



**DEBATE AND DISCUSSION SOCIETY
LAW CENTRE-II, FACULTY OF LAW
UNIVERSITY OF DELHI**



**Smt. Sushma Swaraj Memorial
National Parliamentary Debate
Second Edition**

**THIS HOUSE BELIEVES THAT ACCOUNTABILITY
THROUGH PUNISHMENT IS NECESSARY TO
ADDRESS JUVENILE DELINQUENCY.**

5th -6th April 2026



SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ

The National Debate Competition is dedicated to Smt. Sushma Swaraj, a pioneering lawyer, dynamic leader, and transformative diplomat who embodied service, integrity, and compassion. Born in 1952 in Ambala Cantonment, she rose from a promising student of law to one of India's most admired public figures. From becoming the youngest Cabinet Minister at the age of 25, the first woman Chief Minister of Delhi, and the first woman Leader of Opposition, to serving as India's second woman External Affairs Minister, her illustrious journey was marked by courage, eloquence, and innovation.

Fondly known as the 'People's Minister' and 'Mother Teresa of Twitter', Smt. Swaraj redefined diplomacy by combining empathy with efficiency, making governance accessible, responsive, and humane. Her remarkable use of technology to connect with citizens across borders set new standards for public service in the digital era. In recognition of her invaluable contributions, she was posthumously honoured with the Padma Vibhushan (2020), one of India's highest civilian awards.

Organized in her revered name and honour, this competition celebrates Smt. Sushma Swaraj's enduring belief in the power of words, truth, and meaningful discourse. Known for her fierce spirit, bold leadership, and compassionate communication, she inspired generations to speak with conviction and to lead with purpose. Through this platform, we aim to encourage participants to cultivate clarity of thought, confidence in expression, and respect for diverse perspectives.



ABOUT LAW CENTRE II

Law Centre-II of University of Delhi is India's one of top legal institutions imparting quality education to the students since the last 54 years. Law Centre-II made a modest beginning from the campus of ARSD College, Dhaula Kuan in 1971. It was shifted to its current location at Umang Bhawan, Chhatra Marg, University of Delhi in 2016. It serves a dynamic academic community of nearly 3,000 students at any given time. This building is fully air-conditioned with all modern amenities.

Law Centre II strives to advance legal scholarship by strongly emphasizing ethical values among students. The Centre aims to cultivate a rigorous academic environment that encourages critical inquiry, interdisciplinary exploration, and original contributions to contemporary legal discourse.

In this Centre, faculty members engage themselves in meaningful research which informs policy, strengthens legal systems, and promotes social justice. The Centre boasts of distinguished alumni network that includes esteemed academicians, accomplished researchers, prominent advocates, members of the judiciary, and senior bureaucrats.

DEBATE & DISCUSSION SOCIETY



Where Voices Shape Ideas, and Ideas Shape the Nation

The Debating & Discussion Society (DDS), Law Centre II, serves as a dynamic platform dedicated to nurturing critical thinking, eloquence, and leadership among students. Committed to fostering informed dialogue and intellectual engagement, DDS has consistently organized prestigious events that bring together students, scholars, policymakers, and thought leaders from across the country.

Among its flagship initiatives is the National Debate Competition, a highly anticipated event that attracts participants from premier institutions nationwide, the National Model United Nations Conference, another cornerstone event, offers participants an immersive simulation of India's parliamentary proceedings, enabling them to engage firsthand with legislative deliberation, policy-making, and democratic negotiation. DDS has also hosted the Viksit Bharat Leadership Dialogue, a thematic initiative aimed at engaging youth with the vision of an inclusive, progressive, and developed India.

In addition, DDS regularly organizes national seminars, academic conferences, and special lectures, ensuring continuous engagement with contemporary developments in law, governance, policy, and society. Through these initiatives, DDS remains steadfast in its mission to cultivate thoughtful discourse and socially conscious leadership.

MESSAGE FROM THE PROFESSOR-IN-CHARGE

Law Centre-II is a premier institution and is known for its qualitative teaching, research and other co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. It is one of the best institutions in the country which imparts three-year LL.B. program. To promote student activities at the Centre, several committees have been constituted. These committees include Moot Court and Debate Committee, Seminars, Conferences and Extension Lectures, Journal Committee, Legal Aid Committee, Cultural Committee, Northeast Cell, Constitutional Law Committee, International Law Cell, Placement Committee and Alumni Committee. There is an active participation of students in these committees. The teacher members and student's volunteers organize several activities on a regular basis throughout the year. The S.K. Puri Memorial Moot Court Competition of Law Centre-II "JUSTIFIED" and National Level Debate Competition are an annual activity in which teams from all parts of the country participate. The Seminars and Lectures Committee apart from organizing seminars, conferences and workshops, organizes lectures of legal scholars from all over India and abroad.

The Legal Aid Committee organizes legal aid camps and helps a substantial number of students to work as Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs). The Internship and Placement Committee is responsible for the internship of students and placement of final year students. The Law Centre-II has a glorious past of 52 years and has the privilege of having alumni from all walks of life. The alumni included Governor, Central Minister, State Minister, Senior Bureaucrats, Police Officers, Revenue Officers, Doctors, Engineers, Chartered Accountants, Company Secretaries, Politicians, etc. We have also formed an Alumni Association, to provide all possible assistance to Centre including internships and placements to our students.

We look forward to strengthening this association and increase the involvement of the students, faculty, staff and the alumni to develop Law Centre-II as a Centre of Excellence. It would be my endeavour to take this centre to newer heights so that the students choosing Law Centre-II get an intellectually stimulated environment and are able to shape their legal career ahead. Wish you all the best for your tenure at Law Centre-II.

Prof. Dr. Anupam Jha
Professor-In-Charge

NATIONAL DEBATE COMPETITION, 2025

on theme

THE BELIEVES THAT WAQF AMENDMENT BILL (2024), WILL IMPROVE THE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF WAQF PROPERTIES IN INDIA

NATIONAL DEBATE SECOND EDITION

The National Debate marked a significant milestone in the academic and intellectual journey of the Debate & Discussion Society with the successful organization of its First edition which was held on 4th and 5th March 2025. Conceived as a platform for rigorous intellectual engagement, this inaugural edition laid the foundation for what is envisioned to become a flagship national-level deliberative forum. The competition brought together some of the brightest young legal minds from across the country, united by a shared commitment to reasoned discourse, critical thinking, and constitutional dialogue.

A national debate is more than a competitive exchange of arguments; it is a structured forum that reflects democratic values by encouraging informed dissent, logical reasoning, and respectful engagement on issues of national importance. Such debates serve as training grounds for future lawyers, policymakers, judges, and public intellectuals, enabling participants to critically analyse legislation, public policy, and socio-legal developments. National debates foster a culture of dialogue where ideas are tested not by rhetoric alone, but by evidence, constitutional principles, and legislative intent. The First National Debate Competition embodied these ideals in both form and substance.

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. **Dress Code:** Participants are required to adhere to formal attire.
2. **Registration:** Participating team must register before the deadline ends.
3. **Language:** The medium of communication for this debate shall be ENGLISH only.
4. **Team Composition:** Each team must consist of two members. Teams should be prepared to debate both 'for' & 'against' the motion during the competition. Single member team stands disqualified.
5. **Competition Format:**
 - **Offline Preliminary Round:** The selected 32 teams shall appear for the offline preliminary round on campus. Every selected team will go through two qualifying rounds.
 - **Quarter-finals:** Top 8 scorer teams will compete in this knockout round . Each team shall represent one side (For or Against) in this round. Allotment of sides and match will be based on drawing of lots.
 - **Semi-finals:** The top 4 teams of the quarterfinals will compete in this round, which will also follow a knockout format. Each team shall represent one side either 'for' or 'against'. Allotment of sides and match will be based on drawing of lots.
 - **Finals:** The winning teams from the semifinal round will qualify for the Final round. Each team shall represent one side either 'for' or 'against'. Allotment of sides will be based on draw of lots.

RULES & REGULATIONS

OFFLINE PRELIMINARY ROUND GUIDELINES

1. Team Division and Fixture:

- The 32 teams will be divided into two equal groups in 16: 16 ratio.
- Each team will compete against a team from the opposite group, with matchups determined by drawing lots.

2. Debate Format:

- There shall be two qualifying rounds. There shall be two competing teams.
- Each team will argue for both the motions FOR and AGAINST in either of the qualifying rounds. If a team in the first round gets to argue FOR the motion, it will be sure that the team will be arguing AGAINST the motion in the second round. Speakers of the team will speak for the assigned sides in their respective rounds.
- Time allotted for each speaker of the team remains minutes 6+1 for both the rounds.
- The teams will comprise of the following members : Proposition -Speaker 1 and Speaker 2 | Opposition - Speaker 1 and Speaker 2

3. Debaters will Speak in the following Order:

- 1- Proposition Speaker 1 (Opens the debate, and presents his case of arguments)
- 2- Opposition Speaker 1 (Responds to the case by giving advance arguments)
- 3- Proposition Speaker 2 (Defend the case supporting the motion by strong case of arguments)
- 4- Opposition Speaker 2 (Defends opposition case and presents new arguments)
- 5- Proposition Reply to Rebuttal of Opposition (Provides a strong judgement to defend the case)
- 6- Opposition Reply to Rebuttal of Proposition (Provides a strong judgement to oppose the case)
- 7- Questioning/ Interjection by Judges (6+1 minutes for both the speakers.)

4. Rebuttal, Questioning, Interjection and Cross-Questioning:

- An additional 3 + 1 minutes will be allocated for rebuttal, Interjection questioning & cross questioning after the debate.
- The judge will exercise discretion in managing this segment.

RULES & REGULATIONS

QUARTER FINALS AND SEMI-FINALS GUIDELINES (KNOCK OUT ROUND)

1. Debate Format:

- Each round will feature two contesting teams.
- One team will argue for the motion, while the other team will argue against the motion.
- The side and match for each team (For or Against) will be determined by a draw of lots.

2. Time Allocation:

- Each speaker will be given 6 minutes to present their arguments, followed by an additional 1 minute for concluding remarks.

FINAL ROUND GUIDELINES

1. Debate Format:

- The two winning teams from the knockout semi-finals round will compete in the grand final round. One team will argue for the motion, while the other team will argue against the motion. The sides (for or against) will be determined by a draw of lots.

2. Time Allocation:

- Each speaker will be given 6 minutes to present their arguments, followed by an additional 1 minutes for concluding remarks.

GENERAL RULES & GUIDELINES APPLIED FOR ALL ROUNDS

- 1. The competition will be held offline mode at the venue mentioned above; therefore, participants should make sure of their physical presence at the venue before the commencement of the event. Failure to present in due time would result in disqualification of the team.**
- 2. Every participant should be present punctually, at least 15 (fifteen) minutes before the competition starts. We do not compromise any tardiness. If the participant is late to be present, then the organizer will decide unilaterally to disqualify the participants from the competition.**
- 3. During the competition, Participants are expected to maintain the decorum of the house and disturbance caused may lead to disqualification.**
- 4. Participants should not disclose their identity except the identity provided at time of registration at the venue. However, Student ID cards are mandatory at the time of registration at venue along with duly filled Registration form. Disclosure of Identity may lead to disqualification.**
- 5. During the competitions, the registered participants cannot be represented by anyone else or otherwise will be disqualified.**
- 6. During presentation, strict adherence of the time limits shall be observed otherwise there shall be deduction of 2 marks wholly on extending every single minute.**
- 7. Use of unparliamentarily language or shouting shall lead to disqualification.**
- 8. No religious & cultural sentiment should be hurt or otherwise will be disqualified.**
- 9. Use of Unfair Means would lead to disqualification of team. Furthermore, all prizes would be forfeited.**
- 10. Paper reading is strictly prohibited. However, reference to paper material is allowed.**
- 11. No objections shall be entertained as the decision of Judge shall be final and binding.**
- 12. A maximum of 2 team is allowed from participating colleges.**

MARKING AND EVALUATION PARAMETERS

CONTENT	MARKS
Content Quality	10
Knowledge of Subject	10
Confidence	05
Command on Language	05
Time Management	05
Question & Answer	05
Dress Code & Conduct	10
Total of each member	50
Team Total	100

AWARDS & PRIZES

Awards

- | | | |
|------------------|--------|----------------------|
| • Winner Team | ₹7,000 | Trophy & Certificate |
| • Runner Up Team | ₹5,000 | Trophy & Certificate |
| • Best Debater | ₹4,000 | Trophy & Certificate |

 Besides, Certificates will be provided to all the participants in the Valedictory Ceremony failing which no request will be entertained afterwards.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Registration Fees

- Rs. 800 per team for DU Student
- Rs. 944 per team (includes 18% GST) for Non DU Student

Eligibility

- Any undergraduate or postgraduate student from any discipline is eligible to take part in this competition.
- Only two teams per University/ College/ Institute are allowed to take part in the competition.
- Multiple entries from the same University/ College/ Institute shall not be entertained in any case.
- Along with the online registration form, it is mandatory for the participants to attach the payment receipt to confirm their participation.
- Students from Law Centre - II being the host of the event, shall be ineligible to take part in the competition.
- Entry to the event shall be on first come, first - serve basis.

Important Dates

- Registration Opens: 15th January 2026
- Registration Deadline: 20th March 2026
- Event dates: 5th-6th April 2026

Registration Link

- <https://forms.gle/tD7jdQ1sZNUVKntH6>
- Duly Filled Registration Form is mandatory for participation .



VENUE

Umang Bhavan, Law Centre II,
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CONTACT INFORMATION



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ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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CONFERENCE ADVISORY MEMBERS

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Dr. Jupi Gogoi
Dr. Pramod Tiwari
Dr. Ajay Sonawane
Dr. Isha Wadha Sharma

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

STUDENT MEMBERS

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