



MAHARASHTRA NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY,
NAGPUR

CENTRE FOR CRIMINOLOGY,
CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND
FORENSIC SCIENCE

— organises —

National Conference on
REIMAGINING THE
ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION
REGIME IN INDIA

— ◆ —
29th and 30th October 2026

HYBRID MODE





About the University



Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur (MNLU Nagpur) is a premier institution established by the Government of Maharashtra under the Maharashtra National Law University Act (Maharashtra Act No. VI of 2014). Situated in the vibrant city of Nagpur, the University has emerged as a beacon of excellence in legal education, research, and professional training in central India.

Commencing its academic activities on August 1, 2016, MNLU Nagpur maintains a steadfast commitment to nurturing exceptional legal scholars, advocates, judges, and policymakers equipped to navigate complex contemporary socio-legal challenges. The University offers a comprehensive academic portfolio encompassing undergraduate integrated degree programs including B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), B.B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), and B.A. LL.B. (Honours in Adjudication and Justicing), alongside postgraduate LL.M. programs and doctoral Ph.D. research courses.

Recognized under Section 12(B) of the University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, 1956, and accredited by the Bar Council of India (BCI), MNLU Nagpur is a proud member of the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and the Consortium of National Law Universities. Through specialized academic centres such as the Centre for Criminology, Criminal Justice and Forensic Science, the University fosters advanced interdisciplinary dialogue, policy reform initiatives, and rigorous academic inquiry bridging law, science, and society.



About the Centre

The Centre for Criminology, Criminal Justice and Forensic Science is an academic and research-driven platform at MNLU Nagpur, where students, scholars and practitioners come together to understand crime, the justice system and the science that supports it.

Its work spans criminology, criminal justice systems, forensic science and the interdisciplinary areas that connect them, always with an eye on prevention, fairness and safer communities. At its heart is a simple belief: that knowledge should serve people, and that a better understanding of crime and justice can help build a more just society.

In its early years, the Centre went into the field, visiting jails, gathering data and publishing reports to understand crime patterns and the challenges of rehabilitation. It has since built partnerships, including a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commissioner of Police, Nagpur City, to study the rising trend of violent crimes and suggest ways to prevent them, and another with AIIMS Nagpur.

Through research, teaching and work with the community, the Centre hopes to nurture skilled professionals and informed citizens who can contribute meaningfully to criminology, criminal justice and forensic science.



About the Conference

The landscape of organ transplantation in India represents a complex and vital intersection of medical phenomena, ethical dilemmas, and bureaucratic structures. Since the enactment of the Transplantation of Human Organs Act (THOA) in 1994, which sought to curb illicit commercial dealings and promote therapeutic transplantation, the regulatory framework has continuously evolved. The landmark 2011 amendments marked a paradigm shift by integrating tissues into the legal fold, expanding the definition of near relatives, and formalizing swap donations. Despite the robust framework provided by the 2014 Rules and the institutionalization of the National Organ Transplant Program (NOTP), India's deceased organ donation rate remains critically low compared to global standards.

Contemporary challenges persistently expose the systemic friction between rigid bureaucratic processes and the fundamental right to life. Judicial interventions frequently highlight unreasonable delays, gender disparities, domicile-based discrimination in cadaveric transplants, and the rights of altruistic donors. Concurrently, judicial interpretations of Advance Medical Directives underscore a crucial shift towards respecting patient autonomy and dignified end-of-life care.

This national conference seeks to critically appraise the evolution of the organ transplantation regime in India. By dissecting recent legislative updates, such as the 2025 amendment regarding corneal centers, and analyzing high court mandates on functional authorization committees and digital alerts, the discourse aims to reimagine a transparent, equitable, and highly efficient organ transplantation ecosystem for the contemporary era.



Call for Papers

The Conference invites full-length scholarly papers on emerging issues in India's organ transplantation regime. Researchers who wish to participate must first submit an abstract outlining the focus of their paper, the research involved, and its relevance to the conference themes.

The authors of selected abstracts will be invited to submit their full papers and present them at the Technical Sessions of the Conference on October 29–30, 2026, which will be held in online (virtual) mode.

PRIZE POOL
Rs. 11,000/-



Themes and Sub-themes

THEME

01

Legislative Evolution and Policy Framework

- ◆ Evaluation of the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA) from 1994 to the 2011 amendments.
- ◆ Impact of the comprehensive 2014 THOTA Rules on organ allocation and hospital registration protocols.
- ◆ Implications of the 2019 National Network establishment and the 2025 Corneal Centre equipment amendments.
- ◆ Evaluating the structural efficacy of NOTTO, ROTTO, and SOTTO under the National Organ Transplant Program.
- ◆ Comparative analysis of state-adopted THOTA amendments and regional policy variations across India.

THEME

02

Ethical Paradigms and Human Rights

- ◆ Combating the illicit medical industry: Prohibition on commercial transactions and organ trafficking.
- ◆ The ethical boundaries of altruistic donation and the rights of non-related living donors.
- ◆ Organ donation by minors: Navigating exceptional medical circumstances and legal safeguards.
- ◆ Identifying and eradicating systemic gender disparities in organ transplantation and donation.
- ◆ The Right to Life vs. Bureaucratic Delay: The human and legal cost of waiting lists.
- ◆ Xenotransplantation: legal, ethical and social issues in India.

THEME

03

Judicial Activism and Transformative Jurisprudence

- ◆ Supreme Court directives enforcing uniform cadaveric transplant rules across all states and union territories.
- ◆ Constitutional challenges: Striking down domicile-based preferences in cadaveric organ allocation, etc.
- ◆ Legal evolution of swap transplants beyond the constraints of the “near relative” definition.
- ◆ Judicial simplification of Advance Medical Directives and patient autonomy in end-of-life care.
- ◆ High Court mandates prohibiting police verification reports for unrelated donors and mitigating documentation deficiencies.



Themes and Sub-themes

THEME

04

Institutional Mechanisms and Governance

- ◆ The role, accountability, and functional mandates of State Level Authorization Committees.
- ◆ Standardizing mandatory timelines for interviews and decision-making processes in urgent transplant cases.
- ◆ Digital integration: Enforcing digital alerts for documentation deficiencies to expedite hospital compliance.
- ◆ Overcoming infrastructural bottlenecks in developing specialized State Organ Transplantation Institutes.
- ◆ The critical function of transplant coordinators in bridging the communication gap during grief counselling.

THEME

05

Clinical Challenges and Brain-Stem Death Protocols

- ◆ Dispelling myths and removing the social stigma surrounding the concept of “brain-stem death”.
- ◆ Simplifying certification: Navigating the composition and availability of the medical expert board.
- ◆ Expanding the scope of deceased donor (cadaveric) transplants to reduce reliance on living donors.
- ◆ Regulatory protocols and operational challenges in establishing integrated Tissue Banks and Biomaterial Centers.
- ◆ Financial support models for the maintenance of deceased donors and post-transplant immunosuppressant therapy for BPL patients.

THEME

06

Awareness, Accessibility, and Global Standards

- ◆ Bridging the demand-supply gap: Strategic interventions to elevate India’s organ donation rate.
- ◆ Public appeals for organ donors vs. anonymous online donor platforms: Finding the legal and ethical balance.
- ◆ Formulating transparent allocation policies for deceased donor organs regarding foreign nationals and PIOs.
- ◆ Evaluating Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) strategies, such as the Indian Organ Donation Day.
- ◆ Assessing global best practices and the feasibility of transitioning toward an ‘opt-out’ or presumed consent model in India.

Note: The themes and sub-themes listed above are indicative and not exhaustive.



Eligibility

The following are cordially invited to submit abstracts and present research papers at the conference:

- ◆ Academicians
- ◆ Legal Practitioners
- ◆ Medical Professionals
- ◆ Research Scholars
- ◆ Students

Timeline

20 th Oct 2026	LAST DATE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
Rolling	CONFIRMATION OF ABSTRACT SELECTION
22 nd Oct 2026	LAST DATE OF REGISTRATION
25 th Oct 2026	LAST DATE FOR PAPER SUBMISSION
29 th –30 th Oct 2026	DATES OF THE CONFERENCE HYBRID MODE

Publication Opportunity

Selected papers will be published in the form of an edited book.



Submission Guidelines

- ◆ All participants are required to submit their abstracts through the Google Form provided below. The abstract should not exceed 300–350 words and must be submitted on or before October 20, 2026.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION LINK

Click here to submit your abstract

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScU40cje1JB2X3gjuAkkaZQ1BnMNzzCTm4ltDC1Es3Jt05IPQ/viewform?usp=header>

Selected participants will receive the link for final manuscript submission via e-mail.

- ◆ The length of the full manuscript shall be 3000–5000 words (excluding footnotes and references).
- ◆ The footnoting style shall be Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation (21st Edition).
- ◆ Co-authorship is permitted up to two authors.
- ◆ Manuscript must be original and not yet published.
- ◆ The use of generative AI is prohibited.
- ◆ The plagiarism index of submitted manuscripts shall not exceed 10%.
- ◆ The manuscript shall be in English language only.
- ◆ The author(s) bear sole responsibility for the accuracy of facts, opinions and views stated in the manuscript.
- ◆ The author(s) shall refrain from submitting the manuscript elsewhere during the pendency of the review process.
- ◆ The name(s) of the author(s) or institution must not be mentioned anywhere in the body of the submission.
- ◆ The payment of registration fees is mandatory for all the author(s), except MNLU Nagpur students, for whom participation is free.
- ◆ The participants are required to fill out the registration form and select their choice of topic/theme from the proposed themes.



Formatting Guidelines

- ◆ The content should be written in Times New Roman with a font size of 12.
- ◆ The font size of the heading and any sub-headings should be 14.
- ◆ The line spacing should be maintained at 1.5.
- ◆ The content of the writing should be justified.
- ◆ The main heading as well as the sub-heading should be center aligned.
- ◆ The footnotes shall be in Times New Roman with a font size of 10.
- ◆ The line spacing for the footnotes should be maintained at 1 with justified alignment.

Registration Details

HOW TO REGISTER

All participants are required to register through the link below.

[Click here to register](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfrrMT4malufoARAk9WL_-iQ-jsdzNKzdLWiN8KaLFFiDGhyw/viewform?usp=header)

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfrrMT4malufoARAk9WL_-iQ-jsdzNKzdLWiN8KaLFFiDGhyw/viewform?usp=header

CO-AUTHORSHIP

Co-authorship is permitted up to two authors. Each co-author must register separately.

REGISTRATION FEE

Academicians / Research Scholars / Professionals	Rs. 1500/-
Students (UG/PG)	Rs. 1000/-
MNLU Nagpur Students	Free

Registration fee can be paid online through SBI Collect: **sbicollect.sbi.bank.in**



Organizing Committee

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**Prof. (Dr.) Jyoti
Bhakare**

Registrar



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We warmly invite academicians, medical experts, legal practitioners, research scholars, and students to join this pivotal discourse and contribute towards shaping a robust and equitable organ transplantation regime in India.

