

**TNNLS – CCI NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2018 (2<sup>ND</sup> – 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2018)**

**EVENT REPORT**

**Overview**

The Moot Court Committee at TNNLS hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the National Moot Court Competition in 2017, where the moot problem was based on surrogacy law and Labour law. This year, TNNLS collaborated with the Competition Commission of India (CCI), the result of which is the TNNLS – CCI National Moot Court Competition 2018 (TNNLS – CCI NMCC) held between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> of February 2018.

**The Competition**

The Moot Proposition was drafted by Mr. Rahul Satyan, Associate – Competition & Antitrust at AZB & Partners, New Delhi and Mr. S. Mohammed Azaad, Assistant Professor of Law, TNNLS. They were assisted by Ms. Nikita Pattajoshi and Mr. Rahul Hemrajani, Assistant Professors of Law, TNNLS and Mr. Tarun Donadi, Mr. Vidhyadhar Goud & Ms. Khushboo Saraf, Final Year B.A., LL.B (Hons.). It was based on the contemporary issues involved in Competition Law and Labour Law with issues like whether trade unions or associations would be amenable to the CCI.

Around 30 teams provisionally registered for the competition. After the same, there was a memo elimination round which had short listed only 23 teams to proceed for the competition. The format of the competition was structured to have two Preliminary Rounds, where in each team will have to argue on behalf of both the sides. The top 8 teams (based on their Oral Scores and Memorial Scores) will qualify to the Quarter final round. This round is a knock-out round and the winner from each of the 4 court rooms will qualify to the Semi-final Round, followed by the Final Round.

The competition saw the participation of over 23 teams from law schools across the length and breadth of India. Many of the participants were experienced mooters, who were intrigued by the subject matter of the moot and hence chose to compete.

**Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2018**

The Inaugural Ceremony was held at the Multipurpose Hall and began with the rendering of the Tamil Nadu State Anthem. The Welcome Address was delivered by Committee Member, Ajinkya Nikam. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Kamala Sankaran in her address highlighted the importance of ethics in the legal profession. She also added that being a lawyer is more than just the face value or fluency in the English knowledge. The day came to an end with the completion of the registration formalities, draw of lots and exchange of memorials for the Preliminary Round.

**Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018**

The panel of judges invited to judge the Preliminary and the Quarter Final Rounds consisted of around 20 judges from a pool of Advocates, Associates and Academicians. Few notable judges include Mr. Nirmal Kumar and Mr. Gowtham Kumar, Advocates at Madras High Court, Ms. AnjanaPotti, Partner at JSA, Ms. Nandini Pahari and Ms. NanditaSahai, Associates at Trilegal, Mr. Aneesh Sharma, Senior Manager at ITC (Legal), Mr. Vivek Paul, Advocate in the Supreme Court of India, andMr. PranavCharan, Senior Associate at Kochhar& Co, etc.

The Preliminary Rounds was quite hectic and went on till the late afternoon.The teams felt that their preparation was more challenging as the facts in the moot problem was very balanced. Some of the participants and judges also felt that the time limits for the rounds could have been a bit longer, given the complex nature of the problem. The top 8 teams which were promoted to the Quarter Final Round were ILS, Pune; SASTRA, Thanjavur; VIT, Chennai; SLCU,Bangalore; SOEL, Chennai; UPES, Dehradun; NLSIU, Bangalore; RGNUL, Patiala.

**Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

The Semi-Final Round began at around 09:30 AM and saw SASTRA, Thanjavur go up against SLCU, Bangalore and ILS, Pune facing VIT, Chennai. The panel of judges invited to judge the Semi-Final Round included Mr.Venkatavardan and Mr. NL Rajah, Advocates at the Madras High Court, Mr. Kannan S. Rahul, Equity partner atTrilegal, Mr. AnandVikasMishra,Joint Secretary, CCI, Mr. Vinod Kumar, Head of Corporate Litigation. JSA Associates, Chennai and Mr. Arun C Mohan, Partner, Mohan Associates, Chennai. Despite it being a Sunday morning, there was no drop in the energy levels in the courtrooms.

Immediately after lunch, theFinal Round was held at the Moot Court Hall of TNNLS. The finalists were the teams from ILS, Pune and SASTRA, Thanjavur and were judged by Hon'ble Judge of the Delhi High Court, Justice Rajiv Shakhder,Mr. Manoj Pandey, Legal Adviser at CCI and Mr. Aravindh Pandian, Additional Advocate General of Tamil Nadu.

As the gruelling three-day event came to a close, the results of the TNNLS – CCI NMCC 2018 was announced at the Valedictory ceremony convened at the Multipurpose Hall, TNNLS. The event was graced by the presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, our Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, as well as the distinguished judges. The team representing Indian Law Society (ILS), Pune was declared the winner and received a cash prize of Rs. 45,000/- along with certificates and trophy. The team representing SASTRA, Thanjavur came a close second and received a cash prize of Rs. 35,000/- along

with certificates. Ms. Vaishali from team SASTRA was judged the Best speaker and received cash prize of Rs.10,000/-. The team representing UPES, Dehradun received a cash prize of Rs. 10,000/- for the Best Memorial.

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by Mr. SethupathyRathna Kumar, Secretary of the Moot Court Committee. The event came to an end with the rendering of the National Anthem.

The Organising Committee received positive reviews form the participating teams as well as the esteemed judges. Thus, the TNNLS – CCI NMCC 2018 was a grand success, and the Moot Court Committee looks forward to hosting the successive editions in the future.

#### WINNERS OF TNNLS- CCI NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION-ILS PUNE

