

# 11 INDEPENDENT THOUGHT LEGAL ESSAY COMPETITION 2024



## RATIONALE & BACKGROUND

People of the nation play vital role in diverse ways for strengthening the legal framework. One potential way of engagement is to encourage young and budding lawyers in making to participate in the thought consolidation process. This is imperative for giving life to the hidden spirit of the opening phrase of the Indian Constitution "WE, the people of India". Independent Thought (iThought) presents a platform to young and promising minds to participate in national building process by trending as part of civil society. The essay competition will facilitate in accumulating view-poings on a contemporary socially relevant issue which is pledged to be governed through an established legal system and rule of law.

## ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR POOR PRISONERS - A DISTANT REALITY!?

## THEME



**Last date of Submission: 15/07/2024**

**Declaration of Best Thoughts: 31/08/2024**

Independent Thought with the CSR support of Team Computers, is working in the jails of Haldwani, Dehradun and Delhi focusing on speedy release of poor Under Trials, inclusion of Family Support Person (FSP) as a key stakeholder into the justice system and rehabilitation, with an aim to reform the existing laws and policies.

The topic, "Access to Justice" for Poor under-trials is one that requires a holistic approach and collaborative efforts of multiple stakeholders to break the ice. The access to justice cannot be achieved, till the wings of Jails, Lawyers, Police and Judiciary keeps human rights concern on top priority. The Supreme Court "In Re Policy Strategy For Grant of Bail" issued a slew of directions to ensure that prisoners who got bail, but are poor to furnish surety and bail bonds, are released within seven days..

The issues which may be touched upon in the Essay

- Constitutional guarantees and Role of Judiciary
- Fundamental Principles and objectives of Code of Criminal Procedures with respect to indecent prisoners
- Poor prisoners pleading guilty due to their economic status
- Role of family support person in the release of indigent prisoner

## IMPORTANT INSTRUCTION

Essay should not be more than 5000 words, with clear mention of number of words at the start of the document. A cover page with basic details such as Name, Collage, Course & Year, Contact Details (email, phone and postal address) and photograph, along with an abstract of the essay, totaling not more than 300 words should be attached alongside the essay.

All submission should be made in MS word format, along with details of the authors in the cover page.

The citation, footnotes and reference details (not included within word limit).

Any work (other than original of the author will be disqualified. Software will be used to detect plagiarism and will be eliminated.

**Queries & Submission :**  
**essay.ithought@gmail.com**  
**Further Details: www.ithought.in**

Independent Thought | www.ithought.in is a National Human Rights Organization working towards equity, justice and mutual respect. judicial actions and provide technical and hand-holding support.

## PANEL OF JUDGES

- Dr. Raka Arya, Member, Law Commission of India
- Smt Bimla Gunjyal (IPS), Inspector-General of Police Prison, Uttarakhand
- Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao, Vice-Chancellor, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad
- Prof. Manoj K Sjnha, Vice-Chancellor, Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur
- Shri Ranjan Chopra, Managing Director, Team Computers Pvt Ltd
- Shri Gaurav Agrawal, Sr. Adv and AOR, Supreme Court of India
- Ms. Sharmila Ray, CP Specialist, UNICEF
- Dr. Vikram Srivastava, Adv and Founder, Independent Thought

## PARTICIPATION & RECOGNITION

Students (enrolled in any University), not older than 30 years, having an interest in Law, Development and Human Rights are invited to participate and be a part of the change.

The Three Best Thoughts will be awarded with a citation and

- Best Thought ₹INR 10,000
- Second Best Thought ₹ INR 8,000
- Third Best Thought ₹ INR 5,000

**The Fifteen Best Thoughts will get an eCertificate of Participation and will be published in Independent Thought Law Digest 2024 (ISBN )**

Technical Partner

Independent Law Firm

