/she is affiliated.



MISCELLANEOUS

The final decision regarding Implementation and Interpretation of Rules regarding Moot Court practice and procedures lies with the Organizing Committee.

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 notified or informed.

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 with SRM Faculty of Law, Moot Court Society. The acceptance of such vesting is a precondition to participation in the Competition. The Rules governing the conduct of the Competition should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation thereof can attract penalties or disqualification.

Registration Fee once paid is non-refundable.

The Organizing 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.

USING OF MOBILE PHONES/LAPTOPS OR OTHER ELECTRONIC GADGETS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED INSIDE THE COURTROOM. VIOLATION OF THIS WOULD AMOUNT TO DISQUALIFICATION.

The MCS and Faculty Convenor of the Organizing Committee of School of Law, SRMIST shall be the final arbiter for these Rules and any such decision made by them on any issue/dispute arising in relation to the Competition shall be final and binding on all concerned.



IMPORTANT DATES

Events	Dates
Registration Open date	15 th January, 2024
Registration Close date	2 nd March, 2024
Last Date for Soft Copy Registration (Registration Form and Travel Form)	2 nd March, 2024
Last Date for seeking Clarification	28 th February, 2024
Release of Clarification	2 nd March, 2024
Last Date for Submission of Soft copy of Memorial	4 th March, 2024
Last Date for Submission of Hardcopy of Memorial	7 th March, 2024
Inauguration, Draw of Lots, Researcher's Test	14 th March, 2024
Prelims and Quarter Finals	15 th March, 2024
Semi-Finals, Finals and Valedictory	16 th March, 2024

AWARDS

WINNERS	Rs. 50,000/-
RUNNER UP	Rs. 30,000/-
BEST SPEAKER	Rs. 10,000/-
BEST RESEARCHER	Rs. 10,000/-
BEST MEMORIAL	Rs. 10,000/-

Free subscriptions of EBC/SCC online worth over Rs.40,000 will be distributed to participants and winning teams.

Every participant will get one month free subscription of EBC/SCC online.





REGISTRATION FORM

INSTITUTION DETAILS

Name:

Address:

Contact No.:

E-mail ID:

Faculty In-Charge:

Designation:

PARTICIPANT'S DETAILS:

Name of Speaker 1:

Year and Course:

Contact No.:

Email ID:

Affix Photo

Name of Speaker 2:

Year and Course:

Contact No.:

Email ID:

Affix Photo

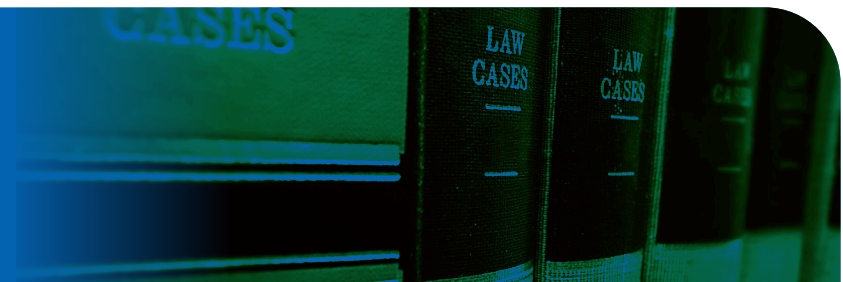
Name of Researcher:

Year and Course:

Contact No.:

Email ID:

Affix Photo



DECLARATION

We, affirm that all the information provided in the registration form is true. Further, we declare that the institution and its team members will abide by all the rules and regulations as notified throughout the period of the competition.

(Signature–Speaker 1)

.....

(Signature–Speaker 2)

.....

(Signature–Researcher)

.....

(Faculty–In–Charge)

.....

(Head of the institution with Seal)

.....



TRAVEL FORM

Name of the Institution: _____

Travel Mode: Bus / Train / Flight Travel Details: _____

Arrival Time: _____

Departure Time: _____

Accommodation Needed: Yes/No _____

Any other Details: _____

(Sign and Seal of the Head of the Institution)



BOARD OF MEMBERS

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Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar

Founder Chancellor

SRM Institute of Science and Technology

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Prof. Dr. T. Mythili

Additional Registrar

SRM Institute of Science and Technology

CHAIR PERSON

Prof. Dr. Vincent Comraj J

Dean i/c

SRM School of Law



CONTACT INFORMATION

Email ID: srm.nmcc@srmist.edu.in

Faculty Coordinators:

Dr. Ishita Chatterjee
Mr. V Mahalingam
Ms. Mariya Joseph
Mr. M Yokesh
Ms. F Mary Jerlin
Ms. P Logapriya
Ms. Dilshath Raihana T
Mr. Gyanendra Kumar
Ms. Anviti Mishra
Ms. Liji Shamilin V S
Dr. Sulok S K
Ms. Pooja Saharan
Mr. Anand Shukla

Student Coordinators

Mr. Pari Shanmugham,
3rd year, LLB (Hons.)
Mr. Harsh Dugar,
5th year, BA LLB (Hons)
Ms. Anvita,
5th year, BCom LLB (Hons)

For Clarifications:

Dr. Sulok S K
Tel. +91 9497280522
Ms Dilshath Raihana
Tel. +91 9037970720
Mr. Pari
Tel. +91 8940063331
Mr. Harsh Dugar
Tel. +91 9840288886
Ms. Anvitha R
Tel. +91 7094170066

PREVIOUS YEAR'S MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS AT A GLANCE

