

Surana & Surana – School of Law, CHRIST International Investment and Arbitration Moot, 2018

Report

The Moot Court Society of 2018-19 along with a set of Volunteers from the Student body and Volunteer body of School of Law hosted its first paramount event, the Surana & Surana – School of Law, CHRIST International Investment and Arbitration Moot, 2018 in collaboration with its Professional Partner, Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai from the 20 – 23 September, 2018. The Moot Proposition of the competition was based on Arbitration consisting of Investment Bilateral Treaties governing International relations of the signatory countries. Fourteen teams from the length and breadth of the country who are enthusiastic in this field of law participated in the competition and competed amongst each other to emerge victorious.

The Moot Proposition for the competition was drafted by Mr. Jayanth Balakrishnan, Advocate & Author and later on, annexures were added by the students of the Moot Court Society in order to complicate the problem and to improve the level of competition. The bench memo was prepared by the Core Committee with the help of Mr. Jayanth Balakrishnan to assist the judges of various rounds to evaluate the participants of the competition.

PRE-EVENT: ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF MCS:

In order to ensure the smooth functioning of the event, the Moot Court Society, prior to the commencement of the event, had to complete a wide set of tasks. The Moot Court Society mailed the official invite to 450 law schools across the country. Subsequently, the students of the Society called the law schools to invite them to take part in the prestigious competition. However, even after making reminder calls to these colleges, only fourteen teams participated in the competition due to reasons such as the complexity of the problem, shortage of time to prepare for the

competition, lack of interest of the students in this field of law, timings of the semester exams and internship period of these colleges.

The Society called for volunteers only for its core functioning committees, namely, Court-Officers committee, Memorial & Scoring committee, Finance committee, Floor committee. The rest of the volunteers were chosen from the Volunteer Body of School of Law for the rest of the committees, namely, Food Committee, Hospitality Committee, Travel Committee, Accommodation Committee and Judges Committee.

The registration for the Moot started on 4 July, 2018 and the registration fees for the same was Rs.6000/- which had to be remitted in the form a DD. The society also ensured that all formalities such as submitting the soft copy of the approval letter from the university and DD, submission of the soft copies of the memorials, had been duly completed by the fourteen teams. The society for the convenience of the participating teams, booked rooms in the hotel, Paul's Inn which is situated off the Hosur Road, Bengaluru near CHRIST (Deemed to be University).

To have a close and tough competition the Society invited judges for all the rounds based on their experience in the field of International Arbitration and Investment. The judges with least experience in this field were called for the preliminary rounds, irrespective of their seniority and the judges with the maximum experience were called for the final rounds. The Society initially shortlisted the names of the judges and mailed the official invite to the judges. Subsequently, the students made calls to these judges to invite them for the preliminary rounds, Quarter-final rounds and the Semi-final rounds. Students from the Core Committee also went to the offices of the judges to personally invite them to judge the Final Rounds of the Competition.

The travel was arranged for the judges of all the rounds by Grace Travels. Srinidhi Caterers along with the Indian Coffee House were roped in for the catering services of the event. They provided refreshments and food to all the judges, participants, faculty members, Organizing Committee and the volunteers from 20 – 23 September, 2018.

EVENT – 20th to 23rd September, 2018

20th September, 2018 (Thursday)



The Surana & Surana – School of Law, CHRIST International Investment and Arbitration Moot, 2018 started off on the 20 September, 2018 with the Inaugural Ceremony which took place in Room No.105, Central Block, Main Campus, CHRIST from 5:30 P.M.. The event was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, **Mr.Pramod Nair**,



Founding Partner & Advocate, Arista Chambers,

Bengaluru and the Guest of Honour,

Mr.Jayanth Balakrishnan, Advocate &

Author. The Welcome Address was delivered

by the Faculty Coordinator of Moot Court Society, Dr.Shiju MV, and the Orientation

Address was given by Dr. S Ravichandran,

Advocate and Head, Academic Initiative,

Surana & Surana International Attorneys, Chennai,

who oriented the students on the format, rules and procedures to be followed for the Competition, followed by the address delivered by the Guest of Honour and by the Chief Guest. The Ceremony concluded with the Vote of Thanks proposed by Ms. Shilpa Sai, Student Convenor, Moot Court Society and simultaneously the Guests were presented with a memento as a token of gratitude.

Post the inaugural ceremony, the draw of lots was conducted in order to allocate the side of the teams for the preliminary rounds on the following day, post-which in accordance to the same memorial exchange took place.

This marked the end of the first day on a successful note.

21st September, 2018 (Friday):



The second day of the competition witnessed two preliminary rounds, one being before lunch, morning session and another being post-lunch, afternoon session. For the sake of competition, teams representing Claimants had to *de facto* represent Respondents for the next round and vice-versa. Seven court halls witnessed the preliminary rounds simultaneously in the classrooms of Fourth Floor, Central Block. The preliminary rounds were judged by fourteen judges per session, two per court hall. The cumulative scores of both rounds were used to determine the top 8 teams that qualified to enter Quarter-finals. The teams that qualified for the Quarter-Final Rounds are - School of Law, Sastra University; Symbiosis Law School, Noida; Gujarat National Law University; Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad; SDM College, Mangalore; National Law Institute University, Bhopal; Symbiosis Law School, Pune; School of Excellence in Law Chennai. Power matching and draw of lots was done in order to determine the allocation of side for the Quarter-final rounds. The day was concluded by memorial – exchange and dinner.

22nd September, 2018 (Saturday)

On, the third day of the competition two rounds were conducted – Quarter-Final Rounds and the Semi-Final Rounds. These two stages of the competition were knock-out rounds where only the winning team of that particular round would qualify for the Semi-Finals and the winning team of Semi-Final Round would qualify for the Final Round. The teams that qualified for the Semi-Final Rounds are - School of Law, Sastra University; Symbiosis Law School, Noida; National Law Institute University, Bhopal; Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad. The Quarter-Final Rounds were judged by the Senior Associates of the Law Firms and the Semi-Final Rounds were judged by three Partners from top law firms in Bangalore and a Retired District Judge. The judges were presented with mementos as a token of love and gratitude for having taken time off their busy schedule to judge the rounds.

On completion of the rounds the two best teams that qualified for the finals re - Symbiosis Law School, Noida and National Law Institute University, Bhopal.

23rd September, 2018 (Sunday)



The Final day of the Competition witnessed the two best teams argue against each other to win the competition. The Final round was judged by Hon'ble Mr. Justice B Padmaraj, Hon'ble Mr. Justice H Rangavittalchar and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bangreppa Hinchigeri. The Final Round started at 9:30 A.M. in the K E Auditorium, Block IV, Main Campus, CHRIST which was witnessed by the third and fourth year batches of BA LLB & BBA LLB students of School of Law, CHRIST. The Valedictory Ceremony took place post the conclusion of the Final Rounds and was presided over

by the Chief Guest **Hon'ble Mr. Justice B Padmaraj**, Former Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Karnataka, and by the Guests of Honour, **Hon'ble Mr. Justice H Rangavittalchar**, Former Judge, High Court of Karnataka and **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bangreppa Hinchigeri**, Former Judge, High Court of Karnataka. The Welcome Address was delivered by the Faculty Coordinator of Moot Court Society, Dr.Shiju MV post which Dr.Fr.Benny Thomas addressed the gathering, followed by the Event Report given by Ms.Keerthana Nagaraj, Student Convenor, Moot Court Society, which was followed by the addresses delivered by the Guests of Honour and finally by the Chief Guest. Subsequently, the results were declared by Dr. S Ravichandran, Advocate and Head, Academic Initiatives. The Ceremony was concluded with the Vote of Thanks proposed by Mr.Mithel Ramesh Reddy, Student Convenor, Moot Court Society and simultaneously the Guests were presented with a memento as a token of gratitude.

The Surana & Surana – School of Law, CHRIST International Investment and Arbitration Moot, 2018 had ended on a successful note with **Symbiosis Law School, Noida** being adjudged as **WINNERS** of the competition.

POST - EVENT: ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF MOOT COURT SOCIETY:

On the successful completion of the Surana & Surana – School of Law, CHRIST International Investment and Arbitration Moot, 2018 the Moot Court Society has now the responsibility to send thankyou mails to all the judges for having taken time off their demanding schedule to judge the respective rounds and also to ensure the settlement of the bills of the various vendors.

