KMC COLLEGE OF LAW
TIRUPUR

(Affiliated to The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai & Approved by the Bar Council of India, New Delhi)

TWO-DAY INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

INDIA's ENERGY TRANSITION

Law, Policy, Market Transformation and Strategic Independence

(An International Seminar on the Legal and Institutional Framework for Sustainable, Secure and Competitive Energy Systems)

29th - 30th JANUARY, 2027
(Tentative Dates)

KMC College of Law,
Perumanallur, Tirupur



ABOUT KMC COLLEGE OF LAW

KMC College of Law, Tirupur, is affiliated with The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai, and approved by the Bar Council of India, New Delhi, the College offers five-year integrated B.A., LL.B. and three-year LL.B. programmes. A unit of the KMC Valliammai Educational and Charitable Trust, the institution is founded on the philanthropic vision of Shri K. M. Chinnaswamy, whose commitment to education and social welfare continues to guide its mission. As the first institution in this region to offer legal education, the college seeks to make quality legal education with research, accessible to the students from rural and underserved communities while nurturing socially responsible with an emphasis on the rule of law, access to justice and professionally competent legal graduates.

ACADEMIC INITIATIVES AND INSTITUTIONAL ENGAGEMENT

KMC College of Law has consistently undertaken academic initiatives to facilitate engagement between legal academia, the judiciary, public institutions and professional sectors. Its major initiatives include:

Specialised Academic Programmes (2026)

The College organised a five-day certificate course on direct and indirect taxation in collaboration with The Right Argument, Delhi, and a workshop on forensic science practices with CCIFS, New Delhi.

National Seminar on Reforming the Criminal Justice System: Evaluating the Efficacy of New Criminal Laws (2026)

The programme featured distinguished academic and professional contributions, including the Vice-Chancellor of Prof. (Dr.) Srikrishna Deva Rao, NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, and Dr. Amar Kumar Pandey, former Director General of Police, Karnataka.

KMC National Moot Court Competitions (2025 and 2026)

The two National-level Moot Court competitions provided a platform for law students to engage with contemporary legal issues through advocacy and adjudication, with the participation of distinguished members of the judiciary and legal academia.

National Seminar on Artificial Intelligence and the Law: Ethical and Legal Implications (2024)

The seminar brought together distinguished experts from law, technology, cybersecurity and public administration, including Hon'ble Justice Bharatha Chakravarthy, Judge, Madras High Court, Hon'ble Justice R. Vijaya Kumar, Judge, Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court, Dr. Gulshan Rai, Former Adviser to the Prime Minister on Cyber Security and Former National Cyber Security Coordinator, Government of India, and senior representatives from academic and public institutions.

Through these initiatives, KMC College of Law seeks to strengthen legal scholarship, encourage interdisciplinary academic engagement and facilitate informed discussions on contemporary issues of national importance. The proposed International Seminar on **India's Energy Transition** reflects this institutional commitment by bringing together legal scholars, policymakers, regulators, industry representatives and other stakeholders to examine the evolving legal and institutional dimensions of India's energy sector.

SEMINAR CONCEPT NOTE

India's energy law is changing faster than at any time since the Electricity Act, 2003 (Act No.36 of 2003) came into force. Subsequently, the Parliament has opened nuclear power to Indian companies through the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India (SHANTI) Act, 2025 (Act No.39 of 2025), which repealed the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 (Act No. 33 of 1962) and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 (Act No. 38 of 2010). The Ministry of Power has proposed reforms to promote competition in electricity distribution and cost-reflective tariffs in the draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2025. The rules on captive generation were recast in 2026. Industries including textiles now carry emission-intensity targets under the Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, and India's Nationally Determined Contribution for 2035 commits it to a 47% reduction in emissions intensity from 2005 levels.

Three forces drive these changes. Firstly, demand for electricity is rising from industry and increasingly from data centres. Secondly, India remains dependent on imported fuels and on imported critical minerals for batteries, magnets and electronics. The third but, the most significant driving force is that the country has made climate commitments that must now be met through binding domestic obligations. Each response to these pressures is at bottom a legal choice as to who may generate and sell power, at what price, under what obligation, liable to whom, and answerable before which forum.

The proposed International Seminar aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 10 (Reduced In-equality), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), by fostering interdisciplinary dialogue on the legal, policy, market and strategic dimensions of India's energy transition towards a sustainable, inclusive, resilient and energy-secure future.

Public discussion of the energy transition has been led largely by engineers, economists and policymakers. The legal questions receive less sustained attention due to the critical factors of the federal balance between the Centre and the States, the independence of regulators, the allocation of liability, the rights of consumers, and the design of dispute resolution. In *M.K. Ranjitsinh v. Union of India* (2024 INSC 280), the Supreme Court recognised the right against the adverse effects of climate change and in *BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd. v. DERC* (2025 INSC 937), it set limits on the deferral of electricity costs through regulatory assets. The Electricity Regulatory Commissions and the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity hear a growing body of disputes. These national developments find particular relevance in States such as Tamil Nadu, where the expanding renewable energy sector and energy-intensive industrial activity bring the legal and regulatory dimensions of the energy transition into sharp focus.

Tamil Nadu offers a significant regional context for examining India's energy transition, given its substantial renewable energy capacity, industrial base and evolving energy requirements. Within the State, Tirupur, as a major textile and knitwear manufacturing hub, provides an important perspective on the intersection of energy policy, industrial competitiveness and environmental sustainability. The region's growing demand for reliable and affordable electricity, coupled with

issues concerning renewable energy procurement, captive generation, open access and carbon compliance, reflects the wider challenges confronting India's energy-intensive industries. The choice of Tirupur as the venue, thus provides an opportunity to examine the regional implications of national energy policies and regulatory reforms within the broader framework of India's energy transition.

Tamil Nadu, and Tirupur in particular, offers a very classic relevant geographical setting. Tirupur's knitwear and textile cluster is a large industrial consumer of power, directly affected by industrial tariff design, the rules on captive power and open access, and the carbon-market compliance that extends to the textile sector. The State hosts the Kudankulam and Kalpakkam nuclear installations, beach-sand deposits of monazite, India's principal source of thorium, along its coast, a designated offshore wind zone off its southern coast and one of the country's largest onshore wind fleets. National reforms have immediate consequences here.

The seminar will bring academics, legal professionals, policy makers, regulators, industry and students together across seven sub-themes, anchored by two plenary sessions on electricity market reform, nuclear liability and energy adjudication. It aims to produce peer-reviewed scholarship and a short note of recommendations, and to equip students for an area of practice that is expanding rapidly.

OBJECTIVES

- To examine the legal framework of India's energy transition as it stands after the reforms of 2025–26, across electricity, nuclear, mining, competition, climate and intellectual property law.
- To provide a common forum to deliberate for academics, law professionals, regulators, industry experts, policy makers and students.
- To develop the adjudication dimension of energy law as to how energy disputes are decided and how legal practice should prepare for them.
- To relate national reforms to their consequences in Tamil Nadu and the Tirupur industrial region.
- To build research capacity among students and faculty through peer-reviewed presentation and publication.

OUTCOMES

Abstract Book	A book of abstract will be released in the inaugural ceremony.
Edited volume	An edited book comprising best 20–25 peer-reviewed papers, with an ISBN, published within 6 months of the seminar.
Proceedings and policy report	A report comprising the proceedings and outcomes of the seminar and an account of recommendations will be submitted to Government and policy makers.
Note of recommendations	A short note drawn from the plenary discussions, shared with participants and placed on the College website.
Academic collaborations	Academic and professional collaboration with industries, firms and government bodies for advancement of legal education, awareness, professional opportunities and progress of community at large.

SUB-THEMES

Papers may address any of the topics listed under the seven sub-themes below. Interdisciplinary and comparative papers are welcome where legal analysis is central. Authors should state the topic and the relevant sub-theme to which the paper pertains.

SUB-THEME I

Electricity Tariffs and Consumer Costs: Competition and Universal Supply Obligations

The reconciliation of competition and cost-reflective electricity tariffs with the universal supply obligation within India's federal regulatory framework, with particular reference to affordability, equitable access and consumer protection.

Market and Tariff Reform

- Competition in distribution and cost-reflective tariffs under the draft Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2025
- Cross-subsidy and it's phasing out
- Regulatory assets after *BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd. v. DERC* (2025 INSC 937)
- The independence and capacity of the Electricity Regulatory Commissions

Industrial Tariffs and Consumer Rights

- Principles of tariff determination, cost-reflective pricing and cross-subsidisation
- Standards of service, billing protection and redress under the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020
- The draft amendments of 2026 on demand response and time-of-day tariffs
- Affordability and energy poverty

Energy federalism

- Electricity as a Concurrent List subject (Entry 38, List III)
- The respective roles of the Centre, the States and the Commissions
- Central rule-making and State implementation

SUB-THEME II

Energy Demand of Industries Including Data Centres: Legal Response to Captive Power and Open Access

Regime of law on the generation and procurement of own power by large consumers and the demand of new classes of data-centres.

Captive generation and open access

- Captive and group-captive status under Rule 3 of the Electricity Rules, 2005 as amended in 2026
- Verification, surcharges and disputes
- Green energy open access under the Electricity (Promoting Renewable Energy Through Green Energy Open Access) Rules, 2022

Artificial Intelligence and Data Centres as power consumers

- Procurement of Electricity by Data Centres through open access and long-term contracts
- Grid connectivity and reliability
- State Data Centre policies and the proposed National Data Centre policy

SUB-THEME III

Renewable Energy Obligations, Carbon Markets, Climate Governance: Legal Framework in National and International Perspective

The interaction between international climate commitments, India's domestic renewable energy and carbon-market frameworks, and the legal mechanisms governing their implementation, compliance and accountability.

Renewable obligations and their implementation

- The Renewable Purchase Obligation under Section 86(1)(e) of the Electricity Act, 2003 and the Renewable Consumption Obligation under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001
- Renewable energy certificates, curtailment, transmission, storage and round-the-clock supply

Climate obligations and climate litigation

- India's commitments under the Paris Agreement and its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) for 2031–35
- The advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on climate change (July 2025); *M.K. Ranjitsinh v. Union of India* (2024 INSC 280)
- The reconciliation of renewable transmission with biodiversity

Carbon markets and corporate accountability

- The Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, 2023 and emission-intensity targets for industry, including textiles
- Business Responsibility and Sustainability Reporting under SEBI
- The CCPA Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Greenwashing or Misleading Environmental Claims, 2024

SUB-THEME IV

Nuclear Energy Governance under the SHANTI Act, 2025: Private Participation, Regulatory Independence and Liability

The adequacy of the legal and institutional framework under the SHANTI Act, 2025, in balancing private sector participation and market competition with regulatory independence, nuclear safety and accountability, and the protection of persons affected by nuclear incidents.

Private Participation, Competition and State Control

- Licensing, ownership and operation of nuclear plants by Indian companies
- Activities reserved to the Central Government and the resulting dependence of private operators on the State
- The Central Government's power to fix nuclear tariffs notwithstanding the Electricity Act, 2003
- The statutory Atomic Energy Regulatory Board and its safety, security and emergency preparedness
- Private participation, competition and State Control in Nuclear Energy
- The legal framework governing the licensing, ownership, construction and operation of nuclear power plants by Indian companies

Liability, Waste and Decommissioning

- The liability regime that replaced the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 (CLNDA)
- Tiered operator liability, insurance and the position of suppliers
- Spent fuel, radioactive waste and decommissioning
- The constitutional challenge in *EAS Sarma v. Union of India*, W.P.(C) No. 240 of 2026, pending before the Supreme Court

SUB-THEME V

Access to Critical Minerals, Clean-Tech Manufacturing and Intellectual Property

Legal framework for reliable and sustainable access to critical minerals and clean-energy technologies, while promoting domestic manufacturing, technological innovation, intellectual property protection and strategic autonomy.

Mining Law and the Critical-Minerals Regime

- Critical-mineral auctions and exploration licences under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 as amended in 2023 and 2025
- The offshore mineral auction regime under the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 and the lessons of its first tranche
- The National Critical Mineral Mission

Supply Chains, Manufacturing and Recycling

- Import dependence and concentration in mineral processing
- Rare-earth permanent magnets, advanced chemistry cell batteries, electrolysers and nuclear components production-linked incentives and their conditions
- Recovery of critical minerals under the Battery Waste Management Rules, 2022 and the recycling incentive scheme of the National Critical Mineral Mission

Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer

- Patents in clean-energy technology
- Compulsory licensing under Section 84 of the Patents Act, 1970
- Technology transfer through the lenses of affordability, accessibility and the climate regime

SUB-THEME VI

Emerging and Transitional Energy Sources: Technological Advancements, Investment and Energy Security in India

Legal and institutional conditions as determinants of the pace of entry of new and transitional sources into India's energy mix.

The New Energy Sources

- Green hydrogen under the National Green Hydrogen Mission and the Green Hydrogen Standard for India
- Bioenergy and waste-to-energy
- Offshore wind under the Offshore Wind Energy Lease Rules, 2023

Fossil Fuels and the Just Transition

- The place of coal and natural gas in the transition; methane and carbon capture
- Workers, communities and State finances in fossil-fuel-dependent regions

SUB-THEME VII

Energy Justice, Accountability and Adjudication

The evolving framework of regulatory adjudication, contractual dispute resolution and institutional accountability in addressing legal conflicts, stakeholder rights and competing interests across India's energy sector.

Forums and Jurisdiction

- The adjudicatory and arbitral jurisdiction of Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) and the State Commissions under Sections 79(1)(f) and 86(1)(f) of the Electricity Act, 2003, after *Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd. v. Essar Power Ltd.*, (2008) 4 SCC 755
- Disputes in the nuclear, mining and carbon-market regimes

Contract Disputes

- Power purchase agreements: change in law, *force majeure*, renegotiation and termination
- Late-payment surcharge under the Electricity (Late Payment Surcharge and Related Matters) Rules, 2022
- Captive-status and open-access litigation

Disability-Inclusive Energy Transition in India

- Reimagining Energy Justice through the Lens of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Energy justice and the right to access the electricity

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Technical sessions will run in parallel, each chaired by subject experts and supported by a rapporteur. Each paper will be allotted 10 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for discussion.

Time	Day 1
09:00am - 10:00am	Registration
10:00am - 11:15am	**Inaugural Session** - Welcome Address - Key address by the Chief Guest - Keynote on energy security and the law on the road to Viksit Bharat @2047 - Release of the abstract booklet & Photo session
11:15am - 11:30am	Tea Break
11:30am - 1:00pm	**Plenary I** **Renewable Energy Obligations, Carbon Markets, Climate Governance: Legal Framework in National and International Perspective**
1:00pm - 2:00pm	Lunch Break
2:00pm - 4:00pm	**Technical sessions** I

Time	Day 2
09:30am - 11:30am	**Technical sessions II**
11:30am - 11:45am	Tea Break
11:45am - 1:15pm	**Plenary II** **Nuclear Energy Governance under the SHANTI Act, 2025 and Emerging and Transitional Energy Sources**
1:15pm - 2:30pm	Lunch Break
3:30pm - 4:30pm	**Valedictory session** Valedictory Address Report of the seminar Best-paper awards; certificates Vote of thanks Photo session

PLENARY SESSIONS AND PARTICIPANTS

Plenary sessions

Each plenary session is themed around central questions deliberated by the expert panel drawn from the Bench, the Bar, academia, regulators and industry.

Plenary	Central question
Renewable Energy Obligations, Carbon Markets, Climate Governance: Legal Framework in National and International Perspective	The interaction between international climate commitments, India's domestic renewable energy and carbon-market frameworks, and the legal mechanisms governing their implementation, compliance and accountability.
Nuclear Energy Governance under the SHANTI Act, 2025 and Emerging and Transitional Energy Sources	The adequacy of the legal and institutional framework under the SHANTI Act, 2025, in balancing private sector participation and market competition with regulatory independence, nuclear safety and accountability, and the protection of persons affected by nuclear incidents. Legal and institutional conditions as determinants of the pace of entry of new and transitional sources into India's energy mix.

Who may participate?

Faculty members and research scholars; LL.M. and LL.B. (three-year and five-year) students; any graduate and postgraduate students, practising advocates; officials of regulatory commissions, utilities and government departments and industry professionals.



CALL FOR PAPERS: SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Item	Requirement
Abstract Submission	Up to 300 words, stating Theme and Sub Theme Name – Abstract Title, with each author's name, designation, institution, email and phone number followed by full Abstract and 4–5 keywords.
Full paper	3,000 – 6,000 words, inclusive of footnotes
Authorship	A maximum of two authors per paper. One author must register for presentation and the same person should present the paper in the technical session.
Format	A4, Times New Roman 12 pt, 1.5 line spacing, 1-inch margins; footnotes in 10 pt, single-spaced; submitted in .docx format
Citation	OSCOLA, applied uniformly, in footnotes only
Originality	The paper must be unpublished and not under consideration elsewhere, and must carry a signed declaration of originality
Similarity check	Papers will be checked under the UGC (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018. Papers with similarity above 10%, excluding quotations and references, will be returned
Use of AI tools	Any use of generative AI will be considered for rejection of the paper. Text generated by such tools may not be presented as the author's own work
Language	English
Full Paper Submission	By email to: **seminar2027@kmclawcollege.edu.in** with the subject line"Theme and Sub Theme Name – Paper Title - Authors' name", followed by full Abstract and key words, full paper.
Review	Double-blind peer review by the Editorial and Review Committee

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PUBLICATION

Abstract booklet

Accepted abstracts will be compiled and released at the inaugural session.

Edited volume

Selected papers will be published in an edited volume with an ISBN. Selection will rest with the Editorial and Review Committee after double-blind review, on originality, depth of legal analysis, currency of the law stated, clarity and compliance with the guidelines. Presentation does not guarantee publication.

REGISTRATION

The participants of the seminar shall register in the following link. In case of Co-authored paper any one of the authors shall fill the registration form.

https://kmclawcollege.instivision.com/seminar

The participants may also access the register link by scanning the QR code

REGISTRATION FEES

Category	Fee (₹) (Single Author)	Fee (₹) (Two Authors)
UG and PG Students	Rs.500	Rs.800
Research Scholars	Rs.900	Rs.1200
Faculty Members / Academicians	Rs.1200	Rs.1600
Advocates, Officials and Industry Professionals	Rs.2000	Rs.2500
Other Category	Rs.500	Rs.800
Seminar Attendees		
Participation without a paper	Rs.500 per person	

ACCOMODATION

The registration fee includes seminar kits, food, and refreshments at the seminar venue. Accommodation will be arranged on a sharing basis upon request. Accommodation will be provided at a cost of ₹1,200 per person from the evening of 28th January 2027 to the morning of 31st January 2027 (inclusive of food). Early arrival or overstay will attract additional charges of ₹500 per day per person.

ACCESSIBILITY AND REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

KMC College of Law is committed to fostering an inclusive, accessible and welcoming environment for all participants. We warmly welcome participants with diverse accessibility needs and would be happy to facilitate any reasonable accommodation or support required, including accessible stay arrangements, physical access, presentation or communication support, assistive devices, or any other specific requirements.

Participants who may require such assistance are encouraged to inform the Organising Committee in advance or write to **principal@kmclawcollege.edu.in** or **seminar2027@kmclawcollege.edu.in.** We would be delighted to support your participation and make your seminar experience comfortable and inclusive.

AWARDS

Awards	Cash Prize
1st Prize - Best Paper Presentation	Rs. 25,000/-
2nd Prize - Best Paper Presentation	Rs. 20,000/-

IMPORTANT DATES

Milestone	Date
Release of Call for Papers	21/11/2026
Last Date for Abstracts	22/12/2026
Intimation of Acceptance	24/12/2026
Registration and Payment of Fees	07/01/2027
Last Date for Submission of Full Papers	14/01/2027
Seminar	29/01/2027 and 30/01/2027

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Co-author (if any)

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Maximum two authors per paper, including the corresponding author.

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Title of the Research Paper : _____

Theme/Sub-theme of the Seminar : _____

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I/We hereby declare and agree that:

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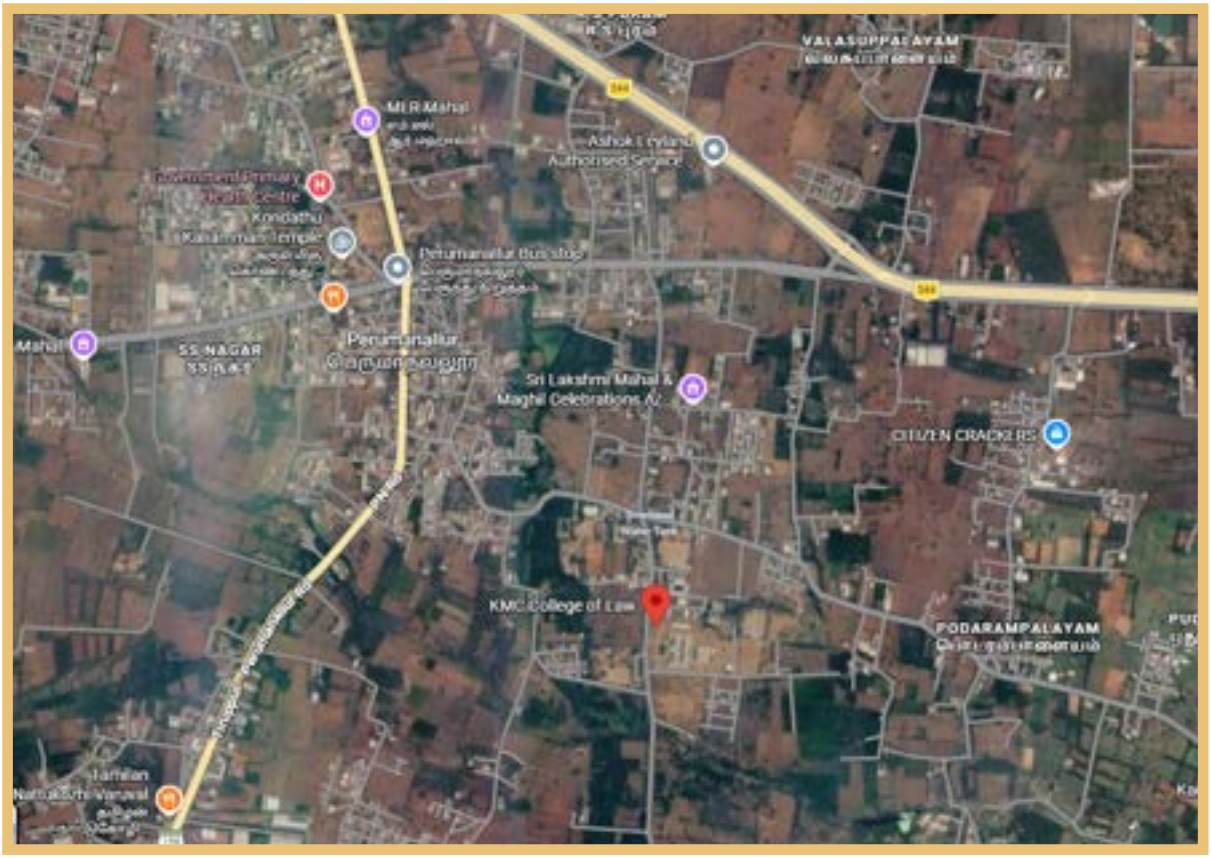

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