

PADALA RAMA REDDI LAW COLLEGE

STATE MOOT COURT COMPETITION

2017



MOOT PROBLEM

Surender owned a clinic in the area of Sumeru, a semi urban area situated 100 km from the city of Hyderabad. Residents here are surrounded by three Methamphetamine labs of Rivera Company. Rivera Company built a pumping station in 10 acres near town as part of its enormous gas-transmission system. The station pumped natural gas through an artery of pipes stretching from the Sumeru to neighbouring villages. It was found that a chemical called Hexavalent Chromium, a toxic component of Sodium Dicormate, a chemical contaminant used to make Methamphetamine has leaked into the water supply of Sumeru town. The company also used Chromium 6 to prevent rust from corroding its water-cooling system. Over the last 15 to 20 years, many of the residents have drunk and bathed in the water polluted by a chemical called Chromium 6. They have been suffering from many physical ailments, including bleeding noses, various intestinal ailments, joint pains, rotten teeth and tumors and cancer. The chemical runoff was disposed in nearby fresh ponds.

Surender who did his PhD in Medical Science could immediately correlate that the entire problems of the residents was due to Chromium 6 toxic contaminant released by the aforesaid labs. He reported the matter to the State Pollution Control Board. The Board investigated and found that the contaminant was supposed to be cleaned up and the fresh water should be properly supplied to the residents. The board ordered the utility to clean up the pollution. But instead of understanding the seriousness of the situation and its harmful effects on the residents, the Company debated that the evidence of cancer causing properties in waterborne Chromium 6 is not found.

A toxicologist at the central Health and Human Services, William, says that Chromium 6 in water doesn't harm humans. "It's very unlikely that people could die from drinking Chromium 6 in the water, even over time".

Surender tried to reason out with the company but they were adamant and they refused to clean up and denied to take any responsibility of contamination.

Surender approached with a complaint to the Pollution Control Board and they conducted an enquiry through which it was found that the chemical Chromium 6 was not permitted to be released anywhere near the residential areas as it was recognized to be one of the most toxic contaminants. Hence, the Pollution Control Board ordered Rivera Company to clean up the area of any toxic elements immediately and stop further contamination. But Rivera Company did not follow the directions of the Pollution Control Board.

Surender conducted further interviews with many residents in the area to collect evidence in favour of his argument. It was found that a woman has lost her baby due to drinking the contaminated water and her ovaries were so badly damaged that she cannot conceive in her lifetime. A football player also all of sudden lost his capacity to stand due to a rare joint disorder.

Surender sent the sample of contaminated water to the Central Research Institute. The institute gave a report revealing that there is presence of toxicity of Chromium 6 in huge levels in water and is highly dangerous to the people.

Surender wanted immediate relief to the people of Sumeru and hence, he filed a Public Interest Litigation seeking justice for the residents. He also claimed individual compensation for each affected family. The compensation claimed was estimated to Rs 150 crores. He also prayed to the court to grant a direction to the company to take up the task of restoring back the water to its normal level and also for a future assurance that the toxic contaminant will not be mixed with the water used by residents.

The issues involved in the case are:

1. Whether the PIL is maintainable?
2. Is Right to Life of the people of Sumeru is being violated under Article 21?
3. Whether Rivera Company has violated any law in not following the orders of the Pollution Control Board?
4. Under which principle the Company is liable to pay compensation to the people of Sumeru?
 - Teams are free to frame additional issues.

Kindly elucidate and prepare memorials for both sides.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. **Date:** The competition will be held on 15th and 16th April, 2017
2. **Venue:** Padala Rama Reddi Law College, Yellareddyguda, Ameerpet, Hyderabad, Telangana.
3. **Language:** The official language of the competition is English. The memorials as well as oral submissions have to be made in English language only.
4. **Eligibility and Team Composition**
 - All teams must consist of a maximum of three participants [two members designated as ‘Speaker’ and one member designated as ‘Researcher’], enrolled as LL.B. [both 3 and 5 year programme] students in the law school they represent at the time of the competition.
 - Each Law College/ University shall be eligible to send one team. Team should not disclose the identity of their institution in course of proceedings in the court rooms; such disclosure shall invite penalties including disqualification.
 - Each team will be given a unique team code number which will thereafter be the identity of the team and its members during draw of lots and exchange of memorials.
5. **Registration**
 - A registration fee of Rs.600/- is to be sent by way of Demand Draft drawn in favour of PADALA RAMA REDDI EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY, HYDERABAD along with the registration form.
 - The duly filled in Registration form and Demand Draft must be scanned and mailed to prrlcmcc@gmail.com on or before 25th March, 2017 and a hard copy of the form along with Demand Draft should reach to Dr. P. Vijaya Kalyani, Principal, Padala Rama Reddi Law College, Yellareddyguda, Near Ameerpet, Hyderabad- 500073 on or before 28th March.
 - Teams should clearly mention the participants’ Name, Contact No. including Year/Semester of study.
6. **Draw of Lots**
 - To ensure unbiased selection, teams shall be subjected to draw of lots during all the rounds of the competition.
 - In no circumstances shall the change be entertained after the draw of lots.

7. Memorials

All memorials submitted must conform to the following requirements and a team will attract negative marking for failure to keep within the limitations as described below:

- Memorials must be printed on A-4 paper with black ink and must be spiral bound.
 - The font of the body of the Memorial must be Times New Roman font, size 12, with 1.5 line spacing and the font-size of footnotes, if any, must be of font size 10. A uniform method of citation of authorities must be followed.
 - Each page must have a margin on all sides.
 - The Memorial should not exceed 25 typed pages (not including the Cover Page, Table of Contents, Index of authorities and Statement of Jurisdiction) and shall consist of the following parts in the mentioned order:
 - Cover Page – Coloured, blue for petitioner and red for respondent;
 - Table of Contents;
 - Index of Authorities;
 - Statement of Jurisdiction;
 - Statement of Facts;
 - Issues Raised;
 - Summary of Arguments;
 - Written Pleadings; and
 - Prayer
- ❖ The Cover page should follow the colour scheme as stated above. The cover page shall also contain the Team Code on the top right-hand corner.
- ❖ The teams participating in the competition should ensure the names of the members of the Team or the names of the institution they represent or their logos shall not be mentioned anywhere in the memorials.
- ❖ Five hard copies for each side (Petitioner and Respondent) must reach the organizers by April 6th, 2017. No memorials shall be accepted after the prescribed date.

8. Marking criteria for the competition

- Each Team will be marked on a total of 200 marks by bench.
- The following will be the marking criteria and the marks allocated to each speaker by each Judge in the round:

Sr. No.	Marking Criteria	Marks allocated
1	Appreciation and Application of Facts	15
2.	Identification and Articulation of Issues	15
3.	Application of legal principles	20
4.	Use of authorities and precedents	20
5.	Response to questions	20
6.	Presentation skills	30
7.	Clarity of thoughts & logical structure of arguments	30
8.	Memorials	50
	Total	200

9. Dress code

Participants are required to adhere to the following dress code during the Competition-

- Ladies: White Salwar or Kurta or White shirt and black pant along with black coat and black shoes.
- Gentlemen: White shirt, black trousers, black tie along with black coat and black shoes.

10. Awards

- Winning Team Award:

The winning team will receive a trophy and cash prize of Rs.10,000/-

- Runners-up Team:

The runners-up team will get a trophy and Rs. 4000/-

- Best Mooter will get Rs. 2500/-
- Best Memorial will get Rs.2500/-

11. Miscellaneous

- **Decorum:** All participating teams are expected to maintain decent behavior throughout the competition. They are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting the legal profession.
- **Power to Amend or Alter Rules:** The rules mentioned herein are not exhaustive. The PRRLC Moot Court Committee reserve the right to alter, amend or add to the rules mentioned herein at any point of time. All decisions made by PRRLC Moot Court Committee in case of any disputes, doubts or related issues shall be final and binding. Imposition of all penalties including disqualification rests solely with the PRRLC Moot Court Committee in case of failure to comply with the rules mentioned herein. If there is any dispute in regard to the interpretations of the rules or with respect to any matter related to the competition which is not contemplated in the rules, the decision of the PRRLC Moot Court Committee shall be final and binding.
- **No accommodation/ TA/ DA will be provided to the participating teams during the period of the competition. However lunch & snacks will be provided only to the participating teams during the period of the competition.**

For any further queries contact:

In case of any queries or clarifications regarding the competition, contact:

Principal Dr. P. Vijaya Kalyani- kalyanilaw@gmail.com

College Landline Number(s): 040-23748936/ 040- 23740488

PRRLC Moot Court Committee members:

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