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**THAKUR RAMNARAYAN COLLEGE OF LAW**

**LEX COMMUNIQUE 2025**

**CLIENT COUNSELLING**

**LEX Communiqué**  
*a new beginning...*

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**RULES & REGULATIONS**

## **ABOUT CLIENT COUNSELLING**

The Client Counselling Competition, organized by the Alternative Dispute Resolution Society of Thakur Ramnarayan College of Law, aims to simulate real-world legal consultations, providing participants with a platform to develop essential legal skills. This competition focuses on testing students' abilities to understand client needs, offer informed legal advice, and explore various dispute resolution options. By fostering critical thinking and effective communication, the event prepares aspiring legal professionals to navigate client interactions with confidence and competence. The competition seeks to cultivate a new generation of lawyers who are adopting evolving methods of dispute resolution.

## **DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1. "ADRS, TRCL" – Alternative Dispute Resolution Society, Thakur Ramnarayan College of Law. The ADRS is the organizing and administrating body for the Competition.
- 2.2. "Competition" – 1st Inter-Client Counselling Competition.
- 2.3. "Participant" – Enrolee of the Competition, subject to outlined eligibility criteria.
- 2.4. "Team" – Any team comprising of two participants, eligible and participating in the Competition.
- 2.5. "Client" – A person or organisation, as assigned by the ADRS, TRCL in accordance with the office memo for a particular round, seeking and/or receiving the services of a lawyer(s).
- 2.6. "Office memo" – A sheet of correspondence briefly describing the client(s) and/or his or her problem(s) for which s/he seeks the services of a lawyer(s).

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Students of three-year and five-year law degree courses studying in any year from any University/Law School/College/Department are eligible to apply for registration of their team.

## **TEAM COMPOSITION**

One team shall comprise two participants only (Counsel 1 and Counsel 2). A total of 20 teams will be selected for the competition on a first-come first-serve basis. However, the number of teams can be extended if the Organizing Committee finds it suitable to do so and the cap will then be removed.

## **REGISTRATION**

The registration fee, which includes food, shall be in the following format for each team:

1. *Participants registering solely in the CLIENT COUNSELLING competition shall pay Rs. 2000/-.*
2. *Participants registered in TRIAL ADVOCACY/PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE, also participating in CLIENT COUNSELLING may avail a discounted fee of Rs. 1000/-.*

## **Bank Details for RTGS/NEFT**

**Name of the Account: Lex Communique**

**Bank name: Indian Bank**

**Branch: Kandivali (EAST)**

**A/c. No.: 6701666981**

**IFSC Code: IDIB000K161**

The registration fee shall be non-refundable and non-transferable to register, kindly fill out the Google form through the Link. The acknowledgement of the payment must be submitted along with the online registration form : <https://forms.gle/FpW2rcnBxXYYuxW57>

Once a team registers by completing the formalities given, a confirmation email will be sent. The team code shall be provided to the registered team after the closing of Registration process. The organizing committee has the exclusive right to decide in case of any dispute related to the registration. The decision of the organizing committee in such a case shall be final.

### **Process of Competition**

The competition simulates a law office consultation in which two participants (Counsel 1 and 2) deal with a client.

The participant team will conduct an interview with a dummy client and the judges will evaluate the performance.

The legal issue of client and the client will be provided on the spot for Preliminary Rounds.

The legal issues of the client shall be provided in brief memorandum 1hr prior to the final rounds and the client will be provided on the spot.

During the counselling period, students are expected to elicit the relevant information from the client, explore with the client his or her preferred outcome, outline the nature of the problem, and suggest to the client to resolve the problem.

The participants will be evaluated by a panel of judges considering the specific criteria based on listening to clients, questioning, planning and analytical skills of a lawyer.

During Post counselling and consultation, judges can ask questions to the competitor for further clarification. Team members are entirely free to decide the work distribution, but both competitors must consult with the client as a team. It will be the full discretion of the organizing committee to select and allot the clients.

### **Theme**

The theme for all the rounds shall be based on any or the entire spectrum of laws including:

1. Labour Law
2. Contract Law
3. Family Law
4. Company Law
5. Environmental Law
6. Intellectual Property Law

**Rounds of the Competition:**

A total of two rounds will be conducted as per the following structure:

Name of Round	Time Allotted
<b>Preliminary Round</b>	<b>15 mins</b>
<b>Final Round</b>	<b>20 mins</b>

**The Consultation Period (Interview Period):** The first 10 minutes in the Preliminary Round and 15 minutes in Final Round are allocated for client consultation during which participants are expected to elicit the relevant information, outline the problem and propose a solution or other means of resolving the problem.

**Post-Consultation Period (Post-Interview Period):** The last 5 mins in Preliminary Round and 10 minutes in Final Round are reserved for post-consultation session. During the post-consultation period, the participants may talk to each other loud enough to be heard by the judges, dictate a file memorandum on the interview, or both.

Judges may question the teams during the post-consultation period.

**Note:** *The teams may use books, notes and other materials during both rounds.*

**Marking Scheme:**

Judging Criteria	Marks Allotted
Establishing an effective professional relationship	05
Obtaining information & understanding the client's goals, expectations and needs	10
Analysis of the client's problems (factual & legal)	15
Developing reasoned courses of action & advice given	10
Effectively concluding the interview	10
Post-consultation reflection period	10
Responding to Judges' questions	10

Teamwork	05
<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>

### **CODE OF CONDUCT OF PARTICIPANTS**

The participants are expected to follow under mentioned code of conduct:

1. The official language of the competition shall be English. All written or oral submissions must be undertaken in English.
2. All the participants must wear formals – a pair of black pants and a white shirt - for the entire duration of the competition. Girls are allowed to wear Indian formals - white kurta & black salwar. Use of advocate’s gowns, bands and robes is strictly prohibited.
3. No extra time will be given in any round.
4. The decision of the judges and the organizers shall be final and binding on all. Any violation of the code of conduct will invite disqualification.
5. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to take any action against unethical, wrongful or unprofessional conduct.

#### **Grounds for Disqualification:**

Any misconduct will not be tolerated and shall result in disqualification of the team. Misconduct shall mean and include:

1. Disclosure of identity to other participants or judges during the competition. The participants should use the Team Codes provided.
2. Any attempt by participants to obtain the client counselling topic before notification.
3. Any attempt by participant(s) to speak about controversial matters such as religion, caste, race, gender, foul language, or anti-national rhetoric before or during the competition.
4. Any discussion with client(s) before competition.
5. Cheating or using unfair means.
6. Intimidation in any form.

#### **Miscellaneous:**

1. Scouting is not allowed under any circumstances and may lead to disqualification.
2. If there is any situation, not covered by the Rules, the decision of the Organizers shall be final and binding.
3. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to amend the rules. However, due notice shall be provided to all participating teams.

4. Registration will be on a first-come first-serve basis as there will be limited seats (20 teams). The top eight teams will qualify to the final round.
5. In case of any non-compliance with the rules of the competition, a penalty may be imposed by deduction of marks and the teams may also be disqualified after they have been warned once.
6. The clients for the competition will be provided by the Organizing Committee.

### **SCHEDULE**

- a) Preliminary Round – 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2025
- b) Final Round and Valedictory – 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2025

### **AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES**

Winner: Trophy, Cash Prize, Certificate

Runners-up: Trophy, Cash Prize, Certificate

Best Counsel: Trophy, Cash Prize, Certificate

Every Participant shall be awarded a Certificate of Participation.

#### **For any Queries Contact:**

Asst. Prof. Yogini Lalwani (**Faculty Convenor**): +91 9930700764

Ms. Namrata Gupta (**Student Convenor**): +91 7021319611

Ms. Riya Sharma (**Student Co-Convenor**): +91 9602633267

**NOTE: ALL COMMUNICATION(S)/UPDATE(S), CONCERNING THE COMPETITION, MUST BE ADDRESSED TO [lexcommunique@trcl.org.in](mailto:lexcommunique@trcl.org.in) and CC to [adrs@trcl.org.in](mailto:adrs@trcl.org.in).**