



ESSAY COMPETITION
ON
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWS
(Theme: Trade Secret Laws)

October, 2016

Organized by
GNLU-GUJCOST IPR Research Centre

GNLU-GUJCOST IPR Research Centre

Gujarat National Law University | Attalika Avenue, Knowledge Corridor,
Koba, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, INDIA.

ABOUT GUJARAT NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY (GNLU)

Gujarat National Law University is a statutory University established by the Government of Gujarat through Gujarat National Law University Act, 2003. GNLU is recognized by the Bar Council of India (BCI) and the University Grants Commission (UGC) [(2 (f) & 12 (b))]. GNLU is a member of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU); the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI); and International Association of Law Schools (IALS). GNLU offers interdisciplinary legal courses in five faculties namely, B.A.LLB, B.Com. LLB, B.Sc. LLB, BSW. LLB, BBA. LLB; two post-graduate programme namely, LLM and MBA (Financial Management and Business Laws) as well as doctoral programmes in law and inter-disciplinary fields and foreign law and languages programmes. Over a period of time since its inception, the University has established itself as a leading National Law University in the country, with its intensive focus on research-based activities and teaching through the establishment of specialized Centres, organizing extension and training programmes, national and international conferences, guest lectures and collaborations for faculty and student exchange programmes. For its exemplary efforts in the promotion of legal education, UGC has recognized GNLU as a model legal university in terms of access, equity, relevance, and high standards in 2011. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has accredited the University with 'A' Grade in 2016. GNLU has also been ranked as the 3rd and 4th Best Law University in the country by Outlook-Drshiti Professional College Survey 2016 and India Today-Nielsen Survey 2016, respectively.

ABOUT GUJARAT COUNCIL ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (GUJCOST)

The Gujarat Council on Science and Technology (GUJCOST) was established in September, 1986, to play a catalytic role in promoting the use of Science and Technology in the development process of the State. The S&T Council was constituted with a view to develop technologies appropriate to and in harmony with present conditions. The Council has been catalyzing interaction between developers and users of technologies, by bringing on a common platform to training Scientists and Engineers on the one hand and policy makers as well as administrators on the other.

Accordingly, the State Council is identifying the areas in which Science and Technology can be applied for development activities and achieve the goals of the State, with a particular emphasis to eliminate the prevailing backwardness, rural unemployment and poverty. It was also felt necessary to establish effective communication and other links between, and Co-ordinate the activities of centres of Scientific and Technological Research, Government agencies and industries in order to promote the application of Science and Technology in the State.

ABOUT GNLU-GUJCOST IPR RESEARCH CENTRE

The GNLU-GUJCOST IPR Research Centre was established in January 2015 with the aim to conduct research, training and educational activities in the field of patent laws, geographical indications, biotechnology, identifying and the valuation of IP assets of MSMEs, pharmaceuticals, and traditional knowledge.

The Chair was established with the objective of Capacity creation, and the maintenance of IPR laws, policies, practices, education, training, research and awareness through a multi-disciplinary approach; Development of suitable academic programs in IPR laws, policies and practices, education, research and training; Providing a framework for analyzing the impact of IPR laws in development initiatives in the country; Dissemination of knowledge and information through outreach programmes.

The activities of the GNLU-GUJCOST Centre of Excellence on IPR Laws, Policies and Practices are undertaken under the able guidance of Mr. Vipin Aggarwal, Professor and Mr. Shrut Brahmhatt, Research Associate along with a group of students of GNLU.

ABOUT THE ESSAY COMPETITION

The GNLU-GUJCOST IPR Research Centre has launched the Essay Competition on Intellectual Property Laws in order to instil and encourage further research and reflections in this field, particularly in the Indian Context. To instil and encourage legal scholarship and research in Intellectual Property Rights among the students. The competition aims to provide a platform to students to express their views on the themes of this competition.

Every year the Essay Competition will focus one particular area of IPR. The focus for this year's theme is on Trade Secret Rules and Regulations. In order to assist the participants to structure their essay and to also allow the judges to evaluate the essays; the following questions / statements are listed from which the participants are invited to select one to write their Essay on:

Themes:

- ❖ Are Existing Indian Laws sufficient to provide Trade Secret Protection?
- ❖ Trade Secret Laws are not required in India.
- ❖ India needs an omnibus Trade Secret Law.
- ❖ Current International Trade Secret Law Issues.
- ❖ Impact of cultural values on Trade Secret Laws in different jurisdictions.

IMPORTANT DATES

Topic Registration: November 30, 2016.

Essay Submission: January 03, 2017.

The Soft copy of the essays shall be submitted, with the subject "Essay Submission for Essay Competition 2016" on gujcost.events@gnlu.ac.in. The Registration is open only for first 25 essays per theme, Post to which no request for registration shall be considered. The Result of the competition shall be declared on February 25, 2017 via Mail to Participants.

PRIZES

- ❖ 1st Prize: Cash Prize of INR 7,000/- & Certificate of Merit
- ❖ 2nd Prize: Cash Prize of INR 5,000/- & Certificate of Merit
- ❖ 3rd Prize: Cash Prize of INR 3,000/- & Certificate of Merit

The Authors of Top Three Essays of the Competition shall be entitled to the Prizes & Certificate of Merit. The Top Three essays under each sub-theme shall be published (subject to a review) in the Proceeding Booklet to be published by GNLU-GUJCOST IPR Research Centre. All the other participants will be issued Certificate of Participation.

ELIGIBILITY

- ❖ The competition is open to all undergraduate & postgraduate students enrolled in any University/College/Institute.
- ❖ Only one submission per author shall be entertained.
- ❖ Co-authorship by maximum of 2 students is permitted.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

- ❖ The essays must be submitted in English only.
- ❖ The essays should be the original work of the authors. Any kind of plagiarism will lead to disqualification.
- ❖ The essays should be accompanied a cover page/letter giving details of the authors such as name of the author, designation, name of the institute affiliated to, address and contact details.
- ❖ The essays published elsewhere or selected/ submitted for publication elsewhere shall be disqualified.
- ❖ The name(s) of the author(s) should not be mentioned anywhere in the essay.
- ❖ The word limit for the essay is 3000 – 5000 words, not including footnotes.
- ❖ The essays should be typed in: Times New Roman, Font Size 12 and Line Spacing 1.5. Headings: Times New Roman, Font Size 14, Bold.
- ❖ The footnotes must be typed in: Times New Roman, Font Size 10 and Line Spacing 1.
- ❖ The margins should be 1” or 2.54 cm on all sides.
- ❖ All text should be justified.
- ❖ Every citation must follow the 4th edn. of Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA). The Citation Style is available here:
https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/oxlaw/oscola_4th_edn_hart_2012.pdf

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

The essays must be sent by email to gujcost.events@gnlu.ac.in with the subject 'GNLU Essay Competition on Intellectual Property Laws'.

1. The body of the e-mail must specify the name(s) of the author(s).
2. The essay may be attached in '.doc' or '.docx' format.
3. All essays must be accompanied by a cover page giving the following information:

Topic Chosen

Title of the Essay

Name of the Author(s)

College/Institute/University of Author(s)

Programmes Enrolled & Year of Study of Author(s)

E-mail address & Contact No. of Author(s)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. A Committee of Experts shall be constituted as a Jury, to select the winning entries. The decision of the Jury shall be final and binding.
 2. GNLU-GUJCOST IPR Research Centre possesses the right to reject entries which do not conform to the Guidelines for Submission.
 3. The Organizing Committee reserves the absolute rights to cancel, defer, or postpone indefinitely, the competition in the event of the accruing of any incident, natural or manmade.
 4. In case of any dispute, decision of the GNLU-GUJCOST IPR Research Centre shall be final and binding.
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ADDRESS YOUR QUERIES TO:

Mr. Shrut Brahmhatt

Research Associate (GNLU-GUJCOST Chair)

E-Mail: gujcost.events@gnlu.ac.in

Mo.: 8128650870