



SCC TIMES  
ONLINE



Amity Law School

Noida, AUUP

LEGAL DEBATE FORUM  
**VERBUM BELLUM**

presents

# VERBUM BELLUM #0

*Celebrating and Envisioning a*

## “विकसित भारत” 2047

*16.9.2024 & 17.9.2024*

*Last Date of Registration- 10th September, 2024*

*Group Discussion | Conventional Debate  
Congressional Debate*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Since Independence, India has seen it all. Wars, pandemic, emergency, looming economic crises on one hand and inter alia, decrease in poverty, low illiteracy and mortality rates, digitalisation and sustainable development on the other. While the neighbouring South Asian nations, our brethren in the post-colonial present, are grappling with political and economic crises, India has stood its ground firmly throughout the past 77 years. India continues to hold a pioneering forte in the international arena navigating the tribulations across the globe. It has remained resilient and this is what distinguishes us from the rest.

Our perseverance has now become crucial as we head towards the centenary of our Independence from the Colonialists. It is this vision and emotion of transitioning into a developed nation that we recognise and acknowledge. With great pride, Amity Law School Noida, Amity University Uttar Pradesh is celebrating this vision by organising Verbum Bellum 4.0 on 'Viksit Bharat 2047' to spread awareness among students about the significance of this vision.

## **VIKSIT BHARAT 2047: A VISION FOR A DEVELOPED INDIA**

Viksit Bharat 2047 represents India's ambitious vision for its centennial independence, aiming to transform the nation into a fully developed, inclusive, and resilient economy by 2047. This initiative envisions a robust infrastructure, advanced technological landscape, and high standards of living for all citizens by 2047. Bharat's sustained growth and advancement will be based on dynamic characteristics of socio-economic, cultural, political, and technological advancement. The various themes of Viksit Bharat are Empowered Indians, Thriving and Sustainable Economy, Innovation, Science and Technology, Good Governance and Security as well as India in the world.

A core objective of Viksit Bharat is to foster inclusive economic participation among Indians. Additionally, it seeks to elevate India to the position of the world's third largest economy within the next five years. Being not just a roadmap but a commitment to future generations, Viksit Bharat 2047 is a vision crucial for addressing current disparities and preparing India to face global challenges. By focusing on equitable development, it aims to position India as a leading global player, promoting stability and prosperity.

## **ABOUT AMITY UNIVERSITY, UTTAR PRADESH**

Established in 2005, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh is a prominent Not-for-profit private institution known for its modern infrastructure and commitment to academic excellence. With 60 Institutions currently functioning in Amity University Campus, Noida along with a total population of 25, 000+ students other than faculty and other staff members, the University boasts state-of-the-art facilities and emphasises a global approach to education, integrating international perspectives into its curriculum and fostering collaborations with universities and industries worldwide.

With campuses all around the globe: New York, Dubai, London, Singapore and many more, it is renowned for its focus on research and innovation. The campus life at Amity is vibrant, with numerous cultural, sports, and extracurricular activities that promote holistic development. With a strong emphasis on industry connections, the university provides students with ample opportunities, helping them transition smoothly into their professional careers. Overall, Amity University Uttar Pradesh is a hub of academic and personal growth, dedicated to shaping future leaders and innovators.

## **ABOUT AMITY LAW SCHOOL NOIDA**

Nestled within the realm of legal education, Amity Law School, Noida stands as a radiant beacon, casting a luminous trail of excellence across its path. With a student body of more than 1,000, Amity Law School, Noida, is a prominent institution in the field of law, established as a philanthropic endeavour by our esteemed Founder, Dr Ashok K. Chauhan. The school has earned several prestigious accolades, including the South Asia Legal Excellence Award, the Best Emerging Law School Award from SILF and MILAT, and the Promising Law School Award from Legal Desire.

Our Founder President envisions transforming it into a world-class educational institution, both in India and internationally. The school has set high standards in legal education by offering extensive opportunities for learning, research, and professional development. With a focus on delivering top-notch education in a dynamic academic environment, Amity Law School, Noida features a distinguished faculty and industry experts. It stands as a model of excellence in legal education, consistently striving for superior achievements in all its efforts. As the tides of time sweep us forward, we remain unwavering, etching our narrative in the annals of legal education, forever poised to be 'SECOND TO NONE.'

## **ABOUT VERBUM BELLUM: THE LEGAL DEBATE FORUM**

The erstwhile official debate society of Amity Law School, Noida 'CHECKMATE,' has been revived and bolstered into 'VERBUM BELLUM: THE LEGAL DEBATE FORUM' which is set to be a stronger leading force in fostering debating culture within the institution and is among the most renowned societies at Amity University Uttar Pradesh. Verbum Bellum is dedicated

to hone the art of oratory, a crucial skill in the legal field and a key component in personal development. It is widely recognized that effective communication and persuasive speech are vital attributes for influencing others. What our forum does is exactly this: shape the students into effective communicators and persuaders.

An unwavering belief in the limitless potential of Amity students has led VERBUM BELLUM to traverse a rich spectrum of debate formats. Over time, the society has orchestrated a mesmerising cavalcade of competitions, ranging from stirring Group Discussions to enigmatic Turncoat Debates. These endeavours, akin to vivid strokes on a canvas, not only introduce students to multifarious debating styles but also empower them to unearth their inner strengths and predilections.

## **ABOUT THE EVENT**

The objective of the proposed Viksit Bharat 2047 Debate competition is to spread awareness among the students about the significance of this “Sankalp.” Categorically, this event is aimed at creating a holistic and inclusive space for deliberations by the students on how India can bring this vision of a Viksit Bharat into fruition by 2047 and strengthen its forte globally. The underlying goal of Verbum Bellum 4.0 is to provide a dynamic platform to students who are riveted by foreign politics, law and creating a Viksit Bharat

*“It is better to debate a question without settling it than to settle a question without debating it.”*

*- Joseph Joubert*

A Debate competition is an amazing channel for engaging students and infusing life to the issue at hand. Last year, Verbum Bellum 3.0 played a record-breaking and a pivotal role in providing a holistic space for debates to mark the celebration of India's G20 Presidency wherein we had 250+ registrations from across India. A few notable Universities from which fierce debaters joined us were the Delhi University, Jamia Millia Islamia and neighbouring colleges of our Amity Law School, Noida. In continuation of our legacy to hold and cultivate such spaces, our competition on Viksit Bharat 2047 will assist the students in developing a thoughtful critique and reflective inquiry on international politics and lead to refined presentation skills. It gives the students an opportunity to test their thoughts and views against that of their peers.

## **DEBATE FORMATS**

### **GROUP DISCUSSION**

***“Discussions are always better than arguments, because an argument is to find out who is right, but a discussion is to find out what is right”***

A Group Discussion in a debate competition ensures consolidation of diverse perspectives, crafting a cohesive argument and balancing differing viewpoints, ultimately contributing to a more dynamic and impactful debate.

In order to create a holistic discussion, Participants, through numerous prompts, shall be granted a definite amount of time to share their views on the topic to encourage flow of thoughts. The event shall focus on a discourse of thoughts, not necessarily aligned yet crucially civil.

## Motions for the Preliminary Round -

1.Context: A new technology, X, has been developed that allows for the creation of highly realistic deep fakes. The government proposes to regulate the use of X to prevent its potential misuse in politics and media. However, some argue that such regulation would infringe upon artistic freedom and creativity.

Motion: This house believes that the government should have the authority to censor the use of X.

1.Context: H is a dedicated environmental activist, and K is their trusted colleague and childhood friend. K, who is a lobbyist for a corporation with questionable sustainability practices asks H to soften their stance on environmental issues.

Motion: This house believes that H should temper their activism to avoid conflict with K's professional interests.

### Rules:

- Motion to be discussed is at the discretion of the Chair. The Chair may choose either of the two motions at the start of the round.
- 1 minute per speaker for opening speech, followed by 45 secs assertions in the discussion on Chair's discretion.
- Once the allotted time is over, a placard will be raised. .
- Marks will be deducted for overshooting time limit for more than 30 seconds.
- The motion can be interpreted in any manner if the speakers can provide a logical link between the motion and the interpretation.
- Top 3 speakers based on their scores will be adjudged 1st, 2nd and 3rd.
- The decision of the Judges shall be considered 'Final and Binding.'



### **Format:**

*There shall be only two rounds: On day-1, during the preliminary round, the number of participants shall be divided in two groups- Part A and Part B. From these two groups, top 20 participants shall proceed for the final round on day-2.*

**NOTE** - *Due to the nature of the event, there is a limit on registration for Group Discussion which is 100 participants.*

## **CONVENTIONAL DEBATE**

***“He who cannot put his thoughts on ice should not enter into the heat of dispute”***

***-Friedrich Nietzsche***

In debate competitions, the conventional format necessitates structuring the exchange of ideas efficiently. It ensures clear presentation of arguments, systematic refutation of opposing views, and a compelling conclusion.

### **Motion for the Preliminary Round -**

This house believes that political correctness is stifling open dialogue and hindering progress.

### **Rules:**

- Students will speak FOR or AGAINST the motion as decided with a toss during the competition.
- 4 Min/ each speaker. Followed by an interjection from the Judges or the Office Bearers, if permitted by the Judges. Time to answer the interjection is 1 Min.
- The motion can be interpreted in any manner if the speakers can provide a logical link between the motion and the interpretation.

- On completion of 3.5 minutes, a placard with the mentioned time will be raised. On completion of 4 minutes, another placard with the mentioned time will be raised. Marks will be deducted for overshooting time limit for more than 30 seconds.
- No follow up question on the interjection shall be entertained.
- Top 3 speakers based on their scores will be adjudged 1st, 2nd and 3rd.
- The decision of the Judges shall be considered 'Final and Binding.'

**Format:**

- *This event shall be divided into three rounds: Preliminary, Semi-finals and Finals.*
- *On Day-1, during the Preliminary round, the number of participants shall be divided into rooms subject to number of participants.*
- *From each room, top competitors shall proceed for the Semi-Finals on Day-2, motion for which will be informed along with the results.*
- *The Semi-Finals too shall be divided into two rooms- A and B, each part consisting of 10 participants.*
- *Top 5 competitors from each part shall proceed for the Finals.*

**NOTE** - *Due to the nature of the event, there is a limit on registration for Conventional Debate which is 40 participants.*

## CONGRESSIONAL

*“Where there are no laws, or individuals have their own rules and laws, there is the least of real democracy.”*

*- Gen. Henry Martyn Robert*

Congressional Debate, a Harvard special, is a mock legislative assembly competition where students draft bills and resolutions, which they and their peers later debate and vote to pass into law and then take action on by voting for or against the legislation.

In this simulated legislative setting, students shall engage in rigorous discussions on current issues, crafting arguments and policies. This dynamic format enhances their understanding of government and fosters persuasive communication.

### Topics:

#### *Topic 1: Environment and Sustainability*

**Draft a legislation to mandate and incentivize the adoption of sustainable packaging materials across various industries in India.** Focus on reducing plastic waste, promoting biodegradable alternatives, and imposing penalties for non-compliance. Consider the economic impact on businesses and the potential for job creation in the sustainable packaging sector.

#### *Topic 2: College Selection Rates*

**Propose legislation to implement a merit-based, transparent, and equitable college admission process in India.** Address issues like reservation policies, the role of entrance exams, and the weightage given to academic performance versus extracurricular activities. Aim to create a system that ensures fair opportunities for all students.

### ***Topic 3: Health in India***

**Draft a legislation to improve mental healthcare accessibility and awareness in India.** Focus on destigmatizing mental health issues, increasing the number of mental health professionals, and integrating mental health care into primary healthcare services. Consider the role of technology in providing mental health support.

### ***Topic 4: Trade***

**Propose legislation to promote 'Make in India' initiatives and reduce India's trade deficit.** Identify specific sectors for focus, outline incentives for domestic manufacturing, and explore potential trade barriers that can be addressed. Consider the impact on small and medium-sized enterprises.

### ***Topic 5: Cyber Security***

**Draft a legislation to enhance cyber security infrastructure in India, particularly for critical sectors like banking, healthcare, and government.** Focus on data protection, cybercrime prevention, and emergency response mechanisms. Consider the role of public-private partnerships in strengthening cyber security.

### **Rules:**

- Legislations on all five topics by the Participant should be submitted by 3PM on 15th September on our mail id [verbumbellumaup@gmail.com](mailto:verbumbellumaup@gmail.com) under the subject 'BILL SUBMISSION' in the following format -

Font - Times New Roman

Font Size- for text - 12, for headings 14.

Spacing- 1.5

Can not exceed one page

- The docket of competitive legislations shall be made available to participants on the registration desk based on the room allocation.
- The Presiding Officer shall be part of the Organising Committee and not a judging authority. They will only be the moderator of a room.
- On the completion of 3 minutes for the respective constructives, a placard with the mentioned time will be raised. On the completion of 20 seconds for the respective cross-examinations, a placard with the mentioned time will be raised. Marks will be deducted for overshooting the time limit.
- No Interjections by the Judges.
- Each round will be of 1.5 hours, multiple legislations shall be debated upon in one round, with 5 minute break in between after voting by Presiding officer on raise of motion for break by participants.
- The same legislation by each participant shall continue in all rounds.
- Top 2 speakers based on their scores will be adjudged 1st, and 2nd.

**Speaking format for one legislation -**

| <b><i>Segment</i></b>  | <b><i>Time Allotted</i></b>          |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b><i>Motion raise for Bill on floor by PO, followed by voting for debate on Bill</i></b>  |                                      |
| <b><i>Affirmative Constructive (Introduction of Bill)</i></b>                              | <b><i>3 minutes</i></b>              |
| <b><i>Cross-examination of the Affirmative (Questioning on Bill) (2 speakers only)</i></b> | <b><i>20 seconds per speaker</i></b> |

| <b>Segment</b>   | <b>Time Allotted</b>          |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>Negative Constructive<br/>(Speech against<br/>proposed Bill)</b>  | <b>3 minutes</b>              |
| <b>Cross-examination of<br/>the Negative<br/>(Interjection on<br/>Negative speech) (2<br/>speakers only)</b>         | <b>20 seconds per speaker</b> |
| <b>Second Affirmative<br/>Constructive (speech in<br/>favour of Bill)</b>  | <b>3 minutes</b>              |
| <b>Cross-examination of<br/>the Second Affirmative<br/>(2 speakers only)</b>   | <b>20 seconds per speaker</b> |
| <b>Second Negative<br/>Constructive</b>  | <b>3 minutes</b>              |
| <b>Cross-examination of<br/>the Second Negative.<br/>(Interjection on<br/>Negative speech) (2<br/>speakers only)</b> | <b>20 seconds per speaker</b> |
| <b>VOTING moderated by<br/>PO</b>  |                               |

### **Event Format:**

- This event shall be divided into three rounds: Preliminary, Semi-finals and Finals.
- On Day-1, during the Preliminary round, the number of participants shall be divided into rooms subject to number of participants.
- From each room, top competitors shall proceed for the Semi-Finals on Day-2, motion for which will be informed along with the results.
- The Semi-Finals too shall be divided into two rooms- A and B, each part consisting of 10 participants.
- Top 5 competitors from each part shall proceed for the Finals.

### **NOTE -**

1. *Due to the nature of the event, there is a limit on registration for Congressional Debate which is 40 participants.*
2. *A workshop regarding this format of debate will be held on 8th of September, 2024, details of which shall be shared later.*

### **Reference Material:**

The following links can be followed by the participants to apprise themselves of the Congressional debate and its working:

- <https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/2017-Congressional-Debate-Guide.pdf>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7PK5bBGtbg>.

## REGISTRATION FEES

| <i>Name of Debate</i>       | <i>Registration Fee</i>            |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Group Discussion</i>     | <i>Rs. 500 (excluding 18% GST)</i> |
| <i>Conventional Debate</i>  | <i>Rs. 500 (excluding 18% GST)</i> |
| <i>Congressional Debate</i> | <i>Rs. 600 (excluding 18% GST)</i> |

\*Students from Amity University, Noida need not pay 18% GST on registration

## PRIZE MONEY

There are prizes worth 35,000 INR. These are subject to the number of participants in each event and the registration fee.

## REGISTRATION DEADLINE- 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

For access to the registration link, please contact us.

## GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Medium of the debate: Bilingual.
- The motion can be interpreted in any manner if the speakers can provide a logical link between the motion and the interpretation.



- Once the allotted time is over, a placard will be raised. Marks will be deducted for overshooting the time limit for more than 30 seconds.
- The decisions of the judges shall be considered 'Final and Binding'.

## EVALUATION PROCESS

The participants shall be judged on the following marking scheme, subject to discretion of judges and organising committee -

| Articulation & Elocution | Content and Knowledge | Clarity of thought | Demeanor | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------|-------|
| 25                       | 25                    | 25                 | 25       | 100   |

## ELIGIBILITY

- Undergraduate and Post-Graduate students from various departments of colleges across India can participate.
- Multiple participants from an Institution are also allowed.
- Being an OFFLINE event, travelling costs shall not be reimbursed.

# ORGANISING COMMITTEE

## FACULTY CONVENOR

Prof. Dr. Niru Sharan

## FACULTY CO-CONVENOR

Dr. Priya Mathur

## STUDENT CONVENOR

Spriha Jha

## STUDENT CO-CONVENOR

Aayat Fatma

## SECRETARIES

Utkarsh Tiwari | Heba Danish | Sambhava Bhatia

## MEDIA HEAD

Anaya Upadhyay

## JOINT SECRETARIES

Kritkia Nagpal | Mansher Singh | Maanya Tyagi  
Medhavi Kapoor | Mohak Khanna

## CONTACT US

Instagram Handle: [verbumbellum\\_alsn](#)

Email: [verbumbellumauup@gmail.com](mailto:verbumbellumauup@gmail.com)

Phone Number for Registration Queries

+91 94205 88513 , +91 82875 03009