

Centre for International Trade and Business Laws

NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad

First Dr. P. S. Rao Memorial Essay Writing Competition, 2026

Competition Protocol

On occasion of the birth anniversary of our founding director Dr. P. S. Rao, CITBL is organising an essay writing competition. Please see the competition protocol below:

- Individual submissions are encouraged. Co-authored submissions shall be evaluated on a case-by-case basis according to the Competition terms.
- All copyrights to the essays submitted shall be retained by the authors. The centre shall seek express consent from the authors to publish their manuscripts.
- The winners may be invited to present their research in the upcoming CITBL conference, with a fee waiver, subject to the decision of the conference secretariat.
- The winners may pursue virtual internship opportunity with CITBL.
- The world limit of article is 5000- 6000 words (Including footnotes)
- The authors should not mention about themselves and about their affiliations in the paper.
- Author details are to be filled in the google form only.
- Citation should be Bluebook 21st edition
- NALSAR follows a zero-tolerance policy against plagiarism. The essay shall contain extensive legal research and legal analysis; therefore, it shall include adequate footnote references and proper citations. The absence of those shall cause the essay to be disqualified.
- All submissions to the Competition must be the participant's original work and solely their own creation.
- The use of Artificial Intelligence ("AI") tools is permitted only for limited purposes such as research assistance, proofreading, and spell-checking.
- Under no circumstances may AI tools be used to generate, draft, or compose any part of the essay submitted for the Competition.
- Any submission found to have been partially or wholly produced using AI tools shall be deemed ineligible and will be excluded from the evaluation process.

- NALSAR University of Law reserves absolute discretion in determining whether a submission has been generated, in whole or in part, using AI tools.
- Essay submitted after the deadline shall not be considered.
- Evaluation Criteria are as follows
 - Originality and depth of analysis
 - Relevance of the theme
 - Structure and coherence of argument
 - Use of authorities and sources
 - Clarity of thought
- For all complaints, the final decision shall rest with CITBL.