



FUNDAMENTUM

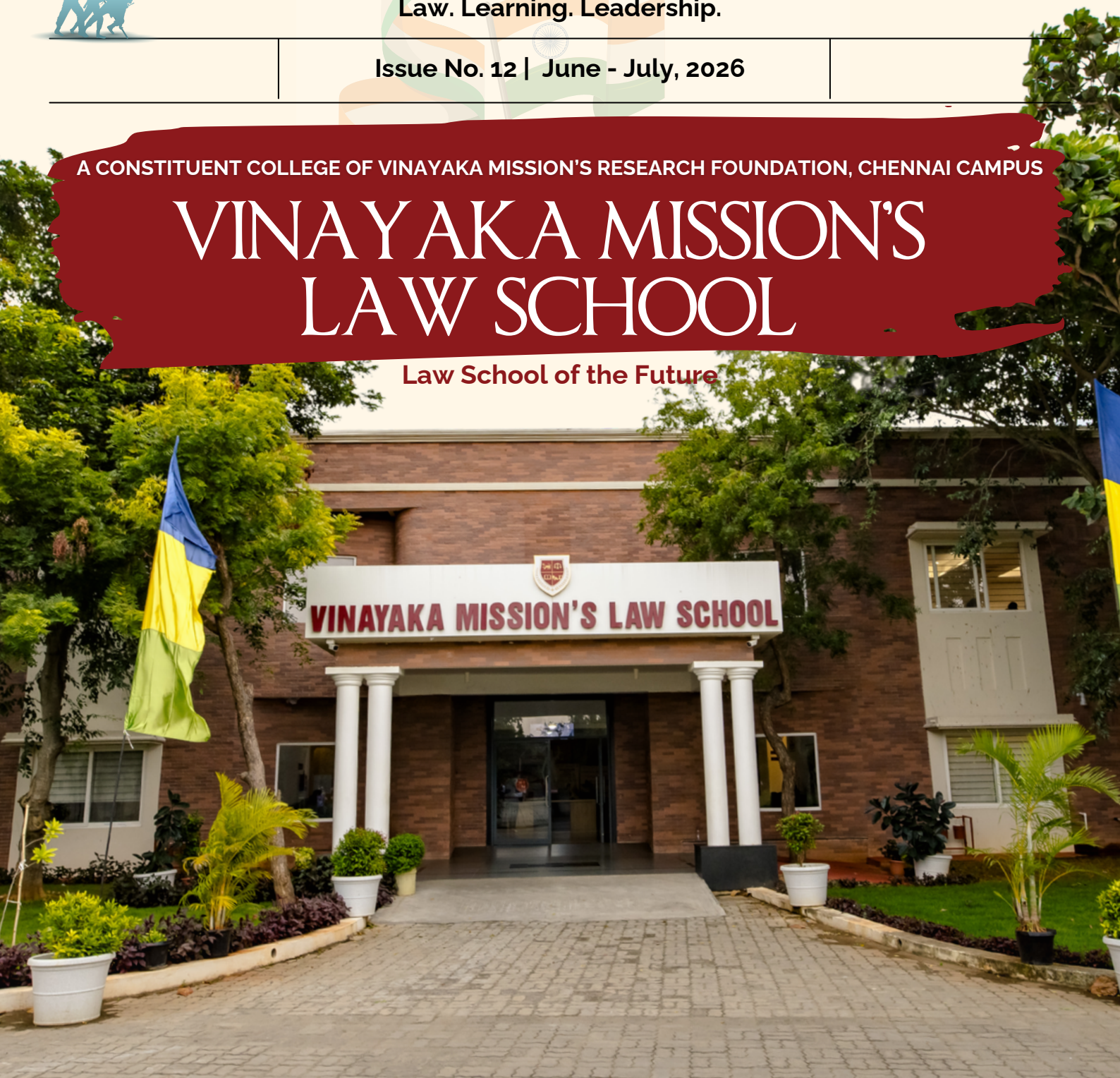
Law. Learning. Leadership.

Issue No. 12 | June - July, 2026

A CONSTITUENT COLLEGE OF VINAYAKA MISSION'S RESEARCH FOUNDATION, CHENNAI CAMPUS

VINAYAKA MISSION'S LAW SCHOOL

Law School of the Future



Vinayaka Nagar, Rajiv Gandhi Salai (Old Mahabalipuram
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Monthly Newsletter

VMLS
June - July 2026 ♦



Highlights from June - July 2026

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) continues to advance its vision of delivering a future-oriented legal education that integrates academic rigour with global exposure, interdisciplinary learning, and meaningful community engagement. This edition of the newsletter reflects the institution's dynamic academic environment, where legal education extends beyond classrooms into real-world engagement, research excellence, and societal impact.

The period witnessed a series of intellectually enriching academic engagements, including consumer law webinar, legal awareness and inauguration ceremony for the upcoming fresher's. These sessions, led by distinguished scholars and practitioners, enabled students to critically engage with evolving legal frameworks and contemporary global challenges. Complementing these academic initiatives are impactful outreach programmes and institutional collaborations, community-driven initiatives, reinforcing VMLS's commitment to access to justice and social responsibility.

The edition also celebrates notable achievements of faculty and students across national and international platforms—ranging from research presentations at global conferences and scholarly publications to recognitions in academic and extracurricular domains. These accomplishments reflect a culture of excellence, curiosity, and intellectual engagement nurtured at VMLS. Through a blend of academic innovation, professional exposure, and community engagement,

VMLS continues to shape legal professionals who are not only competent and future-ready but also socially conscious and globally aware. This edition captures the spirit of a vibrant institution committed to knowledge, innovation, and the pursuit of justice.

**Editorial
MOC**

In this newsletter you can expect:

Inauguration of the 2026-31
Integrated Law Programmes

School Legal Awareness Initiative

Faculty Research Publication

Scopus-Indexed Faculty
Publication

Two Scopus-Indexed Publications

Faculty-Student Research
Publication

Faculty Research Publication

Consumer Law Certification
Webinar

Faculty Article in Live Law

Scopus-Indexed Research
Publication

Scopus-Indexed Book Publication

Inauguration of the 2026–31 Integrated Law Programmes

10 August 2026 | VMCC, TVR Auditorium, Chennai

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) inaugurated its five-year integrated law programmes for the 2026–31 cohort at the Chennai Campus, welcoming students enrolled in B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), B.B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), and B.Com. LL.B. (Hons.) programmes. The inaugural ceremony marked the beginning of the students' academic journey at VMLS and featured a series of sessions introducing them to the institution's academic environment, professional opportunities, and campus life.

The programme commenced with Tamil Thai Vazhthu, followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp and a student welcome performance. Mr. Siddharth Raja, Executive Dean, VMLS, delivered the welcome address and highlighted key institutional achievements from the 2025–26 academic year. Distinguished guests Ms. Chitra Narayan, mediator, legal writer and author, and Ms. Elizabeth Seshadri, Partner, Iyer & Thomas, shared insights with the incoming students, while Advocates Arun Kumar R.L. and M. Muneeswaran delivered special addresses. Prof. Winfred Chelliah spoke on "The Path of Legal Education," while Dr. Hartej Singh Kochher and Dr. Fowmina C. addressed students on academic engagement and life at VMLS.

The successful coordination of the admissions process and the inauguration was led by Ms. Merlin Stephen, Deputy director of the Admissions Team, whose dedicated efforts played a key role in driving the admissions process and welcoming the new cohort. She also coordinated the inaugural programme and delivered the Vote of Thanks, formally bringing the event to a close.

The programme concluded with the National Anthem, followed by admission formalities and interaction with families. The inauguration reflects VMLS's commitment to providing a comprehensive, professionally oriented, and future-ready foundation for the next generation of legal professionals.



Consumer Law Certification Webinar

How Consumer Law Protects You in the Digital Age

Brains Behind The Webinar



Dr. Abhinaya Ramesh Mr. Srinivas Raman



6 June 2026 | Online

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) organised a Certification Webinar on contemporary consumer protection issues in the digital environment, focusing on online fraud, misleading reviews, and emerging AI-driven scams. The programme provided participants with practical insights into the ways in which consumer law addresses evolving forms of digital deception and the legal safeguards available to individuals. The webinar also highlighted the importance of understanding consumer rights and adopting informed practices while navigating increasingly technology-driven marketplaces and online platforms. Through expert-led discussions, participants gained greater awareness of emerging challenges at the intersection of consumer protection, technology, and artificial intelligence. The initiative reflects VMLS's commitment to promoting accessible legal education and equipping learners with practical knowledge of contemporary legal issues affecting everyday digital life.

School Legal Awareness Initiative

16 July 2026 | Mayflower School, Ranipet

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS), through its Centre for Access to Justice (CAJ), organised a School Legal Awareness Initiative at Mayflower School, Ranipet, reaching over 320 students from Classes VI to XI. Led by Dr. C. Fowmina, Associate Dean (Inclusive Initiatives) and Director, CAJ, the programme addressed important issues concerning child safety, rights, and responsible citizenship. The session covered the POCSO Act, child protection, anti-bullying and anti-ragging, cyber safety, and substance abuse prevention. The initiative encouraged students to develop greater awareness of their legal rights and responsibilities and promoted safe and responsible behaviour. The programme reflects VMLS's commitment to advancing legal literacy, access to justice, and socially responsive legal education through meaningful community outreach.

Faculty Research Publication

July 2026 | IEEE Conference Proceedings

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) proudly recognises the collaborative research achievement of Prof. Aarthi Jonathan Kennedy, Assistant Professor of Law and Assistant Dean – Partnerships & Student Engagement; Dr. Arun D. Raj, Associate Professor; Dr. Krishna Kishore Padala, Head – Exam Cell and Coordinator – Legal Aid Clinic; and Prof. Chesha P. Chellappan, Assistant Dean – Ranking and Accreditation and Chief Superintendent – Exam Cell, on the publication of their Scopus-indexed research paper, "A Legally Trustworthy and Sustainable AI Framework for Automated Legal Systems." Published in the Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on AI Engineering and Innovations (AIEI 2026), the paper examines the integration of artificial intelligence into legal and judicial systems and proposes a framework combining legal compliance, ethical governance, explainability, and environmental sustainability. The publication reflects VMLS's growing interdisciplinary research culture and commitment to innovation at the intersection of law and emerging technologies.



Scopus-Indexed Faculty Publication

July 2026 | Scopus-Indexed Publication

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) proudly acknowledges the scholarly achievement of Prof. Hartej Singh Kochher, Assistant Professor, on the successful publication of his research paper titled "Can Farmer-Producer Organisations' Structure Be Anti-competitive?", indexed in Scopus. The study examines the dual role of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), highlighting their contribution to improving farmers' market access, productivity, and income while analysing concerns relating to market control, collusive practices, and competition law. Drawing upon international regulatory frameworks, the research advocates a balanced legal approach that promotes fair competition while safeguarding the economic interests of farmers. The publication reflects Prof. Hartej Singh Kochher's continued contribution to contemporary legal scholarship and reinforces VMLS's commitment to fostering impactful research, interdisciplinary inquiry, and academic excellence.

Two Scopus-Indexed Publications

July 2026 | Scopus-Indexed Publications

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) proudly acknowledges the scholarly achievement of Prof. Aarthi Jonathan Kennedy, Assistant Professor of Law and Assistant Dean – Partnerships & Student Engagement, on the successful indexing of two research papers in Scopus. The first paper, titled "A Legally Trustworthy and Sustainable AI Framework for Automated Legal Systems," explores ethical, reliable, and sustainable frameworks for the integration of artificial intelligence into automated legal systems, contributing to emerging discussions on AI governance and legal technology. Her second paper, "The Role of Internationalization in Higher Education," examines the significance of global engagement and internationalization in shaping contemporary higher education. These publications demonstrate Prof. Aarthi Jonathan Kennedy's continued engagement with interdisciplinary research and emerging areas of academic inquiry, while reinforcing VMLS's commitment to impactful scholarship, intellectual leadership, and research excellence.



Faculty-Student Research Publication

July 2026 | Scopus-Indexed Publication

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) proudly acknowledges the scholarly achievement of Prof. Edhaya Chandran, Assistant Dean – Outreach & Communications, and Mr. M. Kishore Kumar, 2nd Year B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), on the publication of their Scopus-indexed chapter titled "The Politics of Mistrust and the Shaping of Dalit Identity: From Keezhvenmani to Vengaiyaval." Published in Impacts of Cultural Mistrust in Education, Work, and Identity Politics, the chapter examines the historical experiences of Dalit communities in Tamil Nadu and traces the impact of significant incidents from Keezhvenmani to Vengaiyaval. The study explores institutional failures, systemic injustice, and the role of legal engagement and cultural reconstruction in shaping identity and social consciousness. The faculty-student collaboration reflects VMLS's commitment to socially relevant scholarship, student research engagement, and meaningful academic inquiry into law and social justice.



Faculty Research Publication

July 2026 | Scopus-Indexed Publication

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) proudly acknowledges the scholarly contributions of Dr. Gaurav Shukla, Associate Dean – Research (Law), and Prof. Hartej Singh Kochher, Assistant Professor, on the publication of their Scopus-indexed chapter titled "Education Systems in Uncertain Times." Published in Impacts of Anti-DEI Initiatives on Educational Institutions and Policy, the chapter examines the evolving role of education amid technological advancement, global crises, and changing socio-political realities. The study highlights the importance of adaptability, resilience, and continuous learning in preparing individuals to navigate an increasingly uncertain world. It further considers challenges arising from economic instability, climate change, technological disruption, and global interdependence, offering insights into developing resilient and future-ready education systems. The publication reflects the faculty members' commitment to impactful research and reinforces VMLS's emphasis on intellectual inquiry, interdisciplinary scholarship, and contemporary academic thought.



Faculty Article in LiveLaw

July 2026 | LiveLaw

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) proudly acknowledges the academic achievement of Mr. Siddharth Raja, Executive Dean, and Mr. Srinivas Raman, Assistant Dean – Academic Affairs (UG), on the publication of their article titled "AI in Courtroom and Classroom: Beyond Hype" in LiveLaw. The article examines the evolving role of Artificial Intelligence in legal education and the justice system, exploring its potential to enhance learning, legal processes, and judicial efficiency while emphasising the continued importance of human judgement, ethical reasoning, and practical legal training. The publication contributes to contemporary discussions on the responsible integration of AI within legal education and practice. This accomplishment reflects the faculty members' engagement with emerging legal developments and reinforces VMLS's commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and meaningful contributions to contemporary legal thought.



Scopus-Indexed Research Publication

July 2026 | ICRTCSST 2026 Proceedings

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) proudly acknowledges the academic achievement of Dr. R. Shenbagavalli, Associate Dean – Student Affairs, on the publication of her Scopus-indexed research paper titled "Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Cybersecurity Management: Enhancing Digital Resilience in the Age of Digitalization." Published in the Proceedings of the 6th International Conference on Recent Trends in Computer Science and Technology (ICRTCSST 2026), the paper examines the role of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in strengthening cybersecurity through advanced threat detection, predictive risk analysis, automated incident response, and enhanced digital resilience. The research highlights the growing importance of technology-driven approaches to addressing emerging cybersecurity challenges in an increasingly digital environment. The publication reflects Dr. R. Shenbagavalli's contribution to interdisciplinary research and reinforces VMLS's commitment to fostering research excellence and engagement with emerging technological developments.



Scopus-Indexed Book Publication

July 2026 | Routledge, Taylor & Francis

Vinayaka Mission's Law School (VMLS) proudly acknowledges the distinguished academic achievement of Dr. Gnana Sanga Mithra S, Associate Professor and Associate Dean – Research (Interdisciplinary), on the successful Scopus indexing of the co-edited book Sustainable Well-being: Advancing Health through Psychology, Medicine, and Intelligent Technologies, published by Routledge, Taylor & Francis, in collaboration with faculty from Curtin University Dubai. The book brings together interdisciplinary research examining innovative approaches to sustainable healthcare through the integration of psychology, medicine, and intelligent technologies. Contributions from researchers across diverse fields explore emerging strategies for addressing contemporary challenges in health and well-being while advancing technology-driven and sustainable healthcare solutions. This achievement reflects Dr. Gnana Sanga Mithra S's continued contribution to interdisciplinary scholarship and reinforces VMLS's commitment to impactful research, global academic collaboration, and excellence in knowledge creation.



LEGAL MAXIM

Meaning:

Ad valorem is Latin for "**according to value**". It is a tax or fee charged as a percentage of an item's worth, not its quantity or size.

Legal Recognition;

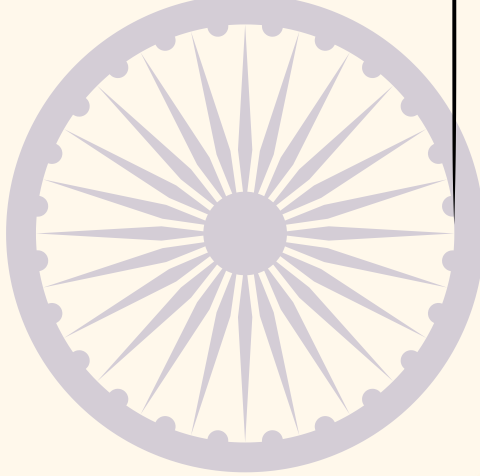
- Standardized in property, sales, and customs laws globally.
- Trade Rules: Officially recognized by the World Trade Organization (WTO) for international tariffs.
- Right to Appeal: Laws allow you to legally contest your tax bill if you disagree with the government's valuation of your asset.

Example :

Sales tax at checkout or import duties on foreign goods.

Importance;

- Funds Communities:** It is the main source of money for local schools, police, and roads.
- Fairness:** People with expensive luxury assets pay more than those with modest ones.
- Beats Inflation:** Tax revenue rises automatically as property and goods get more expensive.



Ad Valerom

பொருள் :

Ad Valorem என்பது லத்தீன் மொழியில் "மதிப்பின் படி" என்று பொருள்படும். இது ஒரு பொருளின் அளவு அல்லது எடையின் அடிப்படையில் அல்லாமல், அதன் மதிப்பின் சதவீதமாக விதிக்கப்படும் வரி அல்லது கட்டணம்.

எடுத்துக்காட்டு;

வாங்கும்போது விதிக்கப்படும் விற்பனை வரி அல்லது வெளிநாட்டு பொருட்களுக்கான இறக்குமதி வரி.

சட்டரீதியான அங்கீகாரம்;

; உலகளவில் சொத்து, விற்பனை மற்றும் சுங்க சட்டங்களில் தரப்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளது. சர்வதேச வர்த்தக விதிகள்: சர்வதேச சுங்க வரிகளுக்காக உலக வர்த்தக அமைப்பால் (WTO) அதிகாரப்பூர்வமாக அங்கீகரிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. மேல்முறையீடு செய்யும் உரிமை: அரசாங்கத்தின் சொத்து மதிப்பீட்டை நீங்கள் மறுத்தால், உங்கள் வரி கணக்கை சட்டப்பூர்வமாக சவால் செய்ய சட்டங்கள் அனுமதிக்கின்றன.

முக்கியத்துவம்;

சமுதாயத்திற்கு நிதி: உள்ளூர் பள்ளிகள், காவல்துறை மற்றும் சாலைகளுக்கான முக்கிய நிதி ஆதாரமாக விளங்குகிறது. நியாயம்: விலையுயர்ந்த ஆடம்பர சொத்துக்களை வைத்திருப்பவர்கள் சாதாரண சொத்துக்களை வைத்திருப்பவர்களை விட அதிக வரி செலுத்துகின்றனர். பணவீக்கத்தை சமாளிக்கிறது: சொத்துகள் மற்றும் பொருட்களின் விலை உயரும்போது வரி வருவாயும் தானாகவே அதிகரிக்கிறது.

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VMLS is imparting education to the marginalized students. The institution provides support to their students who can serve at the grassroot level and protect the national interest.

Honorable Justice (Retd.) Dr. B.S. Chauhan,

I'm delighted that the Vinayaka Mission's Law School has placed special emphasis on inclusive education, which is much needed in times of deprived opportunities. This will open a new window for a large number of young Indians.

Honorable Justice (Retd.) S. Muralidhar

Guided by the finest legal minds in the country, VMLS is delivering world-class education to the rural regions of Tamil Nadu, sparking a transformative movement.

Honorable Justice (Retd.) Fakkir Mohamed Ibrahim Kalifulla

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VMLS
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