

Need for law interns, students' presence in the courts: Hon'ble Shri Justice Menezes

Panaji: February 22, 2025

The third edition of Justice G. D.Kamat Memorial National Level Moot Court Competition -2025 began at V. M. Salgaocar College of Law, Miramar in the city on Friday. The three days event has been organized by V. M. Salgaocar College of Law in association with Justice G. D. Kamat Charitable Trust. Around 26 teams from all over the country participated in the event.

While addressing the gathering Hon'ble Shri Justice Valmiki Menezes stressed on the need for college internships and students' presence in the courts since fewer young minds enter the field of litigation which is not enough he said. He expressed that Moot Court competitions should incorporate the true, cutting edge critical thinking as experienced in the courts.

Justice Menezes further speaking highlighted the importance of this prestigious moot court competition saying that this endeavour will serve as a platform for aspiring legal professionals to engage in rigorous debate and advocacy on contemporary legal issues. He also encouraged more female students to approach advocacy.

Director Legal and Company Secretary of the VMS Corporation Pvt. Ltd, Shri A. E. Barretto said that legal education is more than just textbooks and statutes; it should focus on logical reasoning and critical thinking. He also noted that students are the future torchbearers of justice.

Dr. Sonal Sardessai gave a glimpse and a brief overview of the competition's logistics in the days to come.

Dr. Ajay Vaidya while speaking recalled his fond memories of Justice G. D. Kamat and his unique approach to justice and equity. He inspired mooters to uphold those values.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Principal VMSCL, Dr. Shaber Ali expressed his enthusiasm to witness the competition. He also commended, Shri Sr. Adv. Suresh Lotlikar for inspiring the idea of the Moot Court Competition.

This moot court competition will delve into a contemporary legal issue surrounding the regulation of live-in relationships in India. The participants will engage in intense competition, displaying their skills of articulation, research, persuasion, advocacy, and much more.

Justice Valmiki Menezes, Dr. Vaidya along with other dignitaries unveiled the trophies and kick started the competition.

The winning team shall be awarded a cash prize of Rs. 50,000, and the runners-up will be awarded a cash prize of Rs.25,000 along with trophies and certificates. Awards for the Best Mooter, Best Researcher, and Best Memorial shall also be designated with a cash prize of Rs. 15,000, Rs. 10,000, and Rs. 15,000 each respectively.

Chief Guest Justice Valmiki Menezes, VMSCL Principal Dr. Shaber Ali, Management Committee member Shri A. E. Baretto, Dr. Ajay Vaidya representing the G. D. Kamat Memorial Trust, Faculty In-charge Dr. Sonal Sardessai, Director Legal & Company Secretary of the VMS Corporation Pvt. Ltd Shri A. E. Baretto, Press Department Student In-Charge Mr. Swayam Chodankar, Ms. Bhakti Bhandodkar, Student Coordinator Ms. Savni Prabhudessai, along with other notable attendees present at the function.

Ms Diya Dhargalkar compered the function.

DI/NB/DB/AP/NP/2025

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Issued by the Department of Information & Publicity

Department of Information & Publicity,
Government of Goa,
Udyog Bhavan, Third Floor,
Near Azad Maidan,
Panaji – Goa.