



50
Glorious
YEARS

On the Occasion of Golden Jubilee Celebration

DR. ROHINI KANTA BARUA MEMORIAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2025

DATE: MAY 14, 2025



Organized by
**The Moot Court Society
Dr. R.K.B. Law College
Dibrugarh, Assam - 786001**

Awards

Best Team

INR: 15,000/-

Trophy and Certificates

1st Runners-up

INR: 12,000/-

Trophy and Certificates

2nd Runners-up INR: 9,000/-

Trophy and Certificates

Best Mooter INR : 5,000/-

Trophy and Certificate

Best Memorial INR: 5000/-

Trophy and Certificate



Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua Memorial Moot Court Competition, 2025

To
Vice-Chancellor/Registrar/Principal/Head of the Department

Respected Sir/Ma'am

Subject: Invitation to Participate in the Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua Memorial Moot Court Competition 2025

Greetings!

We hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. With great pleasure, we extend this invitation to your esteemed institution to participate in the upcoming Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua Memorial Moot Court Competition 2025, organized by the Moot Court Society of Dr. R.K.B. Law College, Dibrugarh, Assam.

The Competition intends to serve a platform for law students from North East India to showcase their legal acumen, advocacy skills, and knowledge of substantive and procedural law. It aims to foster a spirit of healthy competition, encourage the exchange of ideas, and provide a unique opportunity for students to enhance their practical understanding of the law. Participation in such competitions not only contributes to the academic and professional development of students but also facilitates networking and interaction with peers, faculty, and legal professionals.

We kindly request your institution to nominate a team of enthusiastic and capable students to represent your esteemed institution at this prestigious event. The competition promises to be intellectually stimulating, and we believe that the participation of your institution will add significant value to the overall experience.

To confirm your institution's participation, kindly recommend your students to fill out the Google form for registration on or before **April 30, 2025**. For any queries or additional information, please feel free to contact us at dr.rkblaw.mcs@gmail.com or call Ms. Manalisa Medhi/ Dr. Manomita Paul, Phone: 6001147713/ 9101755583 respectively. We sincerely hope that your institution will consider this invitation favorably, and we look forward to welcoming your students to the Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua Memorial Moot Court Competition 2025.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

With Best Regards
Dr Gautomi Dutta Borah,
Principal,
Dr. R.K.B. Law College,
Dibrugarh, Assam – 786001.

About Dr. R.K.B. Law College

The Rohini Kanta Barua Law College was established in the year 1976 as an outcome of a public meeting of the citizens of Dibrugarh held on 20/06/1976 with Shri Pramode Kumar Das, B.L. in the chair as 'Dibrugarh Law College' with the objective 'to create a new avenue at Dibrugarh for imparting legal education'. On 19/03/1994, the Dibrugarh Law College was renamed as 'Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua Law College' as the late Muktalata Barua wife of Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua, a well-known name in scientific research of high order and academic excellence donated the land and building (present administrative wing) to the College to commemorate the illustrious name of her husband. The College is permanently affiliated to Dibrugarh University and approved by the Bar Council of India, New Delhi. It offers a rich environment for studying law and prepares students to enter into the legal profession through Three year LL.B programme and Five year integrated BBA,LL.B. programme.

The college is on the verge of completion of its glorious journey of 50 years in 2026. To mark this momentous occasion, the college has been celebrating its **Golden Jubilee Year** from 19th March, 2025 to 19th March, 2026. In connection to this yearlong celebration, Moot Court Society of the college is organizing the 2nd Rohini Kanta Barua Memorial Moot Court Competition on 14th May, 2025.

About the Competition

Named in honour of the distinguished luminary, Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua, this moot court competition serves as a tribute to his contributions to the field of academics and education.

Dr. Barua's legacy of intellectual rigor, commitment to social development, and unwavering dedication to education inspire the essence of this event.

Objective

The primary objective of this competition is to provide a platform for law students of North East India to showcase their legal prowess, analytical skills, and understanding of contemporary legal issues. The moot court competition seeks to foster a competitive spirit, encourage the pursuit of excellence in advocacy, and promote camaraderie among aspiring legal professionals.

Expected Outcomes

The competition offers a unique opportunity for participants to enhance their research, drafting, and oral advocacy skills under the guidance of experienced legal practitioners and scholars. It will also provide a wide networking for the law students in the legal field.

Rules and Regulations (Guidelines)

1. Preliminary

- 1.1. The Rules shall be known as Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua Memorial Moot Court Competition Rules and Regulations, 2025; or in Short Dr. R.K.B. Memorial Moot Court Competition Guidelines, 2025.
- 1.2. These rules shall be applicable for every aspects through out the competition and on everyone associated with the competition in any capacity whatsoever.
- 1.3. All disciplinary actions and declaration of results of the competition shall be determined based on these rules and for any matters not provided within the ambit of these rules shall be decided as per the applicable law of India.

2. Definitions

- 2.1. “Advanced Round” means and the final rounds.
- 2.2. “Bench Memorial” means the Memorial of Law, issues, and authorities concerning the moot problem prepared by the Authors/Administrator.
- 2.3. “Clarification” means any clarification issued by the organizing committee in pursuant to any matter incidental to the competition.
- 2.4. “Competition” means the Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua Memorial Moot Court Competition, 2025.
- 2.5. “Compendium” means a compilation or collection of legal or other authorities that a Team seeks to rely upon during the Oral Pleading Session.
- 2.6. “Memorial” means the written arguments submitted by each participating team in accordance with these rules for participating in the competition.
- 2.7. “Oral Round” means a team’s pleadings, comprising two speakers, submitted orally in front of the judges, on behalf of one of the parties against another team representing the opposite team.
- 2.8. “Organizing Committee” means the Moot Court Society of Dr. R.K.B. Law College, Dibrugarh, Assam, or any person(s) appointed by the Society for the conduct or administration of the Competition.
- 2.9. “Participant” means any member from the participating team in the Competition who has successfully participated in the Competition in compliance to these rules.
- 2.10. “Preliminary Rounds” means the rounds preceding the Advanced Rounds for determining the qualifying teams for the Advanced Rounds.
- 2.11. “Moot Problem” means the official Moot Proposition and also any clarification against the Moot Proposition issued by the Organizing Committee as defined under rule 2.3.
- 2.12. “Rebuttals” mean the arguments placed by the Petitioner against the Respondent’s submission at the end of the main pleadings.
- 2.13. “Scouting” means a person observing the Oral Rounds of teams other than the team such person is associated with.
- 2.14. “Speaker” means a person from the participants who presents oral arguments in a given round.
- 2.15. “Sur-rebuttal” means the defence presented by the Respondent to the Rebuttals.
- 2.16. “Team Code” means the code allotted by the administrator to a team after the completion of the Registration process.

3. Structure of the Competition

3.1. The Competition will take place in two phases comprising the Preliminary Rounds and the Advanced Rounds.

3.2. The Preliminary Rounds include two rounds for each team representing both the parties to the dispute.

3.3. The Preliminary Rounds shall be followed by Advanced Rounds.

4. Language

4.1. The language to be used for drafting the memorial shall be British English.

4.2. The medium for communication inside the Courtroom shall be English.

4.3. Notwithstanding anything contained in rule 4.1. and 4.2. for any reason, if any other languages appear necessary to be used for better explanation of the situation, such languages may be allowed to be used subject to the discretion of the sitting Judge(s).

5. Interpretation

5.1. The Committee shall have exclusive authority to interpret the rules in the interest of fairness and equality.

5.2. The interpretation upon these rules placed by the Organizing Committee shall be exclusive.

5.3. All decisions reached by the Organizing Committee on the interpretation of these rules shall be final and no dispute shall be entertained against such decisions on any ground.

6. Eligibility

6.1. The Competition is open to all students enrolled bonafide on a regular basis in an undergraduate/Postgraduate law course in an institution located in the North –East India and approved by Bar Council of India, New Delhi.

6.2. Each recognized institution shall be entitled to send one team.

6.3. Each participating member shall have an identity card or a bonafide certificate issued from a competent authority of the respective institution and shall upload the same in the Registration form for verification.

7. Team Composition

7.1. Each team for the Competition shall comprise of three members including two Speakers and one Researcher.

7.2. The teams are not allowed to change the composition after registration.

Provided the researcher can become a Speaker in case of any unforeseen situation subject to showcase of due reasons and approval of the same from the Organizing Committee.

7.3. For any changes in the contact details of the teams, the teams shall themselves be responsible for communicating such changes to the Organizing Committee through email with immediate effect.

8. Contact Details

8.1. For any clarification under rule 2.3. or for any other queries kindly email dr.rkblaw.mcs@gmail.com or contact Ms. Manalisa Medhi; Phone:6001147713 or Dr Manomita Paul; phone: 9101755583.

9. Structure of the Memorial

- 9.1. The Team Code shall be ascribed on the top right corner of the cover page.
- 9.2. The Cover Page of each memorial shall consists of the following:
 - 9.2.1. Team Code as mentioned in rule 9.1. For e.g. TC – 01; TC-02, etc.;
 - 9.2.2. The name and year of the Competition;
 - 9.2.3. The name of the forum before which the proceeding is to be conducted;
 - 9.2.4. The name of the case;
 - 9.2.5. The title of the Memorial (e.g. either “Memorial for Petitioner” or “Memorial for Respondent”;
 - 9.2.6. The Cover Page shall be coloured Blue for Petitioner and Red for Respondent.
- 9.3. Table of Abbreviations consisting of all abbreviations including common abbreviations like %, &, UK, etc. and shall be alphabetically arranged.
- 9.4. Index of authorities shall contain the list of all the authorities cited in the Memorial along with the page number of the Memorial where such authorities have been cited and shall be alphabetically arranged.
- 9.5. Statement of Facts shall consist summary of the facts of the case and shall be limited to only 2 pages.
- 9.6. Statement of Jurisdiction shall be mentioned clearly by each party in their written submission.
- 9.7. Issues Raised shall consists of the important questions to be decided by the Judges in a neutral stage without any representation of opinions.
- 9.8. Summary of Arguments shall contain a brief summary of each argument advanced.
- 9.9. Arguments Advanced shall contain the arguments in detail against each issue.
- 9.10. Prayer shall be included at the end of the Memorial highlighting the relief sought from the Court.

10. Rules for Formatting the Memorial

- 10.1. The Heading of each section of the Memorial like “Statement of Jurisdiction”; “Arguments Advanced”; etc. shall be Central Aligned; Bold; Sentence Case; Font Size – 16; Font – Times New Roman; and Line Spacing – 1.5.
- 10.2. The sub-headings shall be justified aligned; bold; Font Size – 12; Line Spacing – 1.5; and shall be in Times New Roman.
- 10.3. The Sub-sub headings shall be in bold; italics; justified aligned; Font Size – 12; Line Spacing – 1.5; and in Times New Roman.
- 10.4. The body of the Memorial shall be in justified aligned; Times New Roman; Line Spacing – 1.5; and Font Size – 12.
- 10.5. References are to made through footnoting and all footnotes shall adhere to OSCOLA 4th Edition, and to download OSCOLA 4th Edition, [Click Here](#).
- 10.6. All footnotes shall be in Times New Roman; Font Size – 10 Line Spacing- Single; and Justified Aligned.
- 10.7. All case laws inside the main body shall be written in italics and v. shall be used to mean versus.

11. Submission of Memorial

11.1. All memorials shall be submitted in PDF format through e-mail, after confirmation of Registration process.

11.2. The memorials shall not consist of any personal details or identity of the participating teams.

11.3. All memorials shall be submitted on or before May 04, 2025.

12. Submission of Compendium

12.1. Each team is allowed to submit two Compendiums one for Petitioner and the other for Respondent.

12.2. The Compendium shall be in English.

12.3. The Compendium shall be submitted on or before May 10, 2025.

12.3.4. The presentation of the Compendium during the Oral Rounds is subject to the discretion of the Bench.

13. Judging of Memorials

13.1. Every Memorial shall be marked on a maximum of 100 (One Hundred) marks on the basis of criteria mentioned in rule 13.2.

13.2. Criteria for assigning marks to Memorials:

Criteria	Marks
Interpretation & Application of Law	30 (Thirty)
Extent & Use of Research	25 (Twenty Five)
Clarity and Organization	25 (Twenty Five)
Style, Grammar and Citation of Sources	20 (Twenty)
Total	100 (One Hundred)

14. Dress Code

14.1. Each participants shall be in formal attire throughout the competition irrespective of whether online or offline.

14.2. The female participants shall wear white or black salwar and white kurta along with black blazer or white shirt and black trousers along with black blazer and black shoes.

14.3. Male participants shall wear white shirt and black trousers along with black blazer and black shoes.

14.4. Non-compliance to any of the sub-rules of this rule shall be regarded as Contempt of Court.

15. Code of Conduct

- 15.1. Each member from each team shall behave in a cordial and civilized manner with their contesting teams.
- 15.2. No member shall raise any allegation against the Bench whatsoever during the course of the oral rounds.
- 15.3. Each team shall be present in the Courtroom only when their proceeding is going on otherwise no team shall be present inside the Courtroom.
- 15.4. Each team shall maintain their professional ethics as per the prescribed norms of Bar Council of India for Advocates practicing before any Court of the land.
- 15.5. Each team shall maintain decorum inside the Courtroom.
- 15.6. Each team shall refrain themselves from indulging into any activities that is likely to influence the independent and impartial decision of the Organizing Committee or the Judges during the course of the Competition.
- 15.7. Each team shall refrain themselves from carrying any items of intoxication, or weapons of any nature inside the Courtroom and shall not indulge in any immoral or illegal activities according to the laws of India.
- 15.8. Notwithstanding anything provided in the above sub-rules, for all matters regarding disciplinary actions on code of conduct shall be as per the discretion of the Judges or the laws of India.

16. Powers of the Organizing Committee

- 16.1. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to amend, or modify, or change, or repeal any of the rules of the Competition and if done so, the decisions on such amendment, or modification, or changes, or repeal made by the Organizing Committee shall be final.
- 16.2. For any such amendment, or modification, or, changes, or repeal, the Organizing Committee shall be responsible to inform all the registered participants within 24 hours of time and after such information, such decision shall immediately come to effect.

17. Procedures for Preliminary Rounds

- 17.1. Each team shall submit two memorials, one on behalf of the Petitioner and the other on behalf of the Respondent during the time of submission of memorials.
- 17.2. Each team shall undergo two rounds one representing the Petitioner side and the other representing the Respondent side in the Preliminary rounds.
- 17.3. All the teams registered for the Competition shall remain present during the Orientation hour prior to the beginning of the Preliminary rounds of the Competition.
- 17.4. A selection of contesting teams shall be done through draw of lots.
- 17.5. After the completion of both the rounds, the average score shall be calculated and the 4 teams scoring the highest score shall be declared qualified for Finals.
- 17.6. The time allotted for each team shall be 15 minutes including rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.
- 17.7. Each Mooter from each team shall speak for not less than 5 minutes and not more than 10 minutes during the oral rounds in the Preliminary rounds.

18. Dummy Teams

18.1. For situations where odd number of teams register for the competition, dummy teams might be appointed by the Organizing Committee for facilitating the smooth conduct of the Preliminary Rounds.

18.2. If any such dummy team is appointed then the performance of such team shall not be judged and their scores shall not be counted for the purpose of deciding the qualifying teams of the Competition.

18.3. Provided, each dummy team if appointed shall be bound by the rules regarding the Code of Conduct and shall be responsible for maintaining the decorum of the Court.

18.3. Dummy teams shall be appointed only from amongst the students of the Organizing institution and in no case students of the Organizing institution shall participate as a contestant in the Competition.

19. Procedure for the Final Round

19.1. The qualifying teams shall appear for the Final Round and the side each team will represent shall be decided by draw lots.

19.2. Each team shall be provided with 30 minutes of time to place their oral arguments including rebuttal and sur-rebuttal.

20. Criteria for Marking Oral Rounds

20.1. Each team in the Oral Rounds shall be judged on a scale of 100 (One Hundred) marks as per the marking criteria provided in Rule 20.2.

20.2. Detailed Criteria for Marking Performance in the Oral Rounds:

Sl No.	Criteria	Maximum Marks
1	Knowledge of Law and Facts and Their Application	10
2	Use of Authorities as per Hierarchy with Respect to Precedential Value	10
3	Interpretation and Application of Law with Respect to the given Situation	10
4	Organization of Arguments and Counter Arguments	10
5	Clarity of Thought and Expression	10
6	Style of Arguments, Voice Modulation, and Use of Legal Terminologies	10
7	Creativity, and Innovative Argumentation	10
8	Conduct and Manner including Maintaining of Professional Ethics	10
9	Response to Questions	10
10	Arguments in Rebuttal and Sur-rebuttal	10
	Total	100 (One Hundred)

21. Disclosure of Marks Scored

21.1. The marks scored by each team in the Preliminary Rounds shall be disclosed only after the end of the Preliminary Rounds.

21.2. Notwithstanding anything contained in the above sub-rules of this rule, the Organizing Committee may not disclose the marks scored by any or all of the teams, if situation so arises and may disclose only the Team Codes of the Qualifying Teams to the next rounds.

22. Payment of Registration Fees

22.1. Each team shall pay an amount of **INR 1,500/- (One Thousand Five Hundred Rupees Only)** as registration fees for the Competition.

22.2. The fee paid shall be non-refundable once paid.

22.3. The payment shall be made only to the account, details of which is provided under the rule 22.4.

22.4. Payment Details:



Bank Name: Central Bank of India

Account No: 3750961729

Name: Dr. Rohini Kanta Barua
Law College

IFSC: CBIN0283205

23. Procedure for Registration

23.1. Each team shall register through the Google Form by clicking the button of “Register now” on or before April 30, 2025.

23.2. Each team shall upload the payment receipt of the registration fees.

23.3. Each member from each team shall upload their respective institutional identity cards or bonafide certificates issued by the competent authority of their institution.

Click the button to register

REGISTER NOW

24. Important Dates

24.1. Last Date for Registration: April 30, 2025

24.2. Last Date for Submission of Memorials: May 04, 2025

24.3. Last Date for Submission of Compendium : May 10, 2025

24.4. Date of the Competition & Award Ceremony: May 14, 2025

25. Awards

25.1. The team winning the Competition shall be awarded with a cheque of **INR: 15,000/- (Fifteen Thousand Rupees Only)**, along with a Trophy and Certificates.

25.2. The 1st Runners-up team shall be awarded with a cheque of **INR: 12,000/- (Twelve Thousand Rupees Only)**, along with a Trophy and Certificates.

25.3. The Second Runners-up Team shall be awarded with a cheque of **INR: 9,000/- (Nine Thousand Rupees Only)** along with a Trophy and certificates.

25.4. The Best Mooter and Best Memorial each shall be awarded with a cheque of **INR: 5,000 (Five Thousand Rupees)** along with Certificates.

26. Penalty for Violation of the Rules

26.1. For any violation of the rules of the Competition; the Organizing Committee may take any disciplinary action including informing such misconduct to the Bar Council of India or the respective institution of the participating team depending upon the gravity of the misconduct committed.

26.2. On the accomplishment of the Competition, if any team winning any title from the Competition is found guilty of making any misleading representation before the Organizing Committee or the Judge(s) at any time during the Competition for any undue advantage or illegal benefits in the Competition, the title so received by such team may be forfeited and the next best team shall be awarded with such title.

26.3. In cases of forfeiture of any title, the team found guilty shall return all the benefits or awards received by virtue of such title within the duration of 15 days from the declaration of such forfeiture.

27. Miscellaneous

27.1. Each team after registering for the Competition shall be deemed to have agreed to all the rules and regulations of the Competition and no ignorance shall be plead at any time.

27.2. The Corresponding Member who submits the registration form shall receive a confirmation mail about the registration after submission of the registration form and if not received then such participant shall communicate with the Organizing Committee through the Contact Details provided under Rule 8.

27.3. No TA or DA or accommodation facilities shall be provided by the Organizing Committee, however all reasonable non-financial assistance in making arrangements for fooding and lodging shall be provided if required.

27.4. Breakfast and Lunch shall be provided to the team members on arrival to the College.

27.5. The Faculty-in-charge if any, comes along with the participating team shall provide his/her contact details on arrival to the college to the Organizing Committee.

27.6. For any assistance at any time during the course of the Competition, the participants are suggested to WhatsApp at 6001147713/ 9101755583 or can call on these two numbers, however for clarifications regarding the proposition communications only through mail as per Rule 8 shall be entertained.

DR. ROHINI KANTA BARUA LAW COLLEGE

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Assam, Pin: 786001

Email: dr.rkblawcollege@gmail.com

Phone: 0373-2322029/9435761611



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Moot Problem

Bravandi Foundation & Anr.

v.

Union of Ondia & Ors.

The Bravandi Foundation is a civil society organization headquartered in New Belhi, working in the fields of digital rights, youth participation, and citizen journalism since 2012. Registered under the Societies Registration Act, of 1860, the organization has established a digital platform named "Fortiori Opinio", which operates as a grassroots digital media outlet. Fortiori Opinio allows contributors, especially young people, students, rural journalists, and first-time writers, to publish stories and audiovisual content on matters of public concern.

The platform has grown substantially over the last three years, gaining recognition for its regional-language reporting, community-driven content, and use of mobile journalism techniques. As of February 2024, it had more than 1.2 million subscribers on NewTube, 5 lakh followers on Kinstagram, and a steadily growing user base on its native website.

In January 2024, a citizen journalist and contributor to Fortiori Opinio named Shlok Banerjee, aged 21 and a third-year journalism student at a private university in Bucknow, published a video titled "*Who Failed Siddhanagar's Health Crisis?*". The video was shot in Siddhanagar district of the State of Madhyam Pradesh, a backward region struggling with health infrastructure. The video featured on-ground interviews with local villagers, short clips of a poorly functioning primary health centre, and anonymized voices of two local doctors who expressed that the district had faced oxygen shortages and insufficient ambulance services during the recent dengue outbreak.

Within days, the video went viral on Kinstagram and NewTube, especially after it was re-shared by prominent regional influencers and a former bureaucrat. Encouraged by the reception, Shlok uploaded a second video a month later titled "*Policing or Punishment? The Other Side of Lockdown Enforcement*", in which he compiled footage and testimonies regarding instances of harsh police action during COVID lockdowns in 2021. One clip showed a minor boy being slapped and dragged by uniformed personnel, with audio overlays narrating the boy's story. This video, too, gained traction and attracted both support and criticism.

On 15 March 2024, Bravandi Foundation received a notice from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, invoking the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, as amended in 2023. The notice stated that the two videos contained "factually inaccurate and potentially inflammatory material" that could "mislead the public, threaten public order, and erode trust in public institutions." It directed the Foundation to remove the two videos within 24 hours, failing which, it warned of further penal consequences under the Information Technology Act, 2000.

Simultaneously, the Central Bureau of Digital Surveillance (CBDS), operating under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), issued an internal



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recommendation to block the Fortiori Opinio website entirely under Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000, citing “national interest and maintenance of public order.” On 18 March 2024, access to the Fortiori Opinio website was suspended nationwide. Social media handles of the platform were also marked for “reduced visibility” and flagged by intermediaries as “repeat violators” under the amended IT Rules.

On 19 March 2024, Shlok Banerjee was served a notice under Section 91 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) requiring him to submit the raw footage and metadata of the videos. Two days later, an FIR was registered against him by the local police in Siddhanagar, invoking Sections 153 (provocation with intent to cause riot), 505(1)(b) (statements conducing to public mischief), and 124A (sedition) of the Ondian Penal Code, 1860. He was arrested on 22 March 2024 from his residence in Bucknow and taken to Siddhanagar for interrogation.

During the arrest, police officials allegedly seized Shlok’s laptop, mobile phone, SD card, and an external hard drive without presenting a warrant. His social media passwords were allegedly accessed in his presence and later used to disable his personal and professional accounts. Shlok remained in judicial custody for 12 days, during which he claimed he was denied access to legal counsel for the first 48 hours and was not allowed to contact his family.

On 3 April 2024, after receiving bail from the Sessions Court of Siddhanagar, Shlok publicly claimed that he was pressured during custody to reveal the identities of anonymous sources and faced psychological intimidation. He also stated that no copy of the forensic imaging of his seized devices had been provided to him or his legal counsel.

Bravandi Foundation made a representation to the Press Council of Ondia and the National Human Rights Commission alleging violations of Shlok’s fundamental rights and the rights of digital journalists in general. The Foundation also challenged the blocking order before the High Court of Madhyam Pradesh. However, the matter saw multiple adjournments, and no interim relief was granted. The website remained blocked, and the foundation’s operations came to a standstill.

In the meantime, on 15 April 2024, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting issued a notification formalizing a Central Fact Verification Unit (CFVU), empowered to determine the authenticity of any online content that relates to the “business of the Central Government.” The notification stated that any content flagged as “fake or misleading” by the CFVU would require social media platforms and digital intermediaries to take it down within 24 hours. The order was issued under Rule 16 of the IT Rules, 2021. Civil society groups, press organizations, and academics criticized this move as giving the executive unchecked power to decide what constitutes truth in public discourse.

Further complications arose in July 2024 when the new Bharaviya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, came into effect, repealing the Ondian Penal Code, 1860. Section 124A (sedition) was replaced with Section 150 (acts endangering sovereignty, unity, and integrity of Ondia). On 2 August 2024, the Siddhanagar police issued a supplementary charge sheet replacing Section 124A with Section 150 under the new law.



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Fortiori Opinio's editorial team and Bravandi Foundation argue that the existing regulatory structure has created a "climate of fear" for digital journalists, particularly those not affiliated with corporate media. They claim that journalistic scrutiny of public institutions has been conflated with incitement or misinformation and that the digital media ethics code is being used selectively against independent voices.

Meanwhile, public discourse around surveillance, digital privacy, and misuse of executive powers continues to intensify. Several other journalists from different platforms have reported similar patterns of intimidation, device seizure, and criminal cases for online content criticizing official narratives.

Shlok Banerjee has since returned to his university but remains suspended pending an inquiry initiated by the university administration after receiving a letter from the police stating that he is "facing grave charges that may affect national integrity." His academic future remains uncertain.

In September 2024, Bravandi Foundation and Shlok jointly approached the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Ondia seeking judicial intervention. They highlighted that their freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a), their freedom to practice a profession under Article 19(1)(g), and their right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution of Ondia including the right to privacy, right to the fair investigation, and protection from arbitrary State action, have been violated by a combination of legal provisions, executive actions, and prolonged administrative silence.

Considering the facts of the case counsels are advised to prepare memorials for both sides.

Except for the facts mentioned in the case, the constitutional and legal structures of Ondia are the same as India. The obligations of Ondia under international law are the same as that of India.

Organizing Committee

Patrons

Dr Prakash Borooh
President Governing Body
Dr. R.K.B. Law College
Dibrugarh, Assam

Dr Gautomi Dutta Borah
Principal & Secretary Governing Body
Dr. R.K.B. Law College
Dibrugarh, Assam

Mr R.K. Agarwalla
Vice Principal
Dr. R.K.B. Law College
Dibrugarh, Assam

Convenors

Ms. Manalisa Medhi
Assistant Professor
Dr. R.K.B. Law College
Faculty Coordinator, Moot Court Society

Dr Manomita Paul
Assistant Professor
Dr. R.K.B. Law College
Joint Faculty Coordinator, Moot Court Society

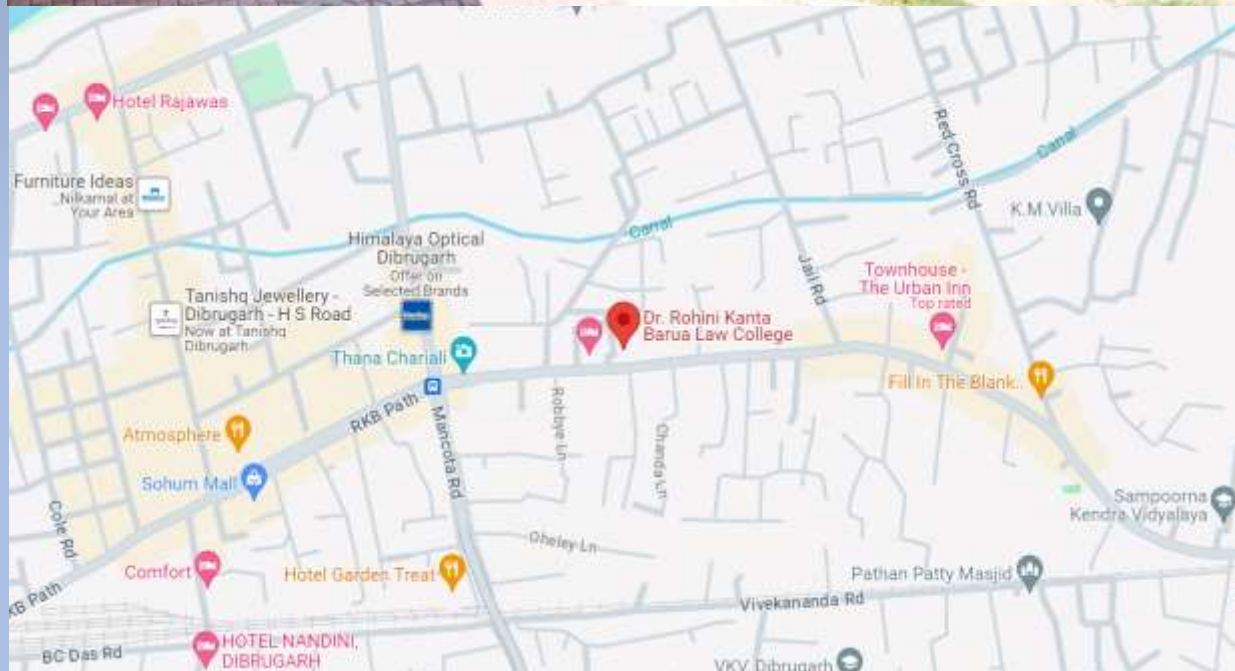
Faculty Coordinators

Mrs. Shilpi Gupta
Assistant Professor & Coordinator, IQAC
Dr. R.K.B. Law College

Dr Bijeta Chetry
Assistant Professor
Dr. R.K.B. Law College

Dr Deepankar Bhattacharjee
Assistant Professor
Dr. R.K.B. Law College

Ms Pritisha Choudhury
Assistant Professor
(Contractual)
Dr. R.K.B. Law College



DR. ROHINI KANTA BARUA LAW COLLEGE

Website: www.rkblawcollege.ac.in

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