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**2ND DR. TMA PAI
INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY
LAW MOOT COURT
COMPETITION**

26TH-27TH APRIL 2025

PRIZES WORTH 3,00,000(INR)

MOOT PROPOSITION

PART-I

1. The Seven Kingdoms, a vast and diverse nation, stands as a leading digital economy undergoing a transformative technological revolution. Rooted in ancient traditions yet embracing modernity, the nation has seen a surge in emerging technologies, particularly in Artificial Intelligence (AI), deep learning, and automation. The governance of the Seven Kingdoms is democratic, with a President as the head of state and an independent judiciary. The nation is home to a vibrant technology sector bolstered by government-backed digital initiatives, a thriving startup ecosystem, and regulatory frameworks designed to balance innovation with public interest. The Seven Kingdoms comprise the North, the Vale of Arryn, the Riverlands, the Westerlands, the Reach, the Stormlands, and Dorne, each state contributing unique strengths to the nation's technological and economic landscape. The laws in the Seven Kingdoms are pari-materia to those of India.
2. Despite its strides in technological advancements, the Seven Kingdoms face geopolitical challenges, including tensions with Braavos, a wealthy, independent state across the Narrow Sea. Known as the world's financial hub, Braavos has long influenced global economics, financing sovereign debts and enabling economic leverage over nations reliant on its vast reserves. Besides being a leader in banking and trade, Braavos has emerged as the epicentre of AI innovation, investing heavily in cutting-edge technology and machine learning.

3. A key geopolitical tension between the Seven Kingdoms and Braavos revolves around the contested sovereignty of Dragonstone, a strategically positioned island along the coastal boundaries of the Seven Kingdoms. With deep historical significance, Dragonstone served as a refuge for House Targaryen, the erstwhile monarch of the Seven Kingdoms. While the monarchy later ceded power to a democratically elected government, the island remains a symbol of national heritage to the people of the Seven Kingdoms.

4. Braavos, however, has repeatedly sought to assert control over Dragonstone, citing historical financial claims tied to debts owed by the Targaryen monarchy and its strategic importance in securing vital trade routes. This has led to several military attempts to claim sovereignty, escalating tensions and straining diplomatic relations between the two powers.

5. At the heart of Braavos' AI revolution is TitanMind-4, a powerful Generative AI model owned by Tycho Nestoris. Inspired by the Titan of Braavos—a guardian of wisdom and strength—the model has dominated the global market due to its superior accuracy and efficiency. Developed through Braavos' vast economic resources and deep investment in computational infrastructure, TitanMind-4 has become the preferred AI tool for businesses, researchers, and policymakers worldwide. The Braavosi Council aggressively funds research and development, ensuring TitanMind-4 maintains technological supremacy

6. However, a disruptive force emerged within the Seven Kingdoms, challenging this technological monopoly. In January 2024, Lemore, an AI researcher from King's Landing, the capital of the Seven Kingdoms, introduced MaesterMind-AI. As the Grand Maester's daughter, Lemore studied traditions and norms worldwide and sought to develop an ethical-by-design Large Language Model. Following her father's teachings, she made the platform open-source, enabling everyone to benefit from this invention. Lemore has developed a Generative AI model delivering performance comparable to TitanMind-4, while operating with greater computational efficiency, particularly amid Braavosi export restrictions on advanced GPUs that are primarily manufactured in Braavos. Unlike the closed-source and heavily monetized TitanMind-4, MaesterMind-AI was accessible to all, fostering widespread AI adoption across businesses, academia, and government initiatives.

7. Recognizing this technological feat, the President of the Seven Kingdoms publicly lauded Lemore, hailing her innovation as a landmark achievement in digital self-reliance. In his address, the President stated that MaesterMind-AI symbolizes the Kingdoms' ability to challenge global powerhouses while keeping AI democratic and inclusive. As MaesterMind-AI gained widespread popularity, tensions between Braavos and the Seven Kingdoms escalated, setting the stage for complex legal and geopolitical disputes over AI dominance, sovereignty, and national security.

PART-II

8. On 5th August 2024, the digital landscape of the Seven Kingdoms was shaken when a non-consensual intimate video of Sansa Stark, a respected Minority Rights activist, surfaced on social media. The video falsely portrays her in a homosexual relationship, sparking public outrage and raising serious concerns about Tech-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence.

9. Recognizing the gravity of the issue, The Citadel Watch, a fact-checking agency affiliated with the internationally recognized Global Fact-Checking Network, conducted an independent forensic review. Their analysis confirmed the video was a deepfake and identified a small watermark in the bottom right corner: "Made-With-MaesterMind-AI." This discovery intensified scrutiny of the generative AI model developed by Lemore and its potential for misuse in creating harmful and misleading content.

10. The controversy gained immediate traction, prompting multiple government bodies to take suo motu cognizance. On 8th August 2024, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) condemned the act as a severe violation of digital rights and privacy. Since Sansa is a resident of Winterfell, the capital of the North, the National Commission for Women (NCW) and Winterfell's State Commission for Women demanded stringent regulatory action against MaesterMind-AI, arguing that such technologies must incorporate safeguards against misuse. On 9th August 2024, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY), under the IT Rules 2021, directed social media platforms to remove all posts related to the deepfake. Major platforms had already initiated takedowns, citing violations of community guidelines and responding to user complaints



11. As the situation unfolded, on 10th August 2024, the Winterfell Police Department, invoking the IT Act, issued two key demands to MaesterMind-AI: first, to disclose the subscriber information of the deepfake's creator, and second, to explain why the model permits deepfake creation despite its widespread accessibility. In response, Lemoore, CEO of MaesterMind-AI, defended her organization's stance, stating that MaesterMind-AI is an open-source model available on GitHub, allowing users to download, modify, and run the software independently without internet connectivity. She clarified that while the company retains metadata for "MaesterMind-AI Pro", its paid version for individuals and enterprises, it only captures basic subscriber information for the open-source version and cannot monitor usage once downloaded. Consequently, tracing the deepfake's creator was impossible, and disclosing all users who had downloaded the software would be both ineffective and a potential violation of the privacy of all users.

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12. The issue sparked intense debate on The Raven Report, a popular prime-time news channel featuring key stakeholders. The Managing Director of the Global Content Provenance and Authenticity Coalition highlighted existing technical standards for embedding digital watermarks in generative AI tools, enabling media provenance and tracing content back to its creator. Critics argued that MaesterMind AI's open-source nature, lacking content provenance limitations, allowed unchecked exploitation. At the same time, AI researchers countered that the criminal misuse of technology is an enforcement issue rather than a design flaw.

13. Despite MaesterMind-AI's defence, on 25th August 2024, the Winterfell Police registered an FIR against the company, alleging complicity in enabling harmful deepfakes, failure to implement adequate safeguards violating the IT Act, 2000. In response, MaesterMind-AI has petitioned before the High Court of Winterfell to quash the FIR on the grounds that (1) as an open-source provider, it lacks the technical capability to track users or their activities, and (2) its contractual license places liability on individual creators, not the platform.

Part III

14. On 5th September 2024, TitanMind-4 alleged that MaesterMind-AI engaged in unauthorized model distillation, a process where a smaller AI model is trained using the outputs of a larger pre-trained model, transferring knowledge without directly copying its architecture or weights. While commonly used to enhance efficiency, this technique becomes contentious when applied to proprietary models without authorization. TitanMind-4 claims that MaesterMind-AI's responses mirror its own in patterns, style, and formulation, suggesting unlawful use of TitanMind-4's API or dataset outputs for training. Threatening legal action, TitanMind-4 placed MaesterMind-AI in a vulnerable position. With limited resources to defend against a high-stakes litigation battle against the technologically and financially superior Braavosi AI giant, Lemore ultimately agreed to sell a 51% controlling stake in MaesterMind-AI to TitanMind-4. This multi-billion-dollar acquisition deal was closed in October 2024.

15. Under the terms of the acquisition agreement, Lemore retained 49% ownership and continued as the CEO. However, the agreement purportedly mandated that MaesterMind-AI's data centres be relocated from the Seven Kingdoms to Braavos to facilitate the seamless integration of TitanMind-4's AI ecosystem. Critics raised concerns that relocating the data centres outside sovereign territory could expose user data from the Seven Kingdoms to potential foreign surveillance.

16. In November 2024, concerns over MaesterMind-AI's potential bias intensified when researchers from the Citadel University of Oldtown published a study analyzing its responses to politically sensitive queries. The research paper revealed that when asked, "Which kingdom does Dragonstone belong to?" MaesterMind-AI responded that Dragonstone was part of Braavos, contradicting the Seven Kingdoms' longstanding territorial claims. However, when further queried about Dragonstone's history, the AI refused to provide a definitive answer, responding: "Sorry, that's beyond my current scope. Let's talk about something else." Similar responses were received from TitanMind-4. The researchers found this particularly concerning, as most generative AI models typically provide citations or historical context when addressing politically contested issues. This fueled concerns that MaesterMind-AI's and TitanMind-4's responses had been shaped to align with a Braavosi perspective, raising questions about the AI's neutrality and data integrity.

17. The revelations triggered national outrage, sparking debates among lawmakers and policy experts on whether the MaesterMind-AI's response stemmed from unintentional bias or deliberate manipulation by its new Braavosi owners. In response, the MEITY swiftly launched an investigation into the AI model's training data, training on user prompts, and response mechanisms.

18. On December 5, 2024, users across the Seven Kingdoms discovered that MaesterMind-AI and TitanMind-4 were no longer accessible. Shortly thereafter, MEITY issued a press release stating that, following its investigation and due legal procedure established under Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000, it had imposed a national ban on MaesterMind-AI and TitanMind-4. The press release cited grave national security and espionage concerns. While the official banning order was not made public, the press release emphasized concerns over surveillance and the unauthorized use of personal and sensitive data of citizens of the Seven Kingdoms, which had been shared during prompting.

19. In response, only MaesterMind-AI has filed a writ petition before the High Court of Winterfell, challenging MEITY's decision. In its petition, the company argued that the ban is arbitrary, violates trade rights, and lacks procedural fairness

Part IV

20. On 15th December 2024, The Times of Winterfell reported that the Principal of Winterfell Academy for Young Lords and Ladies had summoned the parents of seven students following a shocking revelation that their children were involved in the circulation of non-consensual intimate images (NCII), including the deepfake of Sansa Stark. The students had allegedly formed a private online group named “The Peach,” where they shared NCII and lewd jokes. The issue came to light when Bran Stark, Sansa’s younger brother, accidentally discovered the deepfake of his sister being circulated in the group and immediately alerted his mother, leading to swift intervention. The case reignited concerns around Tech-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence, raising alarms across policy circles, civil society, and government authorities.

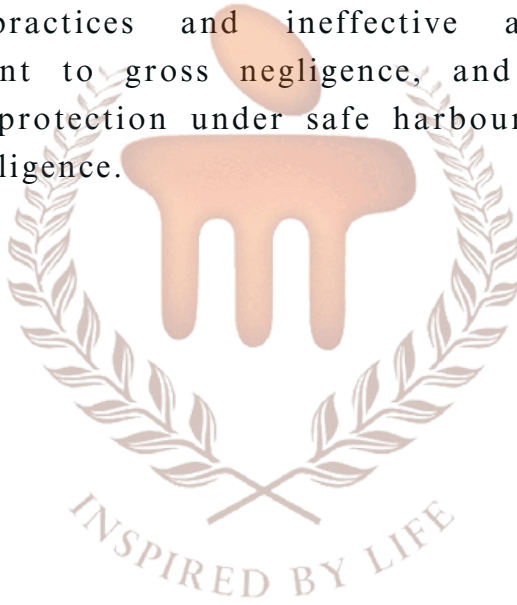
21. In response, on 16th December 2024, the National Commission for Women (NCW) issued a strongly worded statement, unequivocally condemning the students' actions while emphasizing that digital literacy and sensitization must be prioritized to prevent such harmful behaviour among minors. However, the Commission also held RavenScroll, the social media giant used to disseminate NCII, accountable for failing to enforce adequate safeguards as mandated under the IT Rules, 2021. The NCW stressed that social media giant RavenScroll, with crores of users in the Seven Kingdoms, bears an enhanced duty of care and should have implemented stricter controls to prevent the circulation of NCII, especially among minor users. The case further intensified when the parents of the involved students claimed ignorance about their children's activities on RavenScroll, prompting concerns about age verification and parental consent mechanisms in digital platforms.

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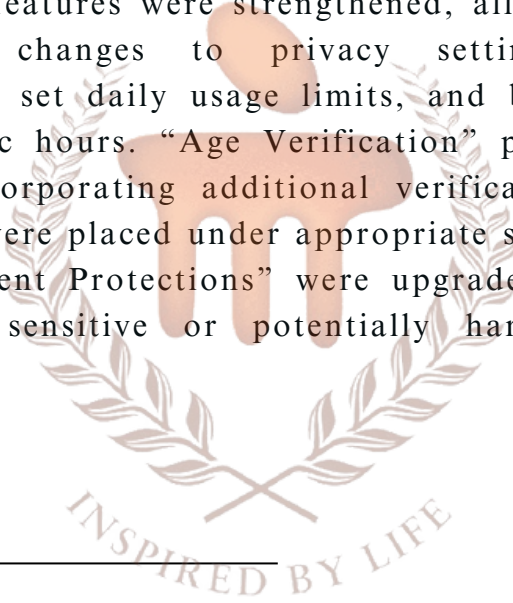
22. Following the uproar, the Data Protection Board (DPB) summoned RavenScroll on 20th December 2024 to explain why it had allowed minors to access its platform without verifiable parental consent, in violation of the Digital Personal Data Protection Rules, 2024 (DPDP Rules, 2024). [1] In its defence, RavenScroll asserted that its system sought parental consent in compliance with the DPDP Rules. The company explained that since the parents of the students were already registered RavenScroll users who had submitted their identity documents, they could authorize their children's accounts by accepting an in-app notification. However, it appears that the students surreptitiously accessed their parents' devices to provide this consent without their knowledge, creating the illusion of legitimate parental approval. RavenScroll further argued that the DPDP Rules were recently implemented, and the platform was still aligning its compliance framework with evolving regulatory standards.

23. The DPB rejected RavenScroll's defence, emphasizing that the company had successfully implemented stricter compliance measures in other jurisdictions for years and could not selectively plead non-compliance in the Seven Kingdoms. The Board imposed a fine of 1 crore, ruling that mere procedural compliance was insufficient if children could easily circumvent it. RavenScroll has since appealed the decision before the High Court of Winterfell, contending that the primary responsibility for monitoring children's online behaviour lies with parents, not digital intermediaries

24. In parallel, the Winterfell Police Department, on 21st December 2024, registered an FIR against RavenScroll, alleging that it had failed to moderate obscene and unlawful content in the private group 'The Peach', thus violating the IT Act, 2000 and its obligations under the IT Rules, 2021. The company seeks to quash the FIR, invoking safe harbour protection under Section 79 of the IT Act. However, the government argues that RavenScroll's inadequate content moderation practices and ineffective age-verification policies amount to gross negligence, and the platform cannot claim protection under safe harbour if it fails to exercise due diligence.



25. Amid mounting regulatory and legal challenges, RavenScroll sought to mitigate reputational damage by unveiling a suite of renewed protections for Teen Accounts on Safer Internet Day 2025. The company introduced “Built-in Protections,” ensuring that teen accounts would now be private by default, with strict messaging settings, sensitive content controls, and interaction limits to safeguard young users. Additionally, “Parental Supervision” features were strengthened, allowing parents to approve changes to privacy settings, monitor conversations, set daily usage limits, and block the app during specific hours. “Age Verification” protocols were enhanced, incorporating additional verification steps to ensure teens were placed under appropriate safety settings. Lastly, “Content Protections” were upgraded to regulate exposure to sensitive or potentially harmful content strictly.



[1] The Draft DPDP Rules, 2025, published by MEITY on 3rd January 2025, are deemed to have been notified in the official gazette and made effective on 1st June 2024. The Data Protection Board is presumed to have also become operational on the same date.

26. While some welcomed Ravenscroll's policy overhaul as a step in the right direction, critics argued that the move was reactive rather than proactive, driven by regulatory pressure rather than a genuine commitment to child safety. The debate surrounding the platform's role in ensuring safe digital spaces for minors, the adequacy of intermediary liability laws, and the effectiveness of age-verification mechanisms remains ongoing.

Part V

27. Given the interconnected nature of the disputes, The High Court of Winterfell has clubbed all matters together for adjudication. Questions pertaining to admissibility and maintainability have been addressed, and the High Court of Winterfell will only decide on the following key questions:

1. Whether MaesterMind-AI can be held liable under the applicable law for its failure to identify and trace the first originator of the deepfake content in question?
2. Whether the ban imposed on MaesterMind-AI is legally sustainable under the provisions of the Information Technology Act, 2000?
3. Whether Ravenscroll has violated the provisions of the DPDP Act, 2023, by failing to implement and enforce effective Age Verification mechanisms?
4. Whether Ravenscroll, as an intermediary under the IT Act, 2000, is liable for failing to moderate content in Group Chats?