

## ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION BOARD, HILSR

### ARBITRATION CENTRE VISIT

**Date:** 23.09.2026

**Venue:** Delhi International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), High Court of Delhi

**Event:** ADR WEEK (22-28 September 2026)



As part of the activities organised during ADR Week, approximately 30 students, accompanied by 5 faculty members, visited the Delhi International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), High Court of Delhi, to gain practical exposure to institutional arbitration and understand the functioning of an arbitration centre. The visit provided students with an opportunity to observe live arbitration proceedings, interact with members of the DIAC Secretariat, understand the institutional structure of DIAC, and gain practical insights into the career opportunities available to law students in the field of arbitration.

The visit commenced in the conference room, where the students and faculty members were warmly received and briefed about DIAC. The members of the DIAC Secretariat introduced the students to the Centre and explained the itinerary and schedule for the visit. The students were informed about the opportunity to observe ongoing arbitration proceedings and were provided with the necessary instructions regarding their movement within the Centre.

For the observation of proceedings, the students were divided into groups of six and assigned to different arbitration conference rooms. Each group was allowed to witness ongoing arbitration proceedings and observe how matters are conducted in an institutional arbitration setting. This experience allowed the students to understand the practical environment of arbitration proceedings and observe the manner in

which parties, counsel, and arbitrators interact during a hearing. After the stipulated observation period, all the students returned to the conference room, where they reconvened with the faculty members and the DIAC Secretariat. The DIAC team graciously arranged snacks and coffee for the students and faculty members, providing a setting for further interaction and discussion.

Following the refreshments, the DIAC Secretariat members engaged the students in an interactive discussion regarding their experience of observing the proceedings. Students were encouraged to share the nature of the matters they had witnessed and the aspects of the proceedings that they found significant. Among the matters discussed was a case concerning event management in relation to the G20 Summit, which had been observed by one of the groups. Another student shared her observation of a proceeding in which the respondent side had not appeared, leading to a discussion on how arbitration proceedings may proceed in such circumstances.

The interaction was further developed through a question-and-answer session by the students. Questions were raised regarding the appointment of arbitrators, the factors involved in selecting an arbitrator, and the institutional process associated with arbitration. Students also questioned why arbitration may sometimes take considerable time despite being regarded as a comparatively faster dispute-resolution mechanism. The discussion also covered arbitral awards, including questions concerning their nature and significance in the arbitration process. The DIAC officials responded to the queries and provided practical explanations based on the functioning of institutional arbitration.

The DIAC Secretariat subsequently provided the students with a more detailed understanding of the institutional structure and functioning of DIAC. The officials explained the role of the Secretariat and discussed the different responsibilities and positions involved in the functioning of the Centre. The students were also introduced to members of the professional team, including law researchers and counsel, which helped them understand the range of legal and administrative functions.

As part of the orientation, the students were shown a digital video tour of DIAC, which provided an overview of the Centre and its facilities. This was followed by a physical tour of the DIAC premises, during which the students were taken through different areas of the Centre and familiarised with its working environment. The physical tour allowed students to connect the information provided during the briefing with the actual institutional infrastructure and functioning of the Centre.

The interaction also extended to career and internship opportunities at DIAC. Students raised questions regarding how law students can obtain internships at the Centre, the nature of work undertaken by interns, and the possible avenues through which students can gain practical exposure to arbitration; how a student may eventually become a part of the DIAC Secretariat; and the skills and qualifications that could be relevant for pursuing such opportunities. The DIAC representatives responded to these queries and provided students with useful guidance regarding professional exposure in the field of arbitration.

The visit concluded with an appreciation of the importance of institutional arbitration and the role played by DIAC in facilitating efficient and structured dispute resolution. Overall, the visit to the Delhi International Arbitration Centre (DIAC) was an informative and enriching component of ADR Week. It provided students with meaningful practical exposure to arbitration proceedings and institutional mechanisms while also familiarising them with the professional roles and opportunities associated with arbitration.