GOVERNMENT LAW COLLEGE, ERNAKULAM

REGAL LAW JOURNAL

Peer Reviewed Journal

ISSN: 2455-3271

2026–2027 Edition

CALL FOR PAPERS

CENTRAL THEME

Changing Dimensions of Labour Laws

The Government Law College, Ernakulam, is inviting original and unpublished research papers for **REGAL Law Journal** 2026–2027 Edition on ***Changing Dimensions of Labour Laws***. The 2026–2027 Edition of our law journal takes a deep dive into the concepts of constitutional frameworks, social protection of migrant labourers, gender inclusiveness at workplaces, applying ADR in labour disputes, impact of war on labourers, and so much more. The journal seeks doctrinal, comparative and empirical research papers from academics, advocates and researchers that critically assess these areas and offer practical proposals for reform.

SHORT RESEARCH PAPER	LONG RESEARCH PAPER	ABSTRACT	CITATION
5000–6000 words	11000–12000 words	250–300 words with 5 keywords	Bluebook 21st Edition

Word counts for research papers are inclusive of footnotes.

Last date for abstract submission: **13.12.2026**

Last date for research paper submission: **31.01.2027**

Send to: **glce.cadr@gmail.com**

Themes for Papers

Central theme: *Changing Dimensions of Labour Laws*

1. Constitutional Foundations of Labour Jurisprudence

- Right to livelihood and dignity in work
- Directive Principles and the welfare state
- Substantive equality and non-discrimination in employment
- Associational freedom and the right to strike
- Cooperative federalism and legislative competence

2. Migrant Labour and Social Protection

- Legal status of inter-state migrant workers
- Pandemic-era displacement and state accountability
- Portability of social security entitlements
- Freedom of movement and residence
- Cross-jurisdictional enforcement of wage claims

3. Gender, Third Gender and Inclusive Workplaces

- Transgender employment rights after *NALSA* case
- Gender-neutral legislative drafting
- Maternity, childcare and night-work regulation
- Workplace sexual harassment redressal
- Intersectional disadvantage in labour markets

4. Access to Justice in Labour Adjudication

- Article 39A and legal aid for workers
- Tribunalisation and institutional independence
- Pendency, delay and time-bound adjudication
- Locus standi of the individual worker
- Structural barriers faced by unorganised labour

5. Arbitration and ADR in Labour Disputes

- Voluntary arbitration under industrial law
- Arbitrability of employment disputes
- Asymmetry of bargaining power in arbitration agreements
- Conciliation, mediation and Lok Adalats
- Online dispute resolution for informal workers

6. Platform, Gig and Digital Labour

- Conceptual boundaries of worker, employee and aggregator
- Social security for platform workers
- Algorithmic management and accountability
- Workplace data, surveillance and privacy
- Comparative regulation, including the EU Platform Work Directive

7. Informal Economy and Social Security Governance

- Statutory coverage of unorganised workers
- Institutional design and financing of welfare funds
- Domestic, agricultural and construction labour
- Implementation deficits between law and practice
- Universal social protection frameworks

8. Emerging Frontiers in Labour Regulation

- Artificial intelligence and workplace automation
- Occupational safety, health and climate vulnerability
- Remote work and the right to disconnect
- International labour standards and the ILO
- Trade unionism and collective bargaining in transition

9. War, Armed Conflict and Labour Protection

- Armed conflict, economic disruption and mass unemployment
- Lay-off, closure and force majeure under industrial law
- Protection of Indian workers in conflict zones abroad
- Displacement, repatriation and rehabilitation of conflict-affected workers
- International humanitarian law, ILO standards and labour rights in wartime

The themes listed above are illustrative and not exhaustive. Contributors are encouraged to explore allied issues connected with the broader theme of the journal.

Submission Guidelines

1 **Format**

Submissions must be in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx).

2 **Template**

Papers must be submitted strictly in the template provided by the Journal. Submissions that do not follow the template will not be considered.

> **Citation Style:** Bluebook 21st Edition
>
> **Main Text:** Times New Roman, size 12, 1.5 line spacing
>
> **Footnotes:** Times New Roman, size 10, single line spacing
>
> **Subheadings:** Papers may be divided using subheadings only. Subheadings must not be numbered. The title and all subheadings must be written in title case and not in full capital letters (for example: Abuse of Dominance and Its Determination; Introduction; Dominant Market: Concept and Meaning).
>
> **Abstract:** 250–300 words with 5 keywords

3 **Cover Letter**

Each submission must include a cover letter containing the title of the manuscript and the author's details (author's name, designation, organisation and contact details). For co-authors, details of both shall be given. The letter must also confirm that the work is original and is not under consideration elsewhere. The author(s) may attach their photographs in .jpg format (size limit: 10 MB) for publishing.

4 **Anonymity**

Manuscripts must not contain any author-identifying information, so as to facilitate blind review.

5 **Co-authorship**

A maximum of two authors is permitted per submission.

6 **Acknowledgement of Sources**

Proper citation and acknowledgement of all sources is mandatory.

7 **Plagiarism Policy**

All submissions will be screened for plagiarism. Any form of plagiarism will lead to immediate rejection. Manuscripts submitted to the Journal must be the authors' own original work, and no content generated by AI tools may be used in any part of the paper.

8 **Editorial Discretion**

The Editorial Board reserves the right to make the editorial changes necessary to meet formatting and space requirements. Accepted abstracts will be intimated within two weeks of submission.

Submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines will be summarily rejected.

LAST DATE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
13.12.2026

LAST DATE FOR RESEARCH PAPER SUBMISSION
31.01.2027

SUBMISSIONS AND QUERIES
glce.cadr@gmail.com