





13TH RGNUL NATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION, 2025

Hybrid Rounds

Virtual: April 05 - April 06, 2025

On Campus: April 19 - April 20, 2025

MOOT PROPOSITION

RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB

Vayloria is located in South Asia, bordered by the ocean to the south and mountain ranges to the north, much like India. It has a diverse landscape, including tropical forests, plains, deserts, and high-altitude regions.

Vayloria was under British Rule for three hundred years and finally gained independence on 15th January 1957, the Constitution was adopted and enacted in the same year on 15th of December. Vayloria is a democratic, secular, and federal republic with a President as the head of the State and a Parliament composed of two houses. Vayloria has five states with Rajnagar serving as the Capital of the country.

Vayloria has a multi-religious society. The majority follow Vaylorinism while other religions like Islam, Christianity, and indigenous faiths also have significant followings.

The country is also home to a million Avtaris mostly based in Rajnagar. Avtaris originated in the 1400s A.D. near river Varaswati in Rajnagar itself. The Avtaris believe in Saint Avatar who is believed to be the incarnation of God Atari. It is believed that Saint Avatar got divine knowledge from God Atari himself at the banks of the river Varaswati and recorded the divine guidance in the holy book 'Karma-Path' which is considered to be the main guiding book of the Avtaris. The book defines the 'Sapta-Marg' which is the seven-fold path for the salvation of the soul. The 'Sapta-Marg' therefore is the core belief system of the Avtaris which is followed strictly by them.

The Avtaris are primarily Vegetarians and the main festival they observe is the '*Tirtha Samagam*' which is the annual gathering of Avtaris near the river of Varaswati where Saint Avatar is said to have become enlightened. The holy gathering occurs in the last week of February and the devotees take a bath in the river and pray to God Atari and Saint Avatar.

The opposition leader and former Chief Minister of Rajnagar Mr. Avira is a follower of the Avtari tradition. He also has been vocal about the propagation of the religion. His party's main agenda is to get the Avtaris declared as a religious minority. He had introduced the bill during his term but the same could not be passed because of lack of support in the House. Mr Avira came to the limelight because of his 'Avtari Recognition Movement' which demanded the declaration of Avtaris as a religious minority by the Government of Vayloria.

The Chief Minister of Rajnagar is Mr. Miros. He is the head of the ruling party Vayloria First Party (VFP). Though VFP has always claimed to be a secular party, the stance of the party drastically changed since Mr Miros became the party head in the 2010s.

Mr. Miros is a veteran firebrand leader and has been at the forefront of the 'Save Vayloria'. According to Mr. Miros, the Vaylorians lost their values, culture, and religious ethos during British Rule and he aimed to establish the Vaylorian supremacy of the 'Golden age of Vaylorians'. In various interviews, he has openly argued that Vayloria is the country of the Vaylorians and the other religions are merely guests in the country. Mr. Miros from his social media account also espoused similar ideas.

The party in the Centre is the Vayloria People Party (VPP) and it came to power for the first time in 2024 with the theme of its manifesto being "Kisan, Jawan, Vigyan" with its focus being to end rampant corruption in the country, creating jobs for the unemployed and taking the economy of the country to greater economic heights. The head of the party Mr. Kuros is the Prime Minister of the country.

THE SAND MINING SCAM

In January 2024, an independent journalist published an expose about the illegal extraction and sale of sand from protected riverbeds and government-owned land in Rajnagar. The report argued that the scam involved a web of politicians, bureaucrats, and illegal mining syndicates that work together to bypass environmental regulations and government guidelines, funnelling millions of dollars into private accounts. The scam begins with the manipulation of mining licences. A group of high-ranking officials from the Ministry of Environment work closely with certain ministers to create fake, backdated mining permits. These permits give the appearance of legality to the operations, allowing the syndicate to mine sand from riverbeds that should be off-limits. The two main culprits according to the report were Mr. Miros and Ms. Ajali, a senior minister in the cabinet. Both the accused, according to the report, use their position and influence to push through approvals and cover up other illegal activities relating to the scam. The report also included a few allegedly backdated mining permits as proof of the scam.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) investigated the matter, leading to raids and arrests. Ms Ajali was found dead at her government residence under mysterious circumstances and Mr. Miros was arrested soon.

Mr. Miros applied for bail immediately and cleared his position that he will not resign from the post of CM and will continue to hold the office from jail itself. In February Mr. Miros got permission from the jail authorities and called journalists for an important announcement.

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM JAIL

The present party in the Centre is afraid of us, they want to hold us back and therefore I have been wrongly implicated in these scams. I urge all the proud Vaylorians to sternly oppose this dictatorial regime, they should be brought down to their knees by all means necessary. In the upcoming elections, our party will get another term, and I will make sure that we get rid of all the state reservations given by the State Government to the 'guests' and that will be just the beginning. You bring me to power, and I will restore the old glory of the Vayloria soon.

To the proud Vaylorians, I implore that the time for wasting our resources on these people is gone you should rise and do the needful. I am not scared of the Centre, let them do what they want but I will continue to work for my people and will not resign from office.

BAIL APPLICATION

Mr Miros argued in his bail application that he should be set free on bail since there was no concrete proof submitted by the CBI and also because of the fact that the elections are nearing, and he needs to campaign.

CBI on the other hand argued that because of the direct involvement of the current CM and a senior minister, it was difficult to gather evidence immediately but they had a lot of faith in the ongoing investigation and assured the court that evidence would soon be produced before the court. CBI also argued that his release on bail would adversely affect further investigation to unearth the deep-rooted multi-layered conspiracy, also if interim bail is to be granted for the purpose of campaigning in an election, then no politician can be arrested and kept in judicial custody since elections are round the year phenomenon.

The court reasoned that though serious accusations have been made against Mr. Miros, he has not been convicted. He does not have any criminal antecedents. He is not a threat to the society. The upcoming elections were also one of the important factors for the court to take a liberal view and therefore the interim bail was accepted by the court.

The court set the following conditions for his release:

- a) he shall furnish bail bonds in the sum of Vaylorian Rs.1,00,000/- with one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the Jail Superintendent;
- b) he shall not visit the Office of the Chief Minister and the Rajnagar Secretariat;
- c) he shall not sign any official files and he will not interact with any of the witnesses and/or have access to any official files connected with the case.

Once out on bail, Mr. Miros started campaigning in full sway. On the first day his campaign speech drew massive crowd of 60,000 people.

In his speech he argued:

"Today, we are facing an environmental crisis that threatens our future—the pollution of our river, the lifeblood of our city. It is heartbreaking to see the once-pure waters now choked with waste and toxins, harming both our health and the delicate balance of nature.

But as we search for solutions, we must also confront uncomfortable truths. It is one community that is solely responsible and the root causes of this pollution lies in certain religious practices that have contributed to the deterioration of our river's health. I speak of the holy dip, ritualistic disposal of offerings, sacred objects, and other materials into the river—actions that, in the name of faith, have led to the contamination of our water, this is pure superstition. The river is for public and is not disposable le property of one community. This is just one example of how this community is destroying the environment and your kid's future. My government will come down hard on any such practice I promise you that"

The next day Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Environment, State of Rajnagar, passed the executive orders respectively which:

- 1. Prohibited any religious practice in the rivers of Rajnagar.
- 2. Introduced Non-Vegetarian meals in government-run schools.

The order as well as the remarks made by Mr. Miros soon created a lot of furores. Mr. Avira announced that he would take legal action. He also argued that Mr. Miros was targeting the Avtaris in order to cover up his illegal mining activities. Mr Miros therefore seeks to shut down their rituals under the guise of maintaining "public order" or "environmental protection. Soon FIR was registered against Mr. Miros under Section 299 of the VPC.

Meanwhile, a few PILs were filed in the Supreme Court as well as Rajnagar High Court against Mr. Miros and the executive orders passed by his government on the grounds of hampering state machinery due to the absence of a CM who can act, prohibiting a community from professing their essential religious practices, violation of fundamental rights due to executive orders, etc. All such matters were clubbed by the Supreme Court of Vayloria as they pertained to questions of constitutional importance.

The issues before the court are:

- 1. Whether a sitting Chief Minister, who is restrained by the court to enter the office of Chief Minister and sign any documents should be allowed to continue as Chief Minister as it may hamper the state machinery?
- 2. Whether the Avatarism can be considered as a religious denomination?
- 3. Whether the practice of holy bath and doing rituals in the river protected under Article 25 and 26?
- 4. Whether the statements made by Mr. Miros would amount to the offence under Section 299, VPC?

The laws of Vayloria are pari materia with India.

ANNEXURE I: TWEETS BY MR. MIROS

(Timestamp To Be Ignored)



The time has come to reclaim our land, our values, and our supremacy! Vote for VFP, vote for the future of Vayloria. Together, we will write a new chapter in Vayloria's history! #VictoryForVaylorians #MirosForVayloria

8:12 PM · Nov 14, 2024



Let them go to court! We stand by our decisions—clean rivers, strong values, and equal opportunity for all Vaylorians. No political agenda can stop us from securing the future of this great land! #VayloriaRising"

4:35 PM · May 25, 2024

418 Retweets	112 Quote Tweets	1.6K Likes	
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Nourishment is not bound by religious dogma. Every child in Vayloria has the right to a balanced diet, including nutritious non-vegetarian meals. My government stands for choice, health, and progress! #FoodFreedom #HealthyVayloria

6:24 PM · Apr 22, 2024





A false FIR will not silence me! The system is being misused to target those who speak for Vaylorian's rights. I will continue to fight for my people, no matter the obstacles. #JusticeForVaylorians #UnstoppableMiros

4:23 PM · Feb 03, 2024





The river belongs to the people, not to one community! Religious practices leading to its pollution will not be tolerated. Our children deserve clean water, not toxic waste disguised as faith. This is my promise!" #SaveOurRiver #StopPollution

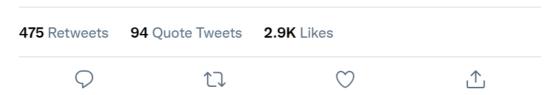
9:35 PM · Apr 22, 2024





For centuries, the Vahurans built this great land, yet their culture and values were eroded under foreign rule. It is time to restore the golden age of Vayloria! No more appearement—Vayloria belongs to its true sons and daughters. #VayloriaRenaissance #MyLandMyPride"

6:28 PM · Feb 15, 2024



ANNEXURE II: SAPTA MARG PHILOSOPHY

- 1. Idol worship is prohibited.
- 2. The practice of Holy Dip is important for the cleansing of body and soul and final salvation.
- 3. Killing of any animal for any human purposes is prohibited.
- 4. It is the duty of every Avtari to practice and propagate the Sapta Marg philosophy.
- 5. Every Avtari is supposed to pray daily and give alms to the poor as per his capacity.
- 6. Every Avtari must perform rituals during 'Tirth Samagam' once in their lifetime.
- 7. There is only one God and Saint Avtar is his messenger.

ANNEXURE III: INTERVIEW WITH TV CHANNEL

Interviewer: Mr. Chief Minister, you have previously argued for introducing non-vegetarian meals in primary schools run by State Government, is this to indirectly target the Avtaris who primarily reside in your state and are strictly Vegetarians. Also, could you please elaborate on the criticism that you are constantly trying to target one community with your discriminatory policies which doesn't respect their religion.?

Mr. Miros: There is a growing trend in many schools throughout the country to serve vegetarian meals as the primary option for our students. This is done to please Avtaris and this trend started during the term of last CM, I must emphasise the dangers of an overly restrictive diet that lacks balance.

Vegetarian food is not only costly nutrition wise but if not properly planned and nutritionally balanced, can be a significant cause of malnutrition among our young ones. Many of these meals lack essential nutrients such as iron, vitamin B12, and protein—nutrients that are crucial for the growth, energy, and cognitive development of our children. The absence of these vital nutrients can lead to fatigue, weakened immune systems, and long-term developmental challenges. In the name of faith or values I cannot jeopardise the health of our children. Avtaris are inherently superstitious and there teaching and values have no alignment with science, I tend to destroy any such practice which affects the future of this country by any means necessary.

As far as the second part of your question is concerned let me clarify I refuse to believe that Avtarism is a religion, it is a group of fanatics which is here to impose their will and take this country back to colonial days because of their superstitious and inhuman practices.