## FROM DOWN SOUTH,

## SOEL MAKES IT TO THE TOP IN ASIA & TOP 48 GLOBALLY!



**From L-R:** *Ms. Huda Syed, Mr. Suvethan.G.S., Ms. Meenakshi Annamalai, Mr. Harikrishna Palaniappan, and Ms. Sonu Mehta.S.* 

A team of five students, Ms. Huda Syed, Mr. Harikrishna Palaniappan, Ms. Meenakshi Annamalai, Ms. Sonu Mehta.S and Mr. Suvethan.G.S, from the School of Excellence in Law, The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University topped the charts in the prestigious Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition- India and Asia Regional Rounds, 2021 held in the month of February 2021. They were ranked the 1<sup>st</sup> amongst 50 teams that represented various law schools from across the nation and the continent. Further while representing India in the Global Rounds, they have surpassed the Preliminary Rounds against roughly 600 teams and the Advanced Rounds with over 150 teams. They now stand ranked among the **Top 48** teams globally and are scheduled to further participate in Elimination Rounds and various finals in the upcoming weeks.

The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition is an advocacy competition for law students. Teams of law students compete against one another through the presentation of oral and written pleadings to address timely issues of public international law in the context of a hypothetical legal dispute between nations. Jessup is the world's largest moot court competition, with participants from roughly 700 law schools in 100 countries and jurisdictions. The Competition is a simulation of a fictional dispute between countries before the International Court of Justice, the judicial organ of the United Nations. One team is allowed to participate from every eligible school.

Competing with highly trained teams from the National Law Schools in India and other International teams from Asia, judged by eminent luminaries from the United Nations and experts in the field of Public International Law, the team emerged 1<sup>st</sup> in the preliminary rounds and secured the 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall in the India and Asia Regional Rounds of the competition.

Mr. Harikrishna Palaniappan, known for his eloquence in speaking, was awarded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Best Oralist award amongst 100 plus highly competitive mooters from across the Asian region. This is also the first time that SOEL has bagged the Best-Oralist award in the prestigious regional competition.

The team is a combination of final year and pre-final year students who are some of the most highly regarded mooters of their University. A commendable fact about the team is that, they are all first-generation law students who believe in reviving their passion whenever it wanes and in going an extra mile with the hopes of seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

The journey for this moot began way back in April, 2020. They had to pass many stages in order to represent their University in the National and Global rounds. Despite the lockdown and quarantine, the team made maximum efforts to stay connected and motivate themselves each day to meet internal deadlines. They reached out to many of their professors and seniors who supported them morally and academically. Self-learning was one of the tools to our victory, claimed the team.

This is for the first time in the History of the University, a Team has been ranked among the **Top 48** teams. Also after nearly a decade, a team from a non- National Law School from South India is representing India in the Global rounds of the prestigious Jessup competition which is regarded as the world cup of moots. The moot is on-going and currently the team is representing India in the Global battle field. This is definitely an inspiring story for every law student who wants to achieve.