



School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University)

PUNE, LAVASA CAMPUS

**PEITHO CUP: INTER-UNIVERSITY ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY
DEBATE COMPETITION**

RULES & REGULATIONS

**DEBATE & LITERARY SOCIETY
CENTRE FOR COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS**

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PEITHO CUP: INTER-UNIVERSITY ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE COMPETITION

1. DEFINITIONS:

Unless the context otherwise requires, word importing the singular include the plural and vice versa. The terms and phrases set forth herein with initial capital letter and defined in this Rules and Regulations shall have the meanings herein respectively assigned to, for the purpose of the 1st School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Inter-University Asian Parliamentary Debate Competition.

1.1. 'Competition' refers to Peitho Cup: Inter-University Asian Parliamentary Debate Competition;

1.2. 'Disqualification' means that the members of the team will not be allowed to further participate in the Competition and they shall not be awarded a Certificate of Participation or any cash prize/award;

1.3. 'Judge' means any person appointed by the Organizers to evaluate the debates;

1.4. 'Organizers' means the Centre for Competitive Examinations and the Debate & Literary Society of School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), the various sub-committees constituted, and any person appointed by the said committee;

1.5. 'Participant' means a student, who upon completion of registration for the Competition, represents his/her respective College/University and is recognized by the Organizers to participate in the Competition;

1.6. 'Penalties' means the points which are deductible on account of non-adherence to limitation of the Panel's time and on any other ground as determined by the Organizers

1.7. 'Rules' means and includes the Rules and Regulations of the Competition, any other supplementary Rules issued and notified by the Organizers as and when necessary and the General Code of Conduct of CHIRST (Deemed to be University).

2. AIM AND PURPOSE:

2.1. Peitho Cup: Inter-University Asian Parliamentary Debate Competition, School of Law, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) (herein after referred to as 'Competition'), is undertaken in order to foster and create conditions for development of skills in debate, oration, argumentation, logical thinking and reasoning, alongside other skills.

3. DATE AND VENUE:

3.1.The Competition shall be held in two modes: Online rounds on 6th and 7th of September, 2025, followed by the offline rounds on 27th and 28th of September, 2025 at CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Pune Lavasa Campus. The schedule of the Competition will be intimated to the participants at a later date.

4. ELIGIBILITY:

4.1. The Competition is open for all students who are pursuing an undergraduate or postgraduate course from any recognized university within the territory of India;

4.2.The Participants should send a picture of their University ID Card for verification.

5. FORMAT OF THE COMPETITION

5.1.The debate competition will follow the ‘3-on-3’ Asian parliamentary style of debating governed by the following rules, regulations, and guidelines;

5.2.Each team will consist of three students;

5.3.Each debating match will consist of two teams: one proposing the motion (the “Government”) and one opposing it (the “Opposition”);

5.4.Each debate shall be timed by a timekeeper;

5.5.Teams will comprise the following members:

Government: 1. Prime Minister 2. Deputy Prime Minister 3. Government Whip

Opposition: 1. Leader of the Opposition 2. Deputy Leader of the Opposition 3. Opposition Whip

5.6.Debaters will speak in the following order:

- i. Prime Minister (Open the debate, define the motion, and present arguments)
- ii. Leader of Opposition (Respond directly to the case of the government by giving a direct clash, and advance arguments. May challenge the motion if the definition is challengeable)
- iii. Deputy Prime Minister (Defend your case and position against the attacks of the Leader of Opposition, respond to the case of the opposition, and re-establish the government’s claim)
- iv. Deputy Leader of Opposition (Defend your case and position against the attacks of the Deputy Prime Minister, attack the case on the other side, and present new arguments)
- v. Government Whip (Makes an issue-based rebuttal of the opposition's case and summarizes the case of the government. The whip cannot raise new substantive arguments)
- vi. Opposition Whip (Makes an issues-based rebuttal of the government's and summarizes the case of the opposition. The whip cannot raise new substantive arguments)
- vii. Opposition Reply (Provides a biased judgement as to why the Opposition’s claim is valid)
- viii. Government Reply (Provides a biased judgement as to why the Government’s claim in valid)

Note: The Reply Speeches *cannot* be delivered by the Whip Speakers of either team

5.7.Points of Information (POIs)

- (i) Points of Information (POIs’) may be offered during the six substantive speeches only, after the first single buzzer and up to the second single buzzer. Points of Information may not be offered during

the first and last minutes of substantive speeches. If a Point of Information is offered in the first or the last minute of a constructive speech, it is the duty of the speaker holding the floor to reject the same as being out of order. Only if the speaker holding the floor fails to do the same, the panel may very briefly intervene and call the house to order;

- (ii) A POI must be indicated by a member of an opposing team rising from his/her seat. A member offering a Point of Information may draw attention to the offer by saying “on that point Sir/Madam,” or a short word calling attention to the member of the opposing team raising the point of information;
- (iii) A member holding the floor must respond to an opposing member, or members offering POI’s, in one of the following ways.
 - a. A clear gesture or hand signal rejecting the offer,
 - b. A verbal rejection of the offer, or,
 - c. A verbal acceptance of the offer;
- (iv) If a POI is accepted, the point should be phrased as a question, or clarification, or comment, and ideally made in no more than 15 seconds. Points of Information should be such that they allow the member holding the floor some chance of responding;
- (v) After a POI has been offered, no further clarifications may be sought either by the speaker holding the floor or by the member offering the Point of Information, except strictly in situations where the Point of Information is clearly inaudible, and therefore a repetition of the same is necessitated;
- (vi) Points of Information are marked for their strategic use under Method, and for their content under Matter. Unwarranted use of points of information can be marked down under Manner.
- (vii) Each speaker is mandated to accept at least **one (1)** POI. It is their discretion whether to accept or deny any further POIs.

6. MEDIUM OF LANGUAGE:

- 6.1. For the purpose of this Competition, the language of communication shall be English only. Use Vernacular language by the participants during the said Competition is strictly prohibited;

7. TEAM COMPOSITION:

- 7.1. The team shall consist of three Members only;
- 7.2. Each team shall be given a unique team code;
- 7.3. No changes in the team composition shall be permitted once the Final Registration is confirmed by the Organizers. Participants are expected to remain in the order submitted by them in the Registration Form (i.e. Speaker 1, Speaker 2, and Speaker 3) However, the Organizers may permit the same, subsequent to a request made by the participating team prior to the commencement of the competition;
- 7.4. The Participants are strictly prohibited from disclosing or revealing their College/University identity to any other Participant belonging to another College/University or the Judges, either directly or through symbolic representation including but limited to their dress code or through applications, books, compendiums and any other material submitted or used by the Participants. Contravention of the same may lead to disqualification based on the sole discretion of the Organizers.

8. DRESS CODE:

- 8.1. The dress code for the competition shall be strictly formals. The Participants are to adhere to the following dress code only:
Gentlemen – Formal Trousers, Formal Shirt, Formal Blazer (without college/ University logo), Tie;

Ladies – Formal Trousers, Formal Shirt, White Kurta and Black Churidar Pants, Formal Blazer (without College/University logo).

9. REGISTRATION:

- 9.1. The Competition is open for all students who are pursuing an undergraduate or postgraduate course from any recognized university within the territory of India;
- 9.2. Institutions/Teams interested in participating in the Competition will have to register by first completing the payment and getting the receipt, and then filling the google form;
- 9.3. The slots shall be reserved on a 'first come, first serve' basis. The Teams shall pay a non-refundable registration fee through the payment link which would be sent to the teams registered. It will contain the options of different modes of payment such as UPI payment and Net Banking;
- 9.4. After confirmation of payment of the registration fees, the teams, through their respective Official College Email ID or any other recognized student association Email ID are to submit the duly filled Registration form given in the brochure. The same can be accessed through the following link: <https://forms.gle/6iejMzywJAQvV1zA6>
- 9.5. Registration Fees:
Registration Fees per team: 1200 (Early Bird Registration) (Online Rounds)
Registration Fees per team: 1500 (Regular Registration) (Online Rounds)
Registration Fees per team: 1200 (Offline Rounds) (For qualifying teams only) (Including Accommodation, Hospitality, etc)
- 9.6. The last date for Early bird registration is **15th August 2025**, and the last date for final registration shall be **27th August 2025**. Further information regarding the registration process for the offline rounds shall be communicated to the qualified teams.

10. ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE COMPETITION:

10.1. Peitho Cup: Inter-University Asian Parliamentary Debate Competition, 2025, shall be conducted in the following two phases:

- I. Vox Initium – Online Preliminaries
- II. Vox Ultima – Offline Rounds

10.1.1. Vox Initium – Online Preliminaries

- (i) There shall be two preliminary rounds conducted for the purpose of this Competition. Each team will participate in two debates, of which the average score will be taken while deciding the qualified teams;
- (ii) The topics for the preliminary rounds will be provided beforehand. A total of four motions will be given. Teams are expected to prepare for all four motions. Forty-five minutes prior to each debate, the motion for that debate session will be announced. Ten minutes prior to the start of each debate, the teams will be allotted their sides;

(iii) Allocation of Time:

Times for speeches:

- a. Substantive Speeches: 5 + 1 minutes.
- b. Reply Speeches: 2 + 1 minutes

Time signals will be given in the following manner:

- a. End of first minute - single buzzer.
- b. End of fifth minute - single buzzer.
- c. End of sixth minute - double buzzer.

Reply Speeches:

- a. End of second minute – single buzzer.
- b. End of third minute – double buzzer

Once the double buzzer has sounded, speakers have a 20-second ‘grace period’, during which they should conclude their speech. After this grace period has elapsed, there will be a continuous buzzer, and the panel must disregard the rest of that particular speech. Speakers continuing after the ‘grace period’ can also be penalized by the panel in the Method category.

10.1.2. Vox Ultima – Offline Rounds

(i) The top 16 teams from the online rounds will qualify for the offline rounds;

(ii) The offline rounds will follow the given order:

- a. Octa-Finals
- b. Quarter-Finals
- c. Semi-Finals
- d. Finals;

(iii) The motion for each round will be announced thirty minutes prior to the commencement of the debate. During this time, teams may use printed and prepared materials and can access any form of electronic devices, such as computers, cellular phones. However, the use of electronic devices during the debate is strictly prohibited. Teams will be allotted their sides ten minutes prior to the commencement of the debate;

(iv) Allocation of Time:

Octa-Finals, Quarter Finals, Semi-Finals

Times for speeches:

- a. Substantive Speeches: 6 + 1 minutes.
- b. Reply Speeches: 3 + 1 minutes

Time signals will be given in the following manner:

- a. End of first minute - single buzzer.
- b. End of sixth minute - single buzzer.
- c. End of seventh minute - double buzzer.

Reply Speeches:

- a. End of third minute – single buzzer.
- b. End of fourth minute – double buzzer

Once the double buzzer has sounded, speakers have a 20-second ‘grace period’, during which they should conclude their speech. After this grace period has elapsed, there will be a continuous buzzer, and the panel must disregard the rest of that particular speech. Speakers continuing after the ‘grace period’ can also be penalized by the panel in the Method category;

Final Round:

Times for speeches:

- a. Substantive Speeches: 7 + 1 minutes.

b. Reply Speeches: 4 + 1 minutes

Time signals will be given in the following manner:

- a. End of first minute - single buzzer.
- b. End of seventh minute - single buzzer.
- c. End of eighth minute - double buzzer.

Reply Speeches:

- a. End of fourth minute – single buzzer.
- b. End of fifth minute – double buzzer

Once the double buzzer has sounded, speakers have a 20-second ‘grace period’, during which they should conclude their speech. After this grace period has elapsed, there will be a continuous buzzer, and the panel has the discretion to accept or disregard the rest of that particular speech. Speakers continuing after the ‘grace period’ may also be penalized by the panel in the Method category. For every extra **30 seconds** that is used, **2 marks** will be deducted.

11. EVALUATION PARAMETERS:

11.1. Parameters for evaluating Speakers: Each **Constructive Speech** shall be marked on the following criteria:

PARAMETERS MARKS

Matter: **40**

Manner: **40**

Method: **20**

TOTAL MARKS: **100**

11.2. Parameters for evaluating Speakers: **Each Reply Speech** shall be marked on the following criteria:

PARAMETERS MARKS

Matter: **20**

Manner: **20**

Method: **10**

TOTAL MARKS: 50

Note: The marks of the Reply Speech will be considered ONLY for the TOTAL SCORE of the team. It will NOT be considered for the award of Best Speaker in order to maintain fairness

12. MISCELLANEOUS:

12.1. Teams will not be allowed to observe the Oral Rounds of any other teams. Scouting is strictly prohibited. Scouting by any of the teams shall result in disqualification;

12.2. If any rules or criteria of scoring have not been expressly defined as it cannot be reasonably foreseen, the Organizers in consultation with the faculty-in-charge reserve the right to formulate such rules or criteria.

13. AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES:

13.1. The following are the Awards that will be presented during the valedictory ceremony:

CRITERIA AWARDS

Winners	Rs. 50000 /- + Trophy
Runners-Up	Rs. 30000 /- + Trophy
Best Speaker	Rs. 5000 /- + Trophy

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