



SC/ST CELL



CNLU

SC/ST CELL CNLU

PRESENTS



STAMIKSHA

VOICES TO POLICY

2026

SOCIAL JUSTICE POLICY ANALYSIS

NATIONAL POLICY ANALYSIS & PAPER PRESENTATION COMPETITION



25 March 2026





About Chanakya National Law University (CNLU), Patna

Situated in the historic State of Bihar where the foundations of the world's earliest republic were laid Chanakya National Law University (CNLU) stands as a premier institution dedicated to excellence in legal education, research, and social justice. Established on 15th July 2006 under the Chanakya National Law University Act, 2006 (Bihar Act No. 24 of 2006), CNLU was envisioned to raise national legal standards to competitive international levels while fostering constitutional values and legal awareness within the community.

The University was founded under the able guidance of Prof. (Dr.) A. Lakshminath, former Vice-Chancellor/Pro-Chancellor of CNLU and former Dean and Registrar of NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. CNLU is renowned for its state of the art infrastructure, financial autonomy with accountability, and a robust academic ecosystem. The faculty comprises highly experienced and acclaimed academicians who are deeply engaged in nurturing future leaders of the legal fraternity. The University is further enriched by the guidance and participation of former Judges of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and High Courts, senior advocates, judicial officers, and distinguished scholars, making legal education at CNLU both rigorous and inspiring.

Spread across an 18-acre campus at Nyaya Nagar, Mithapur, Patna, CNLU offers a holistic learning environment. The campus features well-managed residential hostels, mess and canteen facilities, comprehensive medical services, counselling support, and advanced IT infrastructure with campus wide wireless internet access. Regular career fairs, training workshops, legal clinics, and mentorship programmes ensure the academic, professional, and personal development of students.

With its lush landscaped lawns, academic vibrancy, and commitment to constitutional ideals, Chanakya National Law University continues to serve as a hub of legal scholarship, policy discourse, and inclusive excellence.

ABOUT THE CELL

Establishment of the SC/ST Cell

One of Prof. (Dr.) Faizan Mustafa's most significant institutional achievements at CNLU has been the formal establishment and robust activation of the SC/ST Cell.

- **Institutional Inclusivity:** Recognizing that diversity is not just about numbers but about institutional support, he spearheaded the creation of the cell to ensure a "friendly, inclusive, and discrimination-free environment."
- **Welfare and Awareness:** Under his guidance, the cell serves as a vital bridge for students from marginalized backgrounds, providing information on scholarships, conducting counseling-cum-guidance sessions for emotional emergencies, and acting as a Grievance Redressal Cell.
- **Empowerment through Awareness:** He has emphasized that the SC/ST Cell should not merely be a symbolic body but an active participant in organizing events, seminars and workshops aimed at empowering students with knowledge of their constitutional rights.

Objectives of the SC/ST Cell

The SC/ST Cell of Chanakya National Law University (CNLU) is a statutory body dedicated to promoting an inclusive, equitable, and discrimination-free academic environment in line with constitutional values of equality, dignity, and social justice. It works to protect the rights and welfare of students, faculty, and staff belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes while fostering respect for diversity across the campus. Through sensitization programmes, academic initiatives, policy discussions, and outreach activities, the Cell promotes awareness of constitutional principles, inclusive governance, and social justice, thereby creating a safe, supportive, and respectful learning environment that encourages meaningful academic engagement on issues related to marginalized communities, public policy, and legal reform.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON

The SC/ST Cell of Chanakya National Law University (CNLU) is a statutory body established with the objective of fostering an inclusive, equitable, and discrimination free academic environment in accordance with the constitutional ideals of equality, dignity, and social justice. The Cell is committed to safeguarding the rights, interests, and overall welfare of students, faculty members, and staff belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, while also promoting a culture of mutual respect and diversity on campus. Through continuous sensitization and awareness programmes, academic initiatives, policy oriented discussions, and community outreach activities, the Cell strives to enhance understanding of constitutional values, social justice frameworks, and inclusive governance practices among all stakeholders of the university. By ensuring a safe, supportive, and respectful learning and working environment, the SC/ST Cell plays a crucial role in strengthening institutional equity, encouraging constructive dialogue, and facilitating meaningful academic and social engagement on issues related to marginalized communities, public policy, and legal reform.



Voice for the Marginalized

Prof. Mustafa believes that law should be a tool for social transformation and has consistently supported marginalized communities through advocacy for affirmative action, inclusive education, and student well being. He emphasizes mental health, campus dignity, and intersectional justice, including gender and caste equality. Beyond CNLU, he is a prominent constitutional scholar who stresses that democracy is judged by its treatment of minorities and deprived sections, educates the public on legal rights, and openly challenges unjust laws and practices that harm the underprivileged.

"The study of law should not be confined to producing lawyers or judges, but must serve as an instrument of social transformation by empowering the weaker sections of society."

— Prof. (Dr.) Faizan Mustafa
Vice Chancellor at Chanakya National Law University



About Samiksha

Vision & Mission

SAMIKSHA is an annual academic initiative organized by the SC/ST Cell with the objective of promoting rigorous research and critical policy analysis in the field of social justice. The platform aims to empower young researchers, students, and scholars to engage deeply with government welfare programs and policy frameworks affecting Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and other marginalized communities.

Our mission is to bridge the gap between policy formulation and ground level impact by encouraging evidence-based research, constructive critique, and solution-oriented academic discourse.

Why SAMIKSHA Matters

Social justice policies play a crucial role in shaping inclusive development, yet their real-world implementation often faces challenges. SAMIKSHA provides participants with the opportunity to move beyond theoretical discussions and examine the actual effectiveness, reach, and outcomes of welfare schemes.

Through this competition, students are encouraged to identify gaps and propose practical reforms that can contribute to better governance and social equity.

Building a Knowledge Resource

SAMIKSHA is not limited to a one-day competition. The initiative focuses on creating a permanent academic resource by publishing selected high quality research papers in the SC/ST Cell's Annual E-Journal or Research Report. This publication will serve as a reference tool for academicians, researchers, policymakers, and institutions working in the social justice domain.

OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES

Key Objectives of SAMIKSHA

Encourage in-depth research and analytical thinking among students and scholars.

Promote critical evaluation of government welfare schemes and policy frameworks.

Foster awareness about the real-life challenges faced by marginalized communities.

Develop research-driven solutions that can contribute to policy improvement

Strengthen academic writing and presentation skills among participants.

Expected Outcomes

The outcomes of SAMIKSHA extend beyond the competition itself and focus on long-term academic and social impact:

Publication Opportunity: Selected research papers will be published in the SC/ST Cell's Annual E-Journal or Research Report.

Academic Recognition: Participants gain national-level exposure and scholarly recognition.

Knowledge Repository: The published journal will serve as a valuable reference resource for educators, students, institutions, and policymakers.

Policy Impact: Research insights generated through SAMIKSHA can contribute to informed discussions and practical reform initiatives.

TIMELINE

4 FEB 2026

Official opening of participant registration for the event

18 FEB 2026

Final date for participants to complete and confirm their event registration

21 FEB 2026

Deadline for submitting abstracts for review and selection process

9 MARCH 2026

Last date to submit full-length research papers for evaluation

25 MARCH 2026

Presentation day featuring final paper presentations and event activities

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?



Undergraduate and postgraduate students from disciplines such as law, social sciences, humanities, environmental studies, and other related fields are eligible to apply.



First-generation learners and students belonging to tribal and Indigenous communities are especially encouraged to participate



Young researchers and interdisciplinary scholars working on topics related to law, justice, rights, culture, ecology, and Indigenous development are welcome.



Students interested in presenting research papers, policy briefs or community-based case studies & research aligned with the conference themes shall also apply.

STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

▪ Registration

All interested participants are required to register for the event within the stipulated timeline as notified by the Organising Committee. Registration shall be completed through the prescribed mode on or before 18 Feb (11:59 PM). Only duly registered participants shall be eligible to participate in the subsequent stages of the competition. Participants are advised to ensure the accuracy of the information provided during registration. Late or incomplete registrations shall not be entertained.

▪ Abstract Submission

Registered participants shall submit an abstract outlining the theme, objectives, and scope of their proposed paper on or before 21 Feb (11:59 PM). The abstract must adhere to the prescribed word limit and formatting guidelines. Abstracts shall be evaluated on the basis of originality, relevance, and clarity of analysis. Only shortlisted abstracts shall be permitted to proceed to the next stage. The decision of the evaluators shall be final.

▪ Full Paper Submission

Participants whose abstracts are shortlisted shall submit the complete research paper on or before 9 March (11:59 PM). The full paper shall be evaluated for depth of research, legal and policy analysis, coherence of arguments, and adherence to academic standards. Proper citation and compliance with formatting guidelines are mandatory. All submitted papers shall undergo a rigorous evaluation process. The results of this stage shall determine eligibility for the final presentation.

▪ Final Paper Presentation

Based on the evaluation of all full paper submissions, shortlisted participants shall be invited to present their papers before a panel of judges on 25 March. Presentations shall be assessed on content, analytical clarity, articulation, and response to questions. This stage shall determine the final outcome of the competition. The decision of the judging panel shall be final and binding.

THEMES

(5 THEMES)

1. THE UNIVERSITY (UGC & STUDENT BENEFITS)

- Financial Inclusion in HEIs: Impact analysis of National Scholarship Portal (NSP) schemes and the efficacy of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in reducing drop-out rates.
- NEP 2020 Implementation: Policy analysis of the Multiple Entry and Exit System (MEES) and its practical benefits for vocational students.
- Mental Health & Grievance Redressal: Evaluating the UGC's "Utsaah" portal and the effectiveness of mandatory Internal Complaints Committees (ICC).
- UGC Equity Regulations 2026: Promoting Inclusion in HEIs.

2. GENDER AND THE SC/ST COMMUNITY

- Reservation in Transition: Analysis of the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (2023) and its expected impact on SC/ST women's political participation.
- Institutional Equity: Evaluating the role of Equal Opportunity Cells (EOC) in universities and government workplaces for SC/ST students and staff.
- Economic Affirmative Action: Effectiveness of the Stand-Up India scheme and the National SC/ST Hub in fostering entrepreneurship among marginalized groups.
- Digital Gender Divide: Policy interventions to increase digital literacy and smartphone ownership among rural SC/ST women.

3. LAW (LABOUR, ATROCITIES & SOCIAL PRACTICES)

- Labour Code Reform: Analyzing the transition from 29 colonial-era laws to the Four Labour Codes and its impact on the informal sector.
- PoA Act Enforcement: A critical look at the implementation of the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act—investigating low conviction rates and delayed justice.
- Gig Economy Regulations: The legal status and social security benefits for platform workers under new state labour laws.
- Modernizing Social Practices: Legislative efforts to curb practices like manual scavenging and the effectiveness of the NAMASTE scheme.

THEMES

(5 THEMES)

4. ENTREPRENEURSHIP (ECONOMIC POLICIES AND JEEVIKA)

- JEEVIKA (BRLPS) & Women's Agency: How the Bihar Rural Livelihoods Project has shifted the "Panchsutra" (five principles) into sustainable micro-enterprises.
- MSME Formalization: The impact of Udyam Registration on bringing rural "nano-entrepreneurs" into the formal banking system.
- Market Linkage Policies: Evaluating the role of e-NAM and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in ensuring fair prices for SHGs.
- Venture Capital for the Grassroots: Analysis of the MUDRA Yojana and state-sponsored seed funds in scaling rural startups.

5. TRIBAL EMPOWERMENT: RECONCILING LIVELIHOODS, LAND JUSTICE, AND FOREST GOVERNANCE IN SCHEDULED AREAS

- Forest rights act (fra) 2006: conservation vs. livelihood.
- Land alienation and restitution in scheduled areas.
- PESA act and tribal self-governance: 30 years later.
- Judicial delays in NALSA tribal rights interventions.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

How to Apply for SAMIKSHA

Participants are required to follow the official submission procedure carefully to ensure successful registration and evaluation of their research paper.

Step 1 — Prepare Your Manuscript

Before submission, ensure that:

The research paper follows all prescribed formatting and citation guidelines

The content is original and plagiarism-free

Both MS Word (.doc/.docx) and PDF versions of the manuscript are ready

Step 2 — Email Submission

Submit your research paper via email to the official address:

✉ scst@cnlu.ac.in

Step 3 — Subject Line Format

Use the following format while sending your email:

Team Name(s)_Title of Paper

Example:

Team1(t1)_WelfarePolicyAnalysis

Step 4 — File Naming Format

Name your Word document using the following format:

Team-code.docx

Example:

Team1.docx

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Submissions are accepted only in the English language. Word limit 4000-6000 words
- Manuscripts must be in both MS-Word (doc./docx.) and .pdf format.
- All articles must be accompanied by an abstract not exceeding 300 words with five (5) keywords.
- The abstract must expressly include the novelty and usefulness of the idea that the author wishes to put forth and must categorically mention the specific contribution of the article beyond the existing available literature.
- Only after the acceptance of Abstracts, the Authors shall be required to submit their full papers. The communication of acceptance shall be done through email only.
- Author(s) should not mention their personal details at any places in the Manuscript. Personal Details and Institutional Affiliations should be mentioned in a separate cover letter.
- Co-authorship (with a cap of TWO authors) is permitted.
- Font type and size of the main text must be Times New Roman, 12.
- Font type and size of the footnotes must be Times New Roman, 10.
- The main text must have a line spacing of 1.5; Abstract & Footnotes line spacing must be 1.
- Manuscripts should only use footnotes as a means of citation. No other method shall be permitted. Citation style must adhere to Bluebook 20th edition format.
- The Editorial Board reserves the right to send the manuscripts back to the authors for any modification(s) at any stage, in the event of non-conformity with any of the submission guidelines, the Editorial Board may, in its absolute discretion, waive any of the above rules or amend the process.
- Authors are expected to provide original work with a plagiarism score below 10%. While up to 15% of the content may be refined or generated using AI, the technology cannot be used for substantive intellectual work. Your final analysis, interpretation, and conclusions must be entirely original and free of AI influence.

PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

- The paper presentation will be conducted in person at the designated venue, with participants presenting before a panel of esteemed jury members.
- Presentations must be delivered in English.
- Presenters are required to maintain formal attire and uphold professional decorum throughout the presentation.
- Each participant will be allotted 15 minutes for presentation, followed by 10 minutes for a question-and-answer session with the jury. Participants should manage their time accordingly to ensure a smooth flow.
- The Organising Committee reserves the right to issue additional instructions or modify guidelines as necessary to ensure the smooth and fair conduct of the event.
- Presentations should focus on the key arguments, findings, and implications of your paper. Participants are requested to avoid reading the paper verbatim and instead aim to engage the audience with a clear, concise summary of their work.
- Participants are encouraged to use PowerPoint slides or other visual aids to enhance their presentation. Participants must also ensure that the slides are well-organized, legible, and visually appealing. Participants must also ensure that their presentation files are compatible with the provided equipment and bring backups on a USB drive or in cloud storage.

REGISTRATION AND OTHER DETAILS

SINGLE AUTHOR

Rs. 300

- Registration fee applicable for one author presenting one policy analysis or research paper
- Participation certificate included access to all competition sessions provided
- Event materials and resources included

CO- AUTHOR

Rs. 500

- Combined registration fee applicable for two authors presenting a joint policy analysis or research paper
- Participation certificates for both authors included access to all competition sessions provided
- Event materials and resources included

Important Payment Guidelines

- Abstract submission is finalized only upon receipt of the registration fee.
- Participants are required to upload the payment confirmation screenshot and UTR while completing the registration form.
- Payment confirmation is mandatory to secure participation and presentation slot.
- Presentation slots will be allotted in advance and shared with registered participants.
- Accommodation fees will be ₹1500 per person (including meals), and will be applicable after the paper is selected for presentation.
- Once paid, the registration fee is non-refundable under any circumstances



Scan To Register

PERKS AND BENEFITS



1st Prize
Rs. 20,000



2nd Prize
Rs. 15,000



3rd Prize
Rs. 10,000

- 4th Excellence in policy writing **Rs. 5000**
- 5th Best Oratory & Visual Delivery **Rs. 5000**



Publication opportunity: Selected high quality research paper will be published on the SC/ST Cell' Annual E- journal.



Academic recognition: Participants will gain exposure at the national level and will receive a participation and merit certificate.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE



CHIEF PATRON
PROFESSOR (DR.) FAIZAN MUSTAFA
VICE-CHANCELLOR



PATRON
PROFESSOR (DR.) S. P. SINGH
REGISTRAR



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OUR TEAM



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Faculty Member
Dr. Kirti



Faculty Member
Abishek Kumar



Convenor
Shiwangi Kumari



Co-Convenor
Surya Sawarkar



Research Head
Kumar Saurav



Acad & Scholarly Support
Rakesh Kumar



Acad & Scholarly Support
Himanshu Ranjan



Event Management
Tanya Aanand



Logistic Head
Abhay Kumar



Sponsorship Head
Yalin S. Harold



Outreach Head
Harsh Raj



Media and Communication Head
Krish Paswan

REACH US OUT

For queries, you can contact the SC-ST CELL, Chanakya National Law University,
through the following channels: Digital Presence



WE AWAIT YOUR PRESENCE!

- SC/ST CELL, CNLU

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