



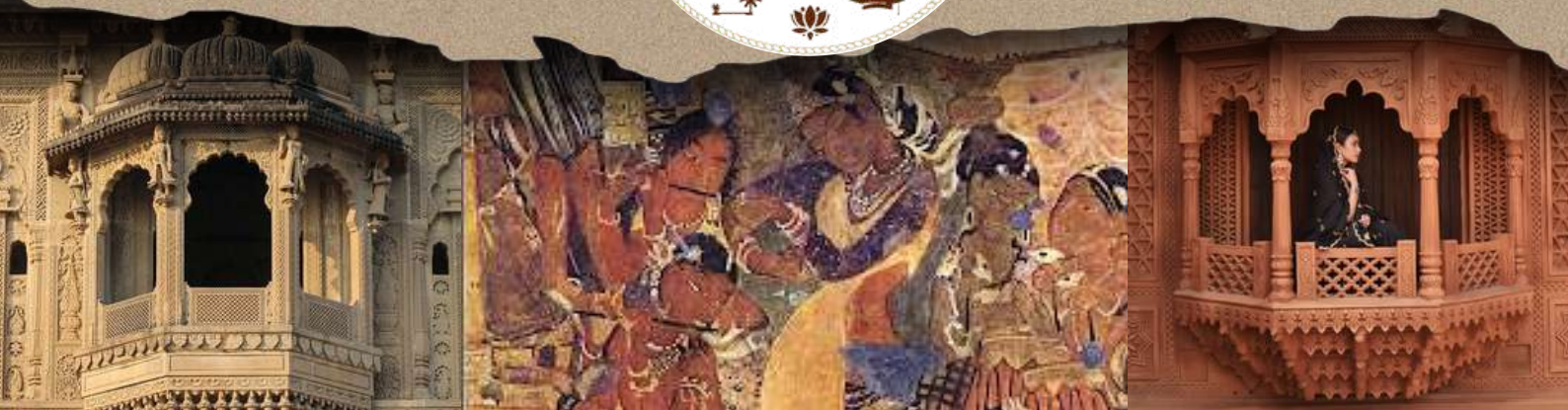
# YUGANTAR

नास्ति सत्वात्यरो धर्मः

**Reclaiming Bharat's Legal & Governance Thought**

**PRATIRAKSHA**

**"Protection of Indigenous culture and design"**

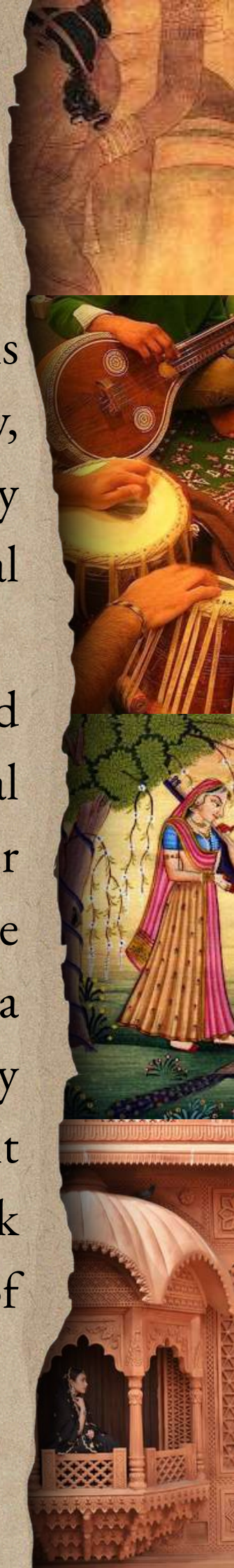




# About the Competition

India's indigenous and traditional designs lie at the core of its civilisational identity, embodying centuries of community knowledge, craftsmanship, and cultural expression.

Yet, despite their immense cultural and economic value, existing intellectual property and regulatory frameworks offer fragmented and often inadequate protection. The absence of a comprehensive, community-centric policy approach has resulted in persistent challenges such as misappropriation, weak enforcement, and limited recognition of collective rights.





This policy research competition invites participants to critically examine the structural gaps and limitations within India's existing legal and policy regime governing indigenous designs. Participants are encouraged to go beyond doctrinal critique and engage in forward-looking policy innovation by conceptualising and drafting a new or reimagined policy framework that is legally robust, culturally sensitive, and practically implementable.

Through this initiative, the forum seeks to foster informed policy discourse, promote original legal thinking, and contribute meaningfully to the development of a stronger and more equitable framework for the protection of India's indigenous design heritage.





## **Eligibility :**

The competition is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students of law and allied disciplines from recognised institutions.

## **Word Limit :**

3,500–4,500 words, including footnotes.

Submissions exceeding the word limit will be liable for rejection





# **Formatting Guidelines :**

Font: Times New Roman

Font Size: 12 for main text

Footnotes: Font size 10

Line Spacing: 1.5

Alignment: Justified

Margins: 1 inch on all sides





# Citation & Referencing :

All references shall be cited exclusively through footnotes. The Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA) shall be strictly adhered to. Plagiarism beyond 15% is not acceptable, and proper attribution must be provided for all sources relied upon.

The submission must be the original work of the author and must not have been previously published or submitted elsewhere. Any instance of plagiarism beyond permissible limits shall result in immediate disqualification.





# Authorship :

- Single Authorship is permitted
- Co-authorship is not allowed
- The identity of the author must not be mentioned anywhere in the main manuscript to ensure blind evaluation- in order to maintain anonymity of the evaluation

# Submission Guidelines :

- The article must be submitted in docx. format only. Word format only.
- A separate cover page containing the author(s)' name, institution, course, year of study, and contact details must be submitted.





# **Submissions will be assessed on:**

- Relevance to the theme
- Depth of research and analysis
- Originality of thought
- Clarity of expression and structure
- Proper use of citations and references

## **Decision of the Organisers :**

The Evaluators shall exercise their discretion in all matters of evaluation, and their decisions shall be final. We sincerely appreciate the cooperation of participants in refraining from correspondence regarding evaluations.





## Stage I: Research Paper Submission

Participant shall submit an original research paper that:

- Analyses the structural and doctrinal shortcomings of existing Indian laws and policies related to indigenous designs;
- Proposes a new or reformed policy framework addressing these gaps.
- Submissions will be evaluated through a double-blind review process.

## Stage II: Shortlisting

- The top 3 papers will be shortlisted for the final round based on merit.

## Stage III: Presentation & Policy Defence

- Shortlisted participants will present their paper before the judging panel.
- Format: 7 minutes presentation + 5 minutes question&answer round.





- Participants must defend both their critique of existing frameworks and their proposed policy solution.

## **Evaluation Criteria:**

- Identification and analysis of structural gaps in existing laws and policies
- Originality and coherence of the proposed policy framework
- Legal soundness and constitutional compatibility
- Policy feasibility and implementation mechanisms
- Depth of research, use of sources, and quality of drafting
- Clarity of presentation and effectiveness of defense





# **Suggested Format for policy draft:**

## **Title and Policy Objective**

- A clear articulation of the policy's purpose, scope, and the specific issues it seeks to address within the existing legal framework.

## **Background and Problem Statement**

- An overview of indigenous designs in India, outlining their cultural, economic, and legal significance, followed by a concise identification of structural gaps and limitations in current laws and policies.

## **Critical Analysis of the Existing Framework**

- Examination of relevant statutes, policies, and institutions, highlighting doctrinal shortcomings, enforcement challenges, and gaps in community recognition and ownership.





## Guiding Principles of the Proposed Policy

- Normative foundations of the policy, including constitutional values, equity, cultural preservation, community rights, and alignment with international obligations.

## Proposed Policy Framework

- A detailed exposition of the proposed policy, including:

## Scope and applicability

- Recognition of rights and ownership models
- Registration or documentation mechanisms
- Consent and benefit-sharing provisions
- Duration and nature of protection





## **Institutional and Governance Mechanisms**

- Identification of regulatory bodies, administrative structures, and coordination mechanisms required for effective implementation and oversight.

## **Enforcement and Compliance Mechanisms**

- Provisions addressing enforcement, dispute resolution, remedies, penalties, and safeguards against misappropriation.

## **Implementation Strategy**

- Phased or immediate implementation plans, including stakeholder involvement, capacity building, and awareness measures.





## Anticipated Impact and Outcomes

- Assessment of the policy's expected legal, social, and economic impact on indigenous communities and the broader design ecosystem.

## Conclusion and Way Forward

- A summarised vision of how the proposed policy strengthens India's indigenous design protection regime and contributes to long-term legal reform.





## **Awards:**

- Best Innovative Idea
- Best Policy Draft

**Price Pool: ₹3,000**

**Entry fee: ₹350**

**Deadline: 15th February**

**Kindly make the payment via  
the Registration link!**





# Registration Link



**For more enquiries,**

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**For more updates follow:**

