HIMACHAL PRADESH NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, SHIMLA

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CELL

3RD SAMANVAY INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION COMPETITION 2025

Ghandal, Shimla | October 13th-15th **2025**

The Alternate Dispute Resolution Cell of Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU), Shimla, successfully hosted the offline rounds of the 3rd Samanvay International Mediation Competition (SIMC) from October 13th to 15th, 2025.

The Samanvay International Mediation Competition is the flagship initiative of HPNLU's ADR Cell that seeks to develop a culture of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) amongst law students. It provides an environment for law students interested in the legal profession to develop their advocacy, negotiation, and problem-solving skills outside the courtroom.

The 3rd Samanvay International Mediation Competition (SIMC) was hosted in a hybrid format from 18th–19th September (online rounds) and 13th–15th October 2025 (Offline) quarterfinals, semi-finals, and finals on campus followed the online preliminary rounds.

The program commenced the felicitation of guests by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Priti Saxena, of HPNLU, and esteemed guests who shared their opening thoughts on the growing importance of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in today's legal practice. The Chairperson ADR Cell Dr. Ruchi Gupta shared the report of the event in the opening ceremony.

This year's edition of SIMC witnessed participation from 33 teams representing leading National Law Universities and reputed law colleges from India and abroad, including Hidayatullah National Law University (HNLU), Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (RGNUL), Maharashtra National Law University (MNLU) Mumbai, Symbiosis Law School Pune, University Institute of Legal Studies (UILS) Panjab University, and the National University of Singapore (NUS), among others.

The final rounds were adjudicated by an eminent panel that comprised of Mr. Corrado Mora, an International mediator and ADR consultant; Mr. Ruwan Wathukarage, a Sydney-based commercial barrister and accredited who joined us online; Mrs. Priyanka Khenal, a seasoned lawyer and current member of the Juvenile Justice Board, Shimla; Mr. Surender Gill, an advocate with over 33 years of experience in corporate and banking law; and Dr. Santosh Kumar Sharma, Associate Professor of Law and Dean of Academic Affairs at HPNLU Shimla.

Several prestigious sponsors and knowledge partners such as JurisGyan, SCC Online, SCC Times, A5 Legal, PACT, Indian Dispute Resolution Centre, PSL Advocates & Solicitors, and Nishith Desai Associates, highlighted the increasing significance of ADR in the competition and strengthened the event's goal of connecting academic knowledge with real-world practice."

After careful judging, these were the selected winners of the SIMC competition

- Winning Negotiating Team - Team Code TC-02 **(HNLU)**
- Winning Mediator -TC-17 **(O.P. Jindal Global University).**
- Runner-Up Negotiating Team - TC-07 **(MNLU Mumbai)**

- Runner-Up Mediator - TC-24 **(UILS Panjab University)**

  The 3rd Samanvay International Mediation Competition highlighted HPNLU's dedication to fostering communication and collaborative methods for resolving disputes through mediation. With a diverse range of participants and a high level of expertise facilitating discussions, SIMC 3.0 reinforced its status as a premier event in India's growing Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) community.