THE SAMVIDHAN FORUM

A STUDENT-LED INITIATIVE · CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF PUNJAB, BATHINDA

SAMVIDHAN SANGAM

CONSTITUTION DAY 2026

IN COLLABORATION WITH

Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR)

National Election Watch

PRESENTS

ARTICLE WRITING COMPETITION

"The Accountable Republic: Aligning Electoral Reforms with Constitutional Ideals"

REGISTRATION OPENS	REGISTER BY	SUBMIT BY	RESULTS
5 NOV 2026	14 NOV 2026	20 NOV 2026	26 NOV 2026

Win up to INR 1,500 + courses worth Rs. 3,998/-

+ Internship opportunity for top participants

Register: https://form.svhrt.com/6ae5b3cdcc50420ac182023c

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ABOUT US

ABOUT THE SAMVIDHAN FORUM

The Samvidhan Forum is a student-led initiative at the Central University of Punjab, Bathinda, established with a simple belief: the Constitution should not remain limited to textbooks and courtrooms; its values should be understood and practised in everyday life.

The Forum seeks to promote constitutional awareness, equality, liberty, justice, fraternity, democratic participation, and respect for the rule of law among students and young citizens. It provides a platform where students can learn, question, discuss, and engage with issues that shape our democracy.

Through webinars, debates, quizzes, seminars, essay-writing competitions, and other academic activities, the Forum brings together students, academicians, legal professionals, and members of civil society to encourage meaningful conversations on constitutional rights, duties, social justice, electoral reforms, and democratic accountability.

The Forum believes that an informed citizen is the foundation of a strong democracy. Its larger vision is to make constitutional values a part of everyday thinking and inspire young people to become responsible, aware, and active citizens.

ABOUT SAMVIDHAN SANGAM 2026

Theme: “From the Preamble to the Ballot”

Samvidhan Sangam 2026 is a Constitution Day initiative by The Samvidhan Forum, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda, built around the belief that the Constitution is not merely a document to be read or remembered, but a living promise that guides our everyday lives.

The initiative aims to bring students closer to the values of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity while encouraging them to understand their rights, responsibilities, and role in strengthening Indian democracy.

Through academic discussions, competitions, interactive sessions, creative activities, and other forms of student engagement, Samvidhan Sangam seeks to create a space where young people can question, express their views, exchange ideas, and engage with contemporary constitutional and democratic issues.

From the Preamble to the ballot, the initiative explores the connection between constitutional ideals and citizens’ participation in democracy, with a focus on electoral transparency, social justice, freedom of expression, and democratic accountability.

Above all, Samvidhan Sangam is an effort to take the Constitution beyond classrooms and make its values a part of everyday conversations, choices, and actions. It aspires to inspire a generation that does not simply celebrate the Constitution but understands, respects, and upholds its spirit.

IN COLLABORATION WITH

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC REFORMS (ADR)

The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) was established in 1999 by a group of professors from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad. In 1999, a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) was filed by them in the Delhi High Court asking for the disclosure of the criminal, financial and educational background of the candidates contesting elections. Based on this, the Supreme Court in 2002, and subsequently in 2003, made it mandatory for all candidates contesting elections to disclose their criminal, financial and educational background before the polls by filing an affidavit with the Election Commission.

The first election watch was conducted by ADR in 2002 for the Gujarat Assembly Elections, where a detailed analysis of the backgrounds of candidates contesting elections was provided to the electorate to help voters make an informed choice. Since then, ADR has conducted Election Watches for almost all state and parliament elections in collaboration with the National Election Watch. It conducts multiple projects aimed at increasing transparency and accountability in the political and electoral system of the country.

ABOUT MYNETA.INFO

MyNeta.info is an open data repository platform run by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), which aims to empower Indian voters with election-related information. The following information is available on MyNeta.info:

- Criminal, financial and educational information of candidates and winners who have contested elections to State Assemblies, the Parliament and a few local bodies
- Income-expenditure statements of various political parties (national, regional and unrecognised parties)
- Donations above Rs 20,000 received by political parties (national, regional and unrecognised)

THE THEME

THE ACCOUNTABLE REPUBLIC

Aligning Electoral Reforms with Constitutional Ideals

This competition invites original articles that examine how India's electoral system can be made more accountable and more faithful to the ideals of the Constitution. Articles must address the prescribed theme or one of its sub-themes.

SUGGESTED SUB-THEMES (INDICATIVE)

1. **Transparency and accountability in political funding**
2. **Candidate disclosures and the criminalisation of politics**
3. **Integrity of electoral rolls and the right to vote**
4. **Independence and accountability of the Election Commission**
5. **Fair campaigning: money, media and misinformation**
6. **Technology in elections: EVMs, VVPATs and AI in campaigns**
7. **Inclusive representation and voter participation**
8. **Anti-defection and legislative accountability**

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Articles must address the prescribed theme or one of its sub-themes.
2. The word limit is **3,000–4,000 words**, inclusive of footnotes and excluding the title page.
3. The abstract must not exceed **200 words**.
4. **Five keywords** must be provided.
5. Submissions must be written in **English**.
6. Only **original and unpublished** submissions will be accepted.

FORMAT, ORIGINALITY AND PRIZES

FORMATTING GUIDELINES

FILE FORMAT
Microsoft Word (.docx)

MAIN TEXT
Times New Roman, 12-point font, 1.5-line spacing, justified alignment

FOOTNOTES
10-point font

CITATION STYLE
Harvard 21st Edition

ORIGINALITY AND REVIEW

1. The similarity index and AI-generated content must **each not exceed 10%**. Submissions exceeding either threshold may be disqualified without a refund.
2. All manuscripts will undergo **anonymised peer review**.
3. The decision of the review panel will be **final and binding**.

PRIZES

WINNER
INR 1,500
+ 2 courses from Innovation School worth Rs. 3,998/-
+ Certificate of Achievement

FIRST RUNNER-UP
INR 1,200
+ 2 courses from Innovation School worth Rs. 3,998/-
+ Certificate of Achievement

SECOND RUNNER-UP
INR 1,000
+ 2 courses from Innovation School worth Rs. 3,998/-
+ Certificate of Achievement

E-certificates will be awarded to all valid entries.

Internship opportunity for top participants

REGISTRATION, PAYMENT AND DATES

REGISTER AND PAY

SINGLE-AUTHOR ARTICLE	CO-AUTHORED ARTICLE
INR 200	INR 300

(The registration fee shall be collected by The Samvidhan Forum.)

REGISTRATION QR

SCAN TO REGISTER

https://form.svhrt.com/6ae5b3cdcc50420ac182023c

Or open the link in your browser

PAYMENT QR

SCAN TO PAY

UPI ID: aaravkandoi70-1@okaxis

Payee: Aarav Kandoi · any UPI app

The manuscript submission link will be shared separately with the registered participants.

IMPORTANT DATES

Registration opens	5 NOVEMBER 2026
Last date for registration and payment	14 NOVEMBER 2026
Last date for manuscript submission	20 NOVEMBER 2026
Declaration of results	26 NOVEMBER 2026

Late submissions will not be accepted. No extension will be granted unless officially announced by the organisers.

CONTACT

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For any query reach at: thesamvidhanforum@gmail.com

OUR PARTNERS

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OUR PARTNERS IN DETAIL

DETAILS OF OUR PARTNERS

IN COLLABORATION WITH

Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and MyNeta.info

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KNOWLEDGE PARTNER · MEDIA PARTNER

Innovation School

A premier online learning destination designed for professionals, graduates, and learners who aim to master in-demand skills for the future. We provide industry-relevant, practical and outcome-focused learning programs.

Link: https://innovationschool.io/

MEDIA PARTNER

Lawctopus and Lawctopus Law School

Lawctopus, started in 2010, is India's leading online media and education portal for law students and young lawyers. The media vertical, Lawctopus.com, reaches nearly 4 lakh readers every month. The ed-tech vertical, Lawctopus Law School (LLS), teaches more than 2000 learners every year. With a rating of 93.2/100, LLS' practical, online courses teach skills such as legal research, contract drafting, IP law, and more. On the media site, content such as law-related conferences, workshops, internships, jobs, and career advisory pieces and blogs make Lawctopus the young lawyer's go-to friend and guide!

Link: https://www.lawctopus.com/

MEDIA PARTNER

LiveLaw

LiveLaw is India's leading digital legal news portal and media platform, renowned for providing real-time coverage of court proceedings, judgments, and legal developments across the country. Launched in 2013 by founder M.A. Rashid, it has become one of the most trusted sources for fact-based legal journalism in India.

Link: https://www.livelaw.in/

KNOWLEDGE PARTNER

JLS LAW

JLS LAW is an Indian legal education platform founded in December 2023 by Aarav Kandoi. As an MSME-certified startup, its primary mission is to bridge the gap between traditional law school curricula and the professional legal industry by providing high-quality, affordable training. The platform specializes in comprehensive online coaching, mock tests, and structured mentorship for major national law entrance exams, including CLAT, AILET, LSAT—India, CUET, and MHCET Law. Beyond entrance preparation, JLS LAW focuses heavily on career development and practical upskilling. It runs a highly popular, 30-day remote internship program called the JLS Lex Scholars Internship Programme, where law students gain experience in legal research, case analysis, article writing, and RTI drafting.

Contact: jlslawinternship@gmail.com