

A Report on School of Law, Christ University's 3rd National ADR Competition.

The fact that we were going to conduct a competition on Alternative Dispute Resolution on a large scale was in itself an overwhelming thought. The result of such a thought put in action was School of Law Christ Deemed to be University's third National ADR Competition conducted from February 8th – 10th 2018.

Preparations began a month ahead of time with all members of the Organising Committee on their toes to complete the minutest of detail in perfection before the dawn of the program.

The link for registrations was up online on December 15th of 2018 on various online platforms like lawctopus, live law, lexquest etc. which saw a whole host of responses from across the country. Thus began part II of the execution of the event.

A week before the commencement of the competition, students were chosen to act as clients from the applications received by the Organising Committee and rigorous training sessions were conducted after 3:30 PM every day. Problems were released and everyone was given time to prepare and put out their best of their acting abilities; based on their performances in the sessions, clients were picked for the various rounds.

The inauguration was conducted on 8th February, 2018 (Thursday) in the Central Block, Auditorium with the entire strength of participants in full attendance. The inauguration was graced by **Ms. Tara Ollapally, Ms. Annapurna Sreehari and Mr. Badri who are certified mediators from the Centre for Advanced Mediation Practice (CAMP)**. A conceptual understanding was also provided to the audience by explaining the merits of Negotiation and Mediation by the Hon'ble guests who illustrated the manner in which the proceedings occur and to iterate the difference between the above stated two facets of dispute resolution. The guests also spoke of how dispute resolution is now growing onto the society and is preferred over litigation and the scope that we, as law students can seek if we pursue the same in future.



The draw of lots was conducted after the inauguration and the preliminary rounds were set in motion subsequently. There were 49 teams that took part in the prelims spanning from 19 colleges across the nation and after a set of intriguing and brainstorming rounds, day 1 ended with the announcement of the teams who had qualified into the Quarter finals for client counselling to be held on the same day and for negotiation and mediation which would be conducted the next day. High spot to the organising committee was that all the judges

provided us with feedback on the remarkably outstanding work done by our students as clients.

Rounds on Day 2 opened in the morning at 9am with the Quarter finals for mediation and negotiation running in 4 Court halls and concluded in the evening at 7 with the end of Semi-finals running in 2 court halls. Advocates of Supreme Courts, Mediators, judges of district court and practising lawyers were present to adjudge the rounds. The rounds were of exceptional standards as the clients became more tough to break with advancement in stages. Three teams qualified to participate in the final client counselling round which was held from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM on day 2.

After three meticulous rounds of participation, 4 challenging teams (two each for mediation and negotiation) qualified into the finale which was conducted on the 10th of February in the Main Auditorium followed by the Valedictory ceremony. Members who exalted the occasion, who also judged the finals rounds were Justice Ram Mohan Reddy (Former Judge High Court of Karnataka), Suraj Govindraj (Senior Partner and Head of Litigation at Anup S Shah law firm) and Ms. Nalini Mayegowda (Partner at Khaitan & Co.) The judges after the conclusion of the rounds, elucidated the technique in which dispute resolutions are conducted in India and also substantiated with statistics as to how the field of alternative dispute resolution is emerging in law.



Following were the teams that were adjudicated as the winners and runners up in the various competitions that were held through the event –

- Client counselling –
Winners – M.S Ramaiah College of Law, Bangalore
1st Runners up – NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad.

2nd Runner up – ILS Law College, Pune.

- Mediation –
Best Mediator – M.S Ramaiah College of Law, Bangalore.
Runner up Mediator -
Best Client – Advocate team – UIIS, Panjab University.
Runner up Client – Advocate team – M.S Ramaiah College of Law, Bangalore.
- Negotiation –
Winners – UIIS, Panjab University.
Runners up – School of Excellence in Law, TNDALU.

The event was declared a grand success adding one more feather in the cap of School of Law, Christ (Deemed to be University). Overall, the ADR competition as stated by the convenors and co-convenor was an “enriching and a delightful experience that not only helped us build a forte in the concept but also develop leadership and management skills”.