

10th K.R. RAMAMANI MEMORIAL NATIONAL TAXATION MOOT COURT
COMPETITION, 2020.

10th K.R. RAMAMANI MEMORIAL NATIONAL TAXATION
MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2020

**Organized by School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar
Law University in Association with Subbaraya Aiyar, Padmanabhan and
Ramamani (S.A.P.R) Advocates**



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RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. AIM AND PURPOSE:

The 10th K.R. Ramamani Memorial National Taxation Moot Court Competition has been conceived with the aim to

- a. Create awareness on taxation in a systematic / scientific manner and train participants for effective practice
- b. Facilitate the evolution of taxation laws through the jurisprudential analysis of the existing law and consequential emergence of new laws besides developing cutting edge skills in research, writing and advocacy.

2. DATE & VENUE OF THE COMPETITION:

- a. The preliminary rounds of the 10th K.R. Ramamani Memorial Taxation National Moot Court Competition 2020 will be conducted **ONLINE** through ONLINE through the video conferencing application “**ZOOM**”™ on 8th and 9th February, 2020.
- b. The Advanced Rounds [Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Finals] of the 10th K.R. Ramamani Memorial Taxation National Moot Court Competition 2020 will be held on 7th March and 8th March 2020 at the School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Taramani, Chennai - 600113.

3. GENERAL TERMS:

- a. “Online” means controlled by or connected to a computer with the help of internet.
- b. “Organizers’ or “OC” will mean the Moot Court Association of the School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University and the Management of SAPR Advocates.
- c. “Participating Team” means the team, which has registered itself for the Competition.
- d. “Participants” means the speakers and the researchers of the Participating Team.
- e. “Video Conference” means a live, visual connection between two or more people residing in separate locations for the purpose of communication.
- f. “Web Camera” means a camera that records moving pictures and sound and allows these to be broadcasted on the internet as they happen.

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All the rules are only inclusive and not exhaustive for the Competition. Rules should be strictly adhered to. Any deviation there from would attract disqualification or other penalties mentioned subsequently.

All decisions of the Organizers in case of any disputes/ doubts etc. will be final. Imposition of penalties including disqualification rests solely with the Organizers in case of failure to comply with the Rule(s) and Deadline(s).

4. TEAM ELIGIBILITY & TEAM COMPOSITION:

a. Participation is strictly restricted to bona fide law students enrolled in the three-year or five-year LL.B. or B.L. degree course in any institution recognized by the Bar Council of India.

b. Only one team is permitted to participate from each registered institution.

c. Each team shall comprise of a minimum of two and a maximum of three members. In a team consisting of two members, each of the members shall be designated as 'Speaker'. In a team consisting of three members, two of the members shall be designated as 'Speaker' and the third member shall be designated as 'Researcher'.

5. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:

The Registration Formalities shall be done in two steps:

a. Provisional Registration of the participating institutions shall be sent to krramamani10@gmail.com on or before January 15th 2020.

b. Upon receipt of an e-mail confirming provisional registration from the Organizing Committee, participants shall complete the Registration Formalities.

i. Participants shall duly fill the Registration form available as Annexure 1 in this information booklet and scan the Demand Draft and send a soft copy of the same to krramamani10@gmail.com on or before January 20th 2020.

ii. The Hard Copy of the duly filled in Registration Form along with the Demand Draft of Rs 1000/- drawn in favour of "The Registrar, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai", payable at Chennai shall reach the Organizing Committee on or before 25th January 2020 via Speed Post or Courier. The address for correspondence is as specified in Rule 9.1.

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- iii. Upon qualification to the advanced rounds, an online Travel form will be sent to the teams which must be duly filled in by the participating teams by 16th February 2020 and the hard copies of the duly filled Demand Draft of Rs 4000/- drawn in favour of “The Registrar, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai”, payable at Chennai shall reach the Organizing Committee via Speed Post or Courier, which should reach the University on or before 20th of February 2020.
- iv. Government Law Colleges of Tamil Nadu affiliated to the Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University shall send the Registration Form along with a Demand Draft of Rs.1000/-.
- v. Teams that have completed Registration in accordance with the above shall be assigned a Team Code. All correspondence to the Organizing Committee shall specify only the Team Code.
- vi. No alteration in the Team Composition shall be permitted after the receipt of the Registration Form, except at the sole discretion of the Organizing Committee.

6. DRESS CODE:

- a. Participants shall be appropriately attired for the rounds of the competition. Robes and neck bands are not permitted.
- b. The Dress Code for the Inauguration, Researcher’s Test, Oral Rounds, Valedictory & Prize Distribution shall strictly be:
 - i. **For Gentlemen** - Western Formals (White formal shirt with black formal pants and a black blazer with black tie); and
 - ii. **For Ladies** - Western Formals (White formal shirt with black formal pants/black formal skirt and a black blazer) or Indian Formals (white kurta with black pants and either a black waistcoat or black blazer).

7. CLARIFICATIONS :

Clarifications to the Moot Proposition shall be sought by sending an e-mail to krramamani10@gmail.com on or before 18th January 2020. A set of Final Clarifications will tentatively be released on 23rd January 2020.

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8. MEMORANDUM/WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS :

SUBMISSION OF MEMORANDUM:

- a. Participants are required to submit Memorandum or Written Submissions for both the Petitioner and the Respondent.
- b. Teams shall e-mail Soft Copies of the Memorandums in both PDF and Microsoft Word formats for both the sides (i.e. four attachments in total) in a **single mail** or before 30th January 2020 by 23:59 hours to krramamani10@gmail.com. For example, if the assigned team code is 52, the team shall title the Petitioner and Respondent Memorandums as “52P” and “52R” respectively. The Soft Copy should be compatible with at least Microsoft Word 2007. Late submission shall attract penalties in accordance with Rule 10.
- c. Only the Team Code shall be specified on the Memorandum. Any reference to the participating institution/college/university shall result in immediate disqualification.
- d. Teams shall submit **ONLY a SOFT COPY** of the memo. **No HARD COPIES** required for the preliminary rounds.
- e. Qualifying teams to the advanced rounds shall carry with themselves five (5) Hard Copies each of the Petitioner and Respondent Memorandums and hand it over at the time of Desk Registration on 8th March 2020.
- f. No amendment to the memorandum shall be permitted after submission of the soft copies. Variation found in the Hard Copy shall be penalized in accordance with Rule 10.
- g. Participants are advised to carry additional copies of their Memorandum for their own use. Copies submitted to the Organizing Committee shall be used for the evaluation of the Memorandum, for the Exchange of Memorandum and for the Judges Bench for each of the Oral Rounds.
- h. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to use the memorandum submitted by the participating teams, as it deems appropriate. The memorandum submitted shall not be returned to the participants.

9. CONTENTS OF THE MEMORANDUM:

- a. Each Memorandum shall not exceed 30 pages, inclusive of cover page, and shall contain the following sections:

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- i. Cover Page (shall include Year of the Competition, Cause Title, Forum/Court, designation as Petitioner or Respondent Memo, Team Code on the top right corner - e.g. 52P or 52R)
- ii. Table of Contents
- iii. Index of Authorities
- iv. Statement of Jurisdiction (strictly restrict to 1 page)
- v. Summary/Statement of Facts (strictly restrict to 1 page; argumentative Statement of Facts shall be penalized)
- vi. Issues Raised/Questions Presented
- vii. Summary of Arguments/Pleadings
- viii. Arguments Advanced/Written Pleadings
- ix. Prayer

b. The following content specifications shall be strictly adhered to:

- Language: English
- Body Font & Size: Times New Roman, 12;
- Line Spacing: 1.5 [The spacing need not be followed for the Cover Page, any Tabular Column, Header or Footer]
- Footnotes Font & Size: Times New Roman, 10;
- Line Spacing: 1.0;
- Paragraph Spacing: None; No additional space between footnotes Substantive Footnoting is strictly prohibited.
- Alignment (Body & Footnotes): Justified Margin: 1 inch on all 4 sides
- Citation Method: The Bluebook, A Uniform System of Citation, Harvard Law Review, 20th edition

c. The following printing specifications shall be strictly adhered to:

- i. The Cover Page shall be: Blue for Petitioner Memorandum Red for Respondent Memorandum
- ii. Only white A4 sized paper shall be used for all other pages. Use of recycled papers is encouraged.
- iii. The Memorandums shall be printed on both sides. Each side shall be counted as one page.

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- iv. The Memorandums shall be spiral bound and no other form of binding shall be accepted. The use of plastic/cellophane sheets or films shall attract strict penalties.
- v. The Memorandums shall not contain any Annexure/Appendices, Photographs, Sketches, Exhibits, Affidavits, etc.

10. EVALUATION OF THE MEMORANDUM:

- a. The Memorandum will be evaluated by a separate panel of judges who will not Judge the Oral Rounds.
- b. The following shall be the judging criteria:

Knowledge of law & depth of research	20
Use of authority/precedents	20
Incorporation of facts into the arguments	10
Interpretation of applicable law	10
Clarity of thought and organization of arguments	15
Style of Presentation	10
Originality	10
Relief sought	5

- c. Penalties shall be attracted in the following manner:

VIOLATION	PENALTY
Late Submission - Soft Copy	2 point per day per Memo
Any violation under Rule 8 (a.)	1 point for each violation under the Rule
Any violation under Rule 8(b.)	1 point for each violation under the Rule
Any violation under Rule 8 (c.)	2 point for each violation under the Rule
Variation in content between Soft Copy and Hard Copy	0.5 point for each variation
Violation of Anonymity	Disqualification

11. ORAL ROUNDS:

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GENERAL PROCEDURE:

- a. Teams are requested to bring their respective institution ID cards.
- b. The language to be used during the Rounds is English.
- c. The Competition shall consist of the following rounds:
 - i. Preliminary Rounds; and
 - ii. Advanced Rounds consisting of:
 - a. Quarter-finals.
 - b. Semi-finals.
 - c. Finals.
- d. The preliminary rounds shall take place through an online videoconferencing platform known as “**ZOOM**”™ which will have to be downloaded by the participants.
- e. The advanced rounds (Quarter-finals, Semi-finals and Finals.) consisting of the top 8 qualifying teams shall be held in School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Taramani, Chennai - 600113.
- f. All teams will be notified of their qualification to the advanced rounds on February 12th 2020 through the provided email ID at the time of registration.
- g. During each of the above-mentioned rounds, the order in which the teams shall present their arguments is as follows:
 - Petitioner Speaker 1
 - Petitioner Speaker 2
 - Respondent Speaker 1
 - Respondent Speaker 2
 - Rebuttal: Petitioner - Any one of the Two Speakers
 - Sur-rebuttal: Respondent - Any one of the Two Speakers Sur-rebuttal may be permitted only at the discretion of the Judges.
- h. The Best Speaker Award shall be determined on the basis of the individual aggregate score of the Speaker taken only from the Preliminary Rounds.

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- i. The Researcher shall not be permitted to address the Court during the Oral Rounds. The Researcher may however, be permitted to pass notes to the Speakers at the discretion of the Judges.
- j. Teams are not permitted to raise issues in the Oral Rounds that have not been submitted in the Memorandum.
- k. The use of mobile phones, laptops, or any other electronic gadgets is strictly prohibited during the Advanced Oral Rounds. Use of laptops to access the “**ZOOM**”™ Application is permitted during the Preliminary Rounds.
- l. Participants may use their own Bare Acts, print outs and commentaries provided that anonymity is not violated during the Rounds.
- m. The decision of the Judges as to the marks allotted to each team shall be final.
- n. So as to ensure uniformity in the marking system, all Judges will be provided with a scoring guideline.
- i. Memorial scores shall NOT be taken into account for scoring in preliminary rounds.

SPLITTING OF TIME BETWEEN SPEAKERS:

- a. Teams shall notify the Bench Clerks of the division of time between the 2 Speakers (including time reserved for Rebuttal & Sur-rebuttal) 10 minutes prior to the commencement of the Rounds.
- b. If Speaker 1 exceeds his/her reserved time, the additional time taken shall be deducted from the time reserved by Speaker 2. Similarly, if Speaker 2 exceeds his/her reserved time, the additional time taken shall be deducted from the time reserved for Rebuttals/Sur-Rebuttals as the case may be. However, this rule may not be followed if the additional time is awarded at the discretion of the Judges to not be deducted from the time of the subsequent Speaker.
- c. The finality of the decision as to the time structure and the right to Rebut or Sur-rebut shall vest with the Judges.

COMPENDIUM:

- a. All relevant case laws and statutory material to be passed on to the Judges during the Oral Rounds may be submitted **via e-mail** in the form of a Compendium on 4th February 2020

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prior to the commencement of the competition to krramamani10@gmail.com. There is no specified page limit for the compendium that will be emailed to the aforementioned email-id for the preliminary rounds.

b. The Compendium shall not exceed 50 pages for the teams that advance to the Advanced Rounds to be held in Chennai. The compendium shall be printed on both sides. Each side shall be considered as one page.

c. Participants shall ensure that anonymity is not violated while passing on any material to the Judges. If any mark, name, seal, symbol or logo of the institution/college/university is present, participants must ensure that the same is rendered unrecognizable. Violation of anonymity shall result in immediate disqualification.

EXCHANGE OF MEMORANDUM:

a. The exchange of memorandums for the preliminary rounds will be done via the respective email IDs provided by the teams. Memorandums of the opponents for each respective round will be mailed to the teams.

b. Exchange of memos for advanced rounds, beginning with the quarter finals, will take place on 7th March 2020.

c. Teams are prohibited from making any marks on the memorandums thus exchanged. Teams are also prohibited from taking photocopies of such memorandums.

PRELIMINARY ROUNDS:

a. The preliminary rounds of the competition shall be hosted online on a videoconferencing application called “**ZOOMTM**” available both on MacOS and Windows.

b. You can download the app through the following links:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/id5465057307>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=us.zoom.videomeetings>

c. The preliminary rounds will take place on the on 8th and 9th of February 2020. The dates of the round may also be extended to the forth coming two days (10th and 11th of February 2020) **IF** the rounds were not completed on the stipulated dates, subject to the discretion of the Organizers.

d. The teams have to use only a laptop or a desktop for the competition.

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- e. The teams can choose their convenient venue where they can access strong, uninterrupted internet connection. Their computer should have a proper speaker and its screen size should be 14 to 16 inches. However only the team members (2 speakers and 1 researcher) are allowed to be present inside the venue.
- f. The timings and date of the preliminary rounds will be intimated to the teams on **6th February 2020** through an E-Mail. This date and timings shall be final and will be based on the convenience of the judges and the Organizer's Discretion and shall not be altered under any circumstances.
- g. The teams are requested to be ready in their selected venue at least 15 minutes before the orals rounds begin. This time period shall be utilized to check the network connectivity.
- h. The teams are to provide their ID card at the time of registration and also have it with them during the rounds.
- i. Any issues with the connection or any technical glitches shall be reported to the organizing committee before the rounds start.
- j. During the entire duration of the rounds, the participants are requested to ensure that they are within the camera's view and maintain adequate distance from the desktop / laptop used for the purpose of zoom.
- k. Each team shall argue twice in the Preliminary Rounds, once for the Petitioner and once for the Respondent. And no team shall face the same team in the preliminary rounds.
- l. The time limit for the oral round shall be thirty(30) minutes for each team. This shall include the time for both the speakers from the team and the time reserved for rebuttal and sur-rebuttal. Judges may at their discretion, extend the time allotted for the oral arguments up to a maximum of 5 minutes.
- m. Only one speaker shall be allowed to present the rebuttal / sur-rebuttal and the sur-rebuttals shall be limited only to rebuttals made by the opponent team. No team shall be permitted to reserve more than two (2) minutes for rebuttals / sur-rebuttals.
- n. The top eight (8) teams from the Preliminary Rounds, shall advance to the Quarterfinals, which will be taking place on 7th March, 2020 at the School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr.Ambedkar Law University, Taramani, Chennai - 600113.

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- o. The top eight teams shall qualify on the basis of the aggregate scores. In the event of a tie, the memorandum score of the team shall be considered.

DISQUALIFICATION:

OC reserves the right to disqualify the participation of any team on the grounds of:

- a. Use of mobile phones or any other device for the purpose of browsing the internet or for any other reason, other than using the Zoom Application.
- b. Availing assistance of person, who is not a member of the team
- c. If the video/audio is paused or if the participant leaves the chat in the middle of the rounds without a legitimate reason
- d. If the Organizing Committee have any reason to believe that a team has resorted to any unfair means during the oral rounds
- e. For any other just reason the OC deems fit.

HOW TO USE ZOOM APPLICATION:

- a. Download ZOOM app.
- b. Click on the Zoom link provided to you. It will look something like this:
<https://otago.zoom.us/j/123456789>
- c. Just before entering the meeting you will be prompted to enter a display name.
You will enter your team code there. You shall not reveal the identity of your college whatsoever at any point of time.
- d. You will then be prompted how you wish to join your audio. Join the audio with the ‘Call via Device Audio’ option.
- e. You can use the ‘Chat’ facility to send text chat. Click on the ‘Chat’ icon in the tool bar. You can use this option to communicate any issues in the connection. You are allowed to send a chat ONLY to the judges/ usher.
- f. The technical support person will be appointed soon after the memorial seeding is announced, and the rounds are fixed. Each team will be intimated

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via email about the technical supposed person assigned to them, after which this person will create a group with the teams assigned to that particular person to help guide teams.

RESEARCHER’S TEST

a. The Researcher’s Test shall be in the format of an interview that will be conducted vide the “**ZOOM**”™ Application on 8th March 2020. Only the person designated as a “**RESEARCHER**” can attend the Interview. In case of a 2 Member Team, either one of the Speakers can take up the Researcher’s Interview.

ADVANCED ROUNDS(Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Finals)

GENERAL RULES:

a. The advanced rounds shall be held in **School of Excellence in Law, Chennai** on **7th and 8th of March 2020.**

a. Every team shall argue once in each of the Advanced Rounds.

b. The qualification of teams to subsequent rounds shall be on a knock-out basis for each of the Advanced Rounds.

c. The Memorandum Score shall not be considered for any of the Advanced Rounds.

QUARTER-FINALS:

a. The maximum time for arguments per side shall be the same as in the Preliminary Rounds.

b. Four (4) teams from the Quarterfinals shall advance to the Semi-finals, which will be selected on a knock- out basis.

SEMI-FINALS:

a. Each side shall get a maximum time of 45 minutes to present their arguments of which no Speaker shall be permitted to address the Court for more than 25 minutes. The time limit is inclusive of the time for Rebuttal or Sur-rebuttal respectively. The maximum time for Rebuttal is 5 minutes and the maximum time for Sur-rebuttal is 2 minutes.

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b. Two (2) teams from the Semi-finals shall advance to the Finals, which shall be selected on a knock-out basis.

FINALS:

- a. The maximum time for arguments per side shall be the same as in the Semi-finals.
- b. The winner of the Final Round shall be declared the Winner of the Competition.

SCOUTING:

- a. Scouting is strictly prohibited.
- b. Any person may submit a complaint regarding Scouting to the Organizing Committee.
- c. Teams found scouting shall be disqualified immediately.

12. AWARDS:

The following Awards shall be given away during the Valedictory & Prize Distribution:

- Winner of the Competition
- Runner-up of the Competition
- Best Memorandum
- Best Speaker
- Best Researcher

- a. All participants of the Competition will be given Participation Certificates.
- b. Participation Certificates will be couriered to participants of the Preliminary Rounds.
- c. All eight (8) teams shall be present during the Valedictory & Prize Distribution in formals. Certificates will only be given to the teams present during the Valedictory & Prize Distribution.

13. ACCOMMODATION, TRANSPORT & FOOD:

- a. Accommodation shall be provided to the eight teams qualified for the advanced rounds from the afternoon of 7th March 2020, till the morning of 9th March 2020.
- b. Food will be provided from lunch to to dinner on 7th March 2020. Breakfast and Lunch will be provided on 8th March 2020.

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c. Transportation from the Accommodation to the Venue of the Competition shall be provided.

d. All facilities shall be provided only to the registered members of a team and no additional members, parents, observers, coaches or faculty advisors shall be accommodated at any cost.

14. MISCELLANEOUS:

GENERAL ETIQUETTE:

a. Participants are expected to behave in a dignified manner and not to cause any inconvenience to the Organizing Committee, the Judges of the Competition or any of the other participants.

b. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action for any unethical, unprofessional or immoral conduct.

15. INTERPRETATION OF RULES & REGULATIONS:

a. All interpretations, as well as any waivers, consents or other decisions in the administration of the Competition are at the complete discretion of the Host Institution and the Organizing Committee.

b. Any decision made by the Host Institution or the Organizing Committee shall be final and binding on all participating teams.

16. CORRESPONDENCE/CONTACT DETAILS:

REGISTRATION FORMALITIES & MEMORANDUM SUBMISSIONS:

The physical address for correspondence for all Registration Formalities and Memorandum Submissions is:

The Organizing Committee

**10th K.R. Ramamani Memorial Taxation National Moot Court Competition, 2020 Moot
Court Association, School of Excellence in Law The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law
University M.G.R Main Road, Perungudi, (Near Taramani Railway Station) Chennai –
600096 Tamil Nadu, India.**

Participants may keep themselves updated by following:

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Moot-Court-Association-School-of-Excellence-inLaw-201136933274208/timeline/>

Website: mcasoel.wordpress.com, krrtaxmoot.com

Instagram: @mootcourassociation.soel

E-mail ID: krramamani10@gmail.com

17. POINT OF CONTACT:

Participants are requested to direct their queries to:

1. For general queries:

(a) **Mr. MANJUNATH KARTHIKEYAN** (+91 8754420022)

Vice President

Moot Court Association

School of Excellence in Law, Chennai

(b) **Ms. HARINI P.M** (+91 7395980789)

Joint Secretary

Moot Court Association

School of Excellence in Law, Chennai

2. For queries regarding usage of “ZOOM”™ Application in preliminary Rounds:

(a) **Ms. SONU MEHTHA** (+ 91 6369639060)

Joint Secretary

Moot Court Association

School of Excellence in Law

3. For queries related to registration

(a) **Ms. A.N. Meenakshi** (+91 9444785247)

Member

Moot Court Association

School of Excellence in Law

18. IMPORTANT DATES

Event	Date
Release of the Moot Proposition	28 th December 2019
Last date for provisional registration	15 th January 2020
Last date for soft copy submission of registration form and Demand Draft	20 th January 2020

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Last date for submitting hard copy of Registration form and Demand Draft	25 th January 2020
Last Date for mailing Clarifications	18 th January 2020
Release of Final Clarifications	23 rd January 2020
Soft Copy Submission of Written Submissions	30 th January 2020
Submission of Compendium via email	4 th February 2020
Allotment of time slots for Preliminary Rounds	6 th February 2020
Preliminary Rounds that will be conducted online	8 th and 9 th February 2020
Researcher's Test	8 th February 2020
Release of Preliminary Round Results	12 th February 2020
Submission of Soft Copy of Travel Form and Demand Draft by Qualifying Teams	16 th February 2020
Submission of Hard Copy of the Demand Draft and Travel Form	20 th February 2020
Advanced Rounds in Chennai for Qualified Teams and Valedictory	7 th and 8 th of March 2020