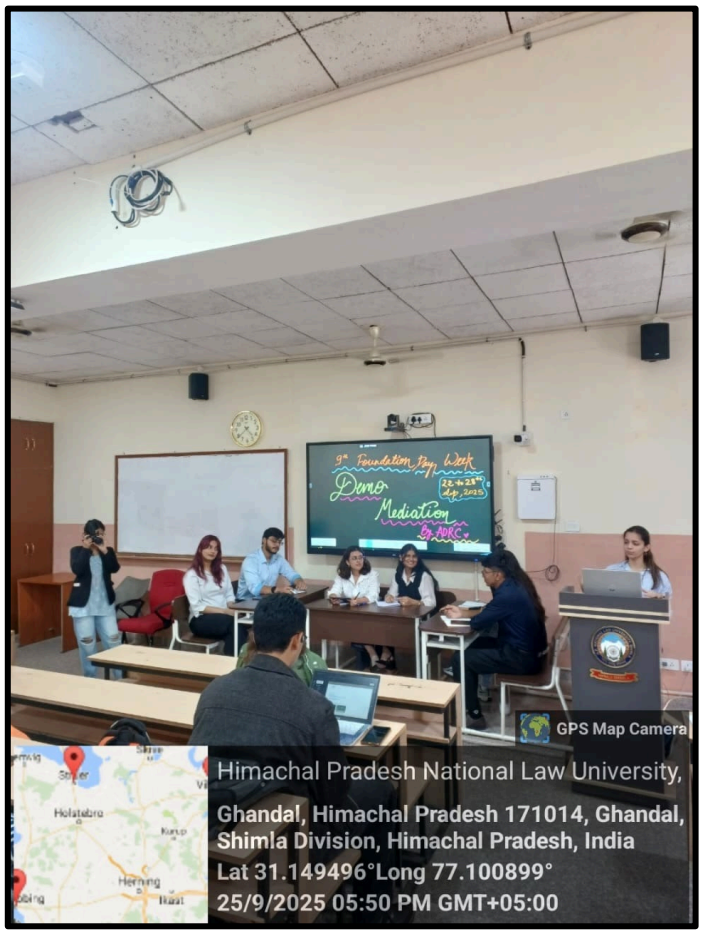
Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla

Alternative Dispute Resolution Cell

9TH FOUNDATION DAY WEEK

Under the guidance of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Priti Saxena and with the support of the worthy Registrar Prof. (Dr.) Alok Kumar, Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla, celebrated the 9th Foundation Day Week from September 22 to 28, 2025. Dr. Ruchi Gupta, Faculty Convener, along with Dr. Bharat Barowalia, and Dr. Arun Klair contributed to the week-long activities in collaboration with various cells, committees, and centres of HPNLU, Shimla. As part of these initiatives, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Cell organised a demo mediation session on 25th September, to familiarise students with the practical functioning of the mediation process.



The session highlighted mediation as a voluntary and confidential method of resolving disputes where a neutral third party assists individuals in communicating effectively, identifying their concerns, and working together to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution. To make the process more relatable, members of the ADRC Committee enacted the primary roles involved in mediation. Students portrayed the clients, presenting their grievances and needs in a realistic manner.

Other members took on the role of counsels, guiding the clients and helping them articulate their positions while maintaining the cooperative spirit essential to mediation. A committee member served as the mediator, demonstrating impartiality, active listening, and the ability to facilitate dialogue through each stage of the mediation, including opening statements, joint discussions, private conversations, and the exploration of settlement options.

This demonstration enabled participants to observe the natural flow of responsibilities among clients, counsels, and the mediator, reflecting how these roles interact in real life to resolve conflicts constructively. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor concluded the session with an inspiring and encouraging message, emphasising the growing importance of mediation in modern legal practice and motivating students to cultivate strong communication and problem-solving skills. The event successfully deepened students' understanding of dispute resolution and added significant value to the Foundation Day Week celebrations.