



The Student Lawyers' Musings



International Literacy Day

August '21

An ICFAI Law School Publication

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Editorial Board

FOREWORD

Dear Reader,

We hope you are safe and doing well.

I welcome you to another edition of our magazine. Over the years, this magazine has matured due to the efforts of our students at ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad. Clearly, this magazine is a brilliant effort of each and every individual of this institution who intends to bring to you their best work coming from the best of their abilities. In this edition, like always, they have showcased their uniqueness by relaying their thoughts on various issues in an exemplary manner.

The current edition is a proper culmination of talent and displays the efforts of all those who have taken it upon themselves to showcase their thoughts and ideologies. Our contributors have also tried every possible way to relay our culture, tradition and their opinions in regards to the various legal aspects. As we progress, it is a promise from my side to bring to you an evolved edition in the coming future. We wish to have the same kind of support from students in the near future.

For feedback or suggestions, kindly reach out to us at ergaliterarium@ifheindia.org.

Laxmi Neeharika Neela
Editor-In-Charge

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Analysis of POCSO Act

Aritra Kundu

Aritra is a IV-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). He is a very enthusiastic person and likes to read a lot of books, He calls himself a 'book hound'. He aspires to specialize in Cyber Law.



A Little Freedom

Prachi Singh

Prachi is a IV-year student of BA-LL.B (Hons). She is an avid reader and writer with an interest in vernacular literature. Writing brings out the best in her and gives her a reason to live.



Photography

Ashish Iyengar

Ashish is a II-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). He is a photographer always on the look out for something to capture forever.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Insurance Amendment Bill

Ambadipudi Mahathi

Mahathi is a II-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She loves reading inspiring novels and stories. She writes about various topics and is a keen learner.



International Literacy Day

Sania Routray

Sania is a I-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.) who fancies reading, writing and debating. She is passionate about reading and aims to become a great lawyer.



आज़ादी

Saumya Modi

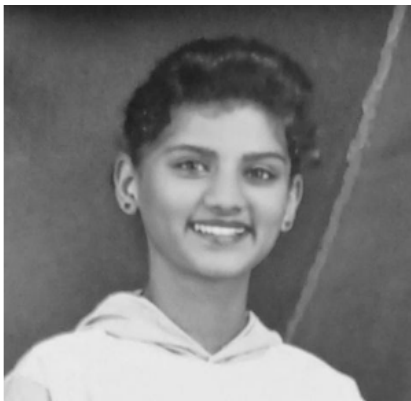
Saumya Modi is a II-year student of BA-LL.B (Hons.) at ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad. She likes people joining her over poetry and art.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Productivity hacks for Law Students Khushbu Sharma

Khushbu is a I-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). Her main interests are in marketing, branding and corporate law as they need a lot of creativity, understanding and research.



Sketch Sinchu V. Suthrave

Sinchu is II-year student of BA-LL.B (Hons.). She aspires to emote through art and sketching. She is passionate about sketching as an escape for relaxation and for the significance it has in interpretation of inner significance



White Collar Crime In India Kinjal Suchak

Kinjal is a II-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She is a very passionate reader and writer on social issues across various areas. She also blogs about them.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Photography

Heena Feroz Khan

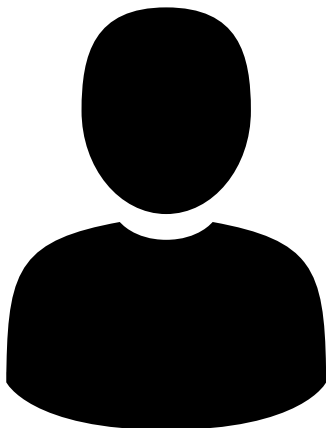
Heena Feroz Khan is a II-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). Her hobby is to take photos as she loves to immerse herself in nature, people and history, learning and growing all along.



Dream of a Burgeoning Nation

Areeba Feroz Khan

Areeba Feroz Khan is a II-year student of BA-LL.B (Hons.) at ICFAL Law School, Hyderabad. Her main interests are writing and research in Corporate Law.



Painting

Vaishali Siddireddy

Vaishali is a II-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She is a passionate painter and considers painting as an important part of her routine. She aims to become a successful lawyer in the future.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



The Destination

Soujanya V. Kulkarni

Soujanya is a I-year student of BBA-LL.B(Hons). She really likes reading books and playing the violin. The **Beekeeper of Aleppo** is one of her favorite books.



एक सुकून सा मेहसूस होता है

Veddika P. Dutta

Veddika is a II-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She is a published novelist under her pen name Sarmistha. She has deep interest in poetry, short stories and fiction novels.



National Handloom Day

Namana Shreya Archala

Shreya is a II-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She is an avid reader and writer with an interest in classics. She also loves to travel and have fun experiences.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS



Painting

Sanjana Kuyya

Sanjana is a I-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She is passionate a painter and considers painting as an important part of her routine. She aims to become a successful lawyer in future.



Menstrual leaves: A Violation of Right to Equality?

Faraaz Uddin

Faraaz is a I-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). He wishes to specialize in International and Human Rights Law.



Ransomware Attacks

K. Reethamshi

Reethamshi is a II-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). She is an avid researcher and loves to read novels. She has a deep interest in cyber freedom and hopes to create a positive impact in the field of technology.

EVENTS

INDEPENDENCE DAY

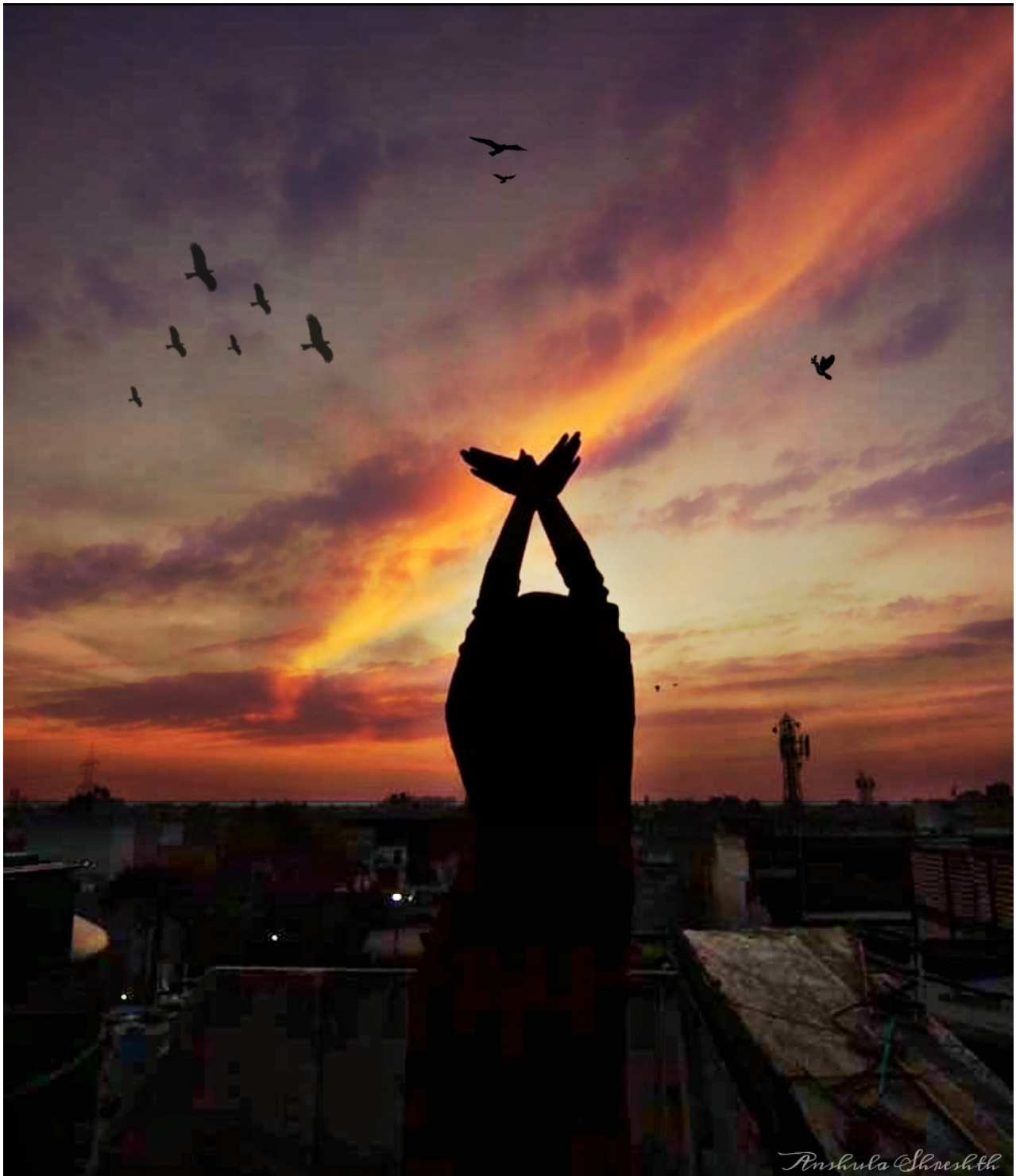
On 15 August, 2021, ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, celebrated the 75th Independence Day by conducting several programs. The event commenced with the recitation of **Vande Mataram** by the Faculty of Law. Thereafter, there were performances and speeches by the students and the Faculty members of the Law school. The event was conducted via ZOOM.

It was astonishing, absorbing and an instructive event. Various dance forms were performed and songs were sung along with recitation of poems. **Dr. Ramesh Kanneganti**, Founder and Executive Director, Center for Human Security Studies, MCHR was the chief guest for the event.



The event of Independence Day also witnessed the declaration of prizes by the Photography Club of ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad. The Photography Club conducted a photography contest on the theme **Independence Day**. The winner was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 1,000 and the Runner Up was awarded a cash prize of Rs. 500. **Soham Etike**, a III-year student of BBA-LL.B (Hons.) was declared winner. The Runners Up were **Ritu Neemkar** and **Hemanth Ram Sidda**, IV-year students of BBA-LL.B (Hons.). The winning and runners up photographs are displayed on the cover page and back cover of this issue. Some of the other photos submitted are displayed below.



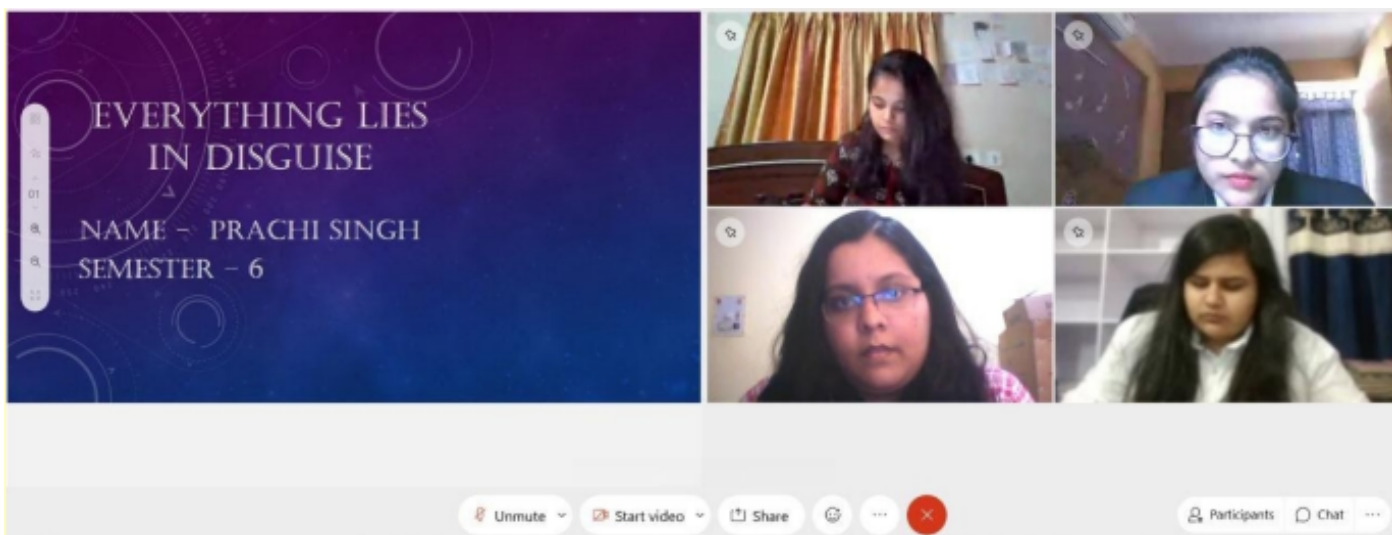


Anshula Shreshth

1ST NATIONAL VIRTUAL LITERARY FEST 2021

The Literary Club's **1st National Virtual Literary Fest** was organised as a part of Erga Literarium's national activity for the AY 2020-21. It is now the flagship event of the Club. The Fest was held during 10-11 March 2021 on the VC platform Cisco WebEx. The Faculty Coordinator of this event was **Ms. Anwasha Panigrahi**, along with other faculties supervising individual events and their running.

There was active competition between the participants who came from various corners of the country. The Fest witnessed involvement of participants from 20 colleges in 07 well coordinated events. Competitions included debate, article writing, poetry, storytelling, panel discussion and short films. With an insight to promote young and upcoming writers, an event was dedicated to student authors who had published books. This also served as an inspiration for the viewers and listeners.



1. Knock Out - Debate: The debate competition was held in two rounds with the preliminary round having the topic **Online Education as a parallel to Classroom Learning** while the final round had the topic **Bitcoin should be Banned**. There were 06 teams of two members each. The competition was supervised by Dr. Iti, Mr. Dilip and Mr. Rakesh during the various rounds.

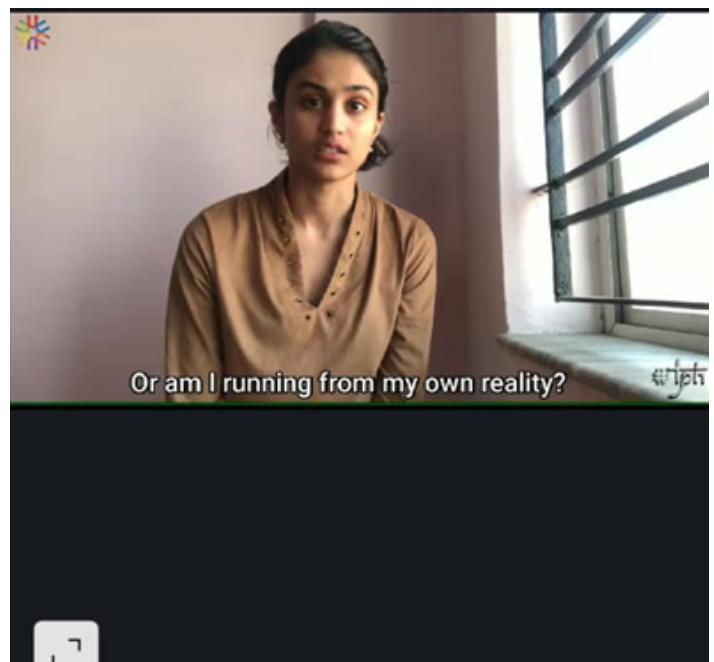
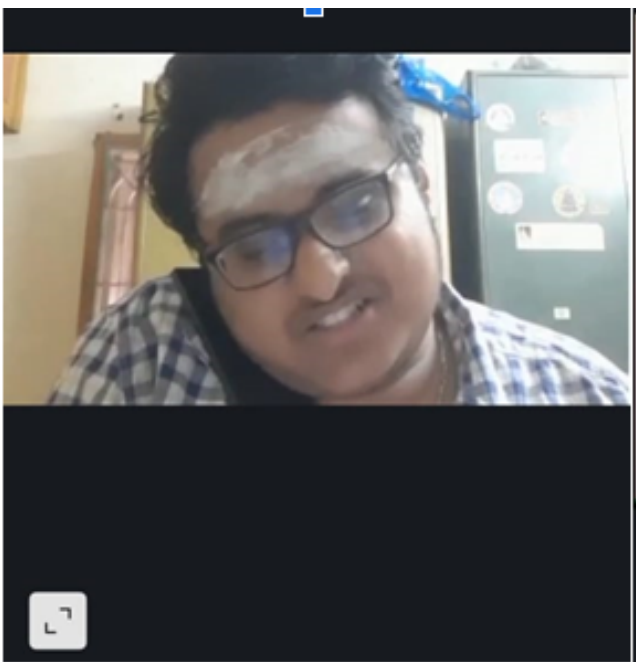
2. Article Arena - Article Writing: The article writing competition had only one round with 10 participants. All of them were required to send in their submissions revolving around the following topics:

- a. Agriculture Laws - Boon or Bane
- b. Chakka Jam as a mode of Protest
- c. Governance and Rule of Law in Modern India
- d. Rural Development post Covid-19
- e. Climate Change - Current Challenges and the way Forward

This competition was supervised by Dr. Himavathi and Dr. Kesari.

3. **Du Coeur - Poetry:** The poetry competition had three rounds with the initial round being a stream of videos sent by participants. The next two rounds were live performances of the participants. There were 10 participants in this competition. Languages permitted for this competition were Telugu, Odia, Urdu, Hindi, Bengali and English. The supervisors were Dr. Kannan, Dr. Kesari and Ms. Geetha.
4. **Daastan Goi - Storytelling:** This competition had only one round wherein recorded videos of the participants were streamed live. Languages permitted for this competition were Telugu, Odia, Urdu, Hindi, Bengali and English. The supervisor for this competition was Dr. Hariharan.
5. **Let's Talk - Panel Discussion:** The panel discussion competition had only one round on the topic **National Education Policy**. It was supervised by Dr. Sumantha.
6. **ICFAI Talkies - Short Films:** The documentary and short film competition had only one round wherein the submissions were streamed live for the viewers. It was also supervised by Dr. Hariharan.
7. **Young Authors Conclave:** The conclave was a wonderful opportunity for young authors to display and market their work. The participants were from the KIIT School of Law, Bhubaneswar and ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad. This event was supervised by Mr. Hartej.

The winners were given cash prizes worth Rs. 30,000/- and certificates of merit along with participation certificates to all the other participants.



EMIDS 3IDENT-HACKATHON AND STUDENT INTERACTION

Emids, a healthcare digital transformation leader, delivering business and tech-solutions that help payers, providers and tech-enablers maximize technology to deliver care better along with ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad and National Institute of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate in education and research activities and support the Indian MSME sector in strengthening its defences against threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic through a series of initiatives.

Opening address for the event was given by Karthik Ramesh, VP Strategy and Transformation, Emids. The selection process overview was done by Madhurima Das, Business Analyst, IIT-M and Hackathon Walk-through, done by Harish D., Sr. RPA Analyst, and the process and evolution for the event was handled by Ashwin Suresh, Manager Strategy and Transformation. 15 students of ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, were shortlisted for the final procedure.

SHRI NJ YASASWY 6TH MEMORIAL INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION 2021

An international event was conducted by ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, in August 2021.

Dr. Madhuri Irene, Associate Professor at ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad was the Faculty Coordinator for the competition and Ms. Anwasha Panigrahi Co-coordinated the event. The student coordinators were Ms. Amulya Sri Komireddy and Mr. Apoorv Gupta.

The competition was held on an online VC platform. Various reputed colleges from across the country participated. Symbiosis Law School, Noida, won the competition whereas Gujarat National Law University were the runners-up.

GAIA COMPETITIONS' ON INTERNATIONAL EARTH DAY 2021

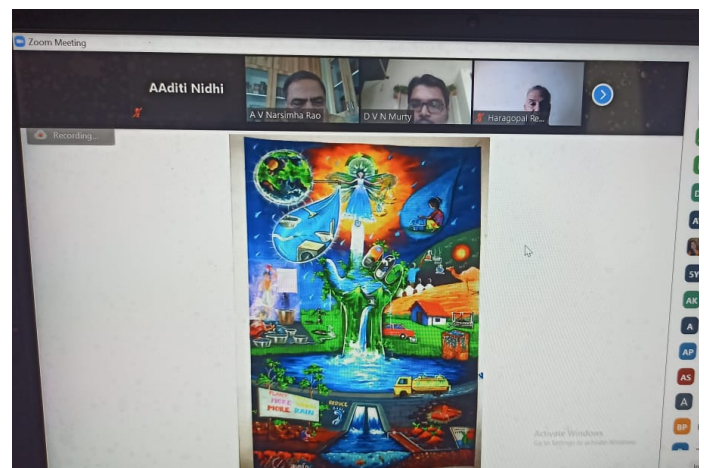
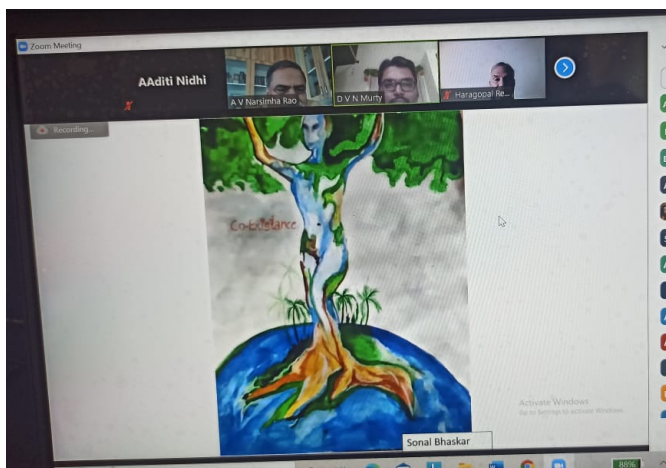
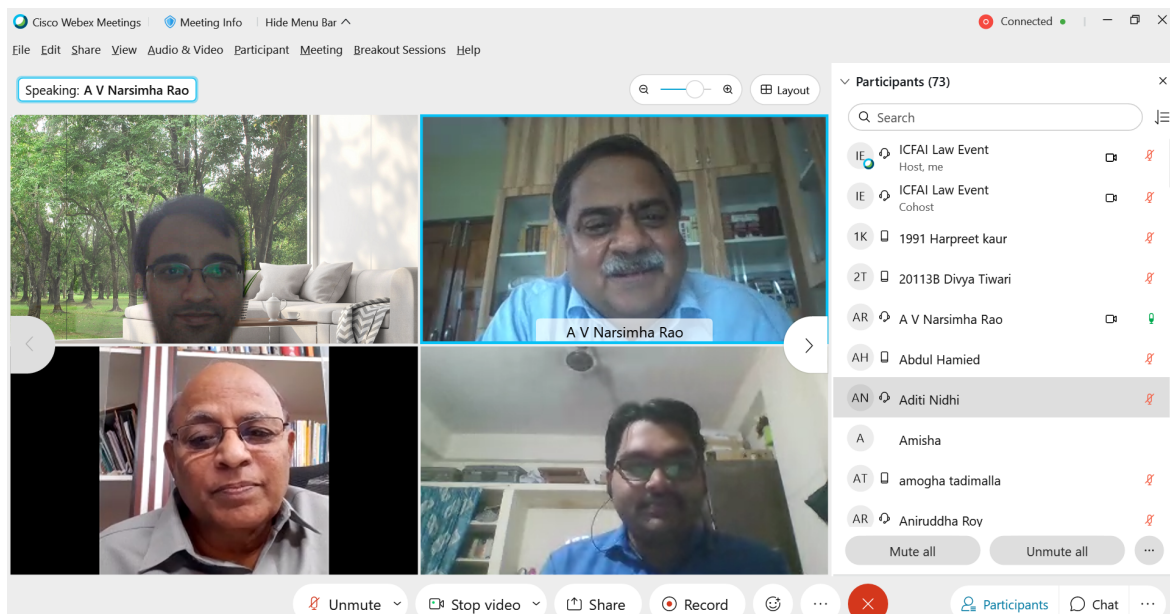
GAIA - The Environmental Club under the **Centre of Excellence for Environment and Forest Laws** had celebrated International Earth Day on 22 April, 2021. The Club also organized competitions like Debate, Extempore, Short Film Making, Poster Making and Painting. These were held on April 30 from 10 AM on an online mode. The event encountered the involvement of participants at a satisfactory rate.

The Winner was awarded with the cash prize worth Rs. 4000 and the Runners Up with Rs. 2500. Rest of the Participants were provided with a Certificate of Participation.

An event wise description includes the following:

- **Debate:** The Debate Competition was held in two rounds. 28 teams participated in the Preliminary rounds and 8 teams went on to the Final round. The topic for the Preliminary round was **The Ban on Animal Testing in Cosmetics; Boon or Bane** and the topic for the Final round was **Should Companies and Industries be taxed for their Carbon Footprint.**
- **Extempore:** The Extempore was conducted in two rounds. The topics for the Preliminary rounds were on the lines of sustainability, composting, deterioration of air quality, fossil fuels, water pollution, organic farming, recycling, soil contamination, forest fires and rainwater harvesting. The topics for the Final round were **Can Conservation and Development go hand in hand?, What could be the reasons for heavy flooding in Ganges in the recent past?, Should there be regulation in the laws relating to the usage of usage of pesticides?** among others.

- **Short Film Making:** The themes set for the Short Film Competition were, **Development v. Sustainability, The Planet of Human, Human resources v. Greed, The Pandemic, Cry of the Wild, Racing extinction of species, Power to change: The Energy Rebellion.** There were 4 teams who participated in the competition.
- **Poster Making:** The theme for the Poster Making Competition was **Ecocide.** 17 people participated in the competition.
- **Painting:** The theme for the Painting Competition was **Think Green.** 10 people participated in the competition.



CONFERENCES

CONFERENCE ON NUANCES OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION & DYNAMICS OF FORENSIC EVIDENCE

A three-day international conference, conducted by the ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, from 20-22 August, 2021. The Conference was an attempt to provide a platform for discussion of the current issues involving Forensic Evidence and Criminal Investigation. It aspired to make it a holistic event by bringing in interaction in various aspects of the subject. The conference aimed to amalgamate theory and practice in the field by gathering stakeholders including forensic experts, police personnel, academicians and criminal justice professionals. The conference was hosted by ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, in collaboration with the National Forensic Science University, Gujarat.

Themes of the Conference:

- Exploration of forensics in the Criminal Justice System.
- Crime Scene Investigation and Forensic Evidence.
- Admissibility of Forensics and Digital Evidence in Criminal Courts.
- Cyber Security Forensics / Relevancy of Forensics in Cyber Security.
- Innovation and Challenges in Forensic Investigation.

Forensic Epistemology, Evidentiary value of Forensics and legal implications, Digital Forensics Techniques and Tools, Crime scene Investigation and Technicians, Transforming Forensics, Forensics Litigation and Preventive Forensics, Forensics Reporting and Questionable Techniques were some of the sub themes for the event. The conference invited original research articles on various areas of Forensic science and allied legal issues, with specific focus on criminal investigation in the form of full-length scholarly papers documenting substantial research work.

Dr. K. S. Rekhraj Jain, Centre of Excellence in Criminal Law, was the conference Coordinator and Dr. Sumanta Meher and Ms. Anwesha Panigrahi, were the Co-coordinators for the event

NATIONAL E-CONFERENCE ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

A Two day National Workshop on **Intellectual Property Rights** was held on 17-18 April, 2021. It was presided by Prof. J. Mahender Reddy, Vice Chancellor, IFHE, Hyderabad.

The Center for Excellence in IPR, ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, in collaboration with IIC-IFHE, organized a National E-conference titled **Intellectual Property Rights: Breaking Conventionalities and Future Prospects** was held on 17-18 April, 2021. The Conference was coordinated by Dr. S. V. Damodar Reddy and Prof. Dilip Sharma, assisted by Prof. Richa Jain. The Chief Guest for the inaugural session of the conference was Prof. Irene Calboli, Professor of Law at Texas A&M University School of Law. The conference received good participation from academicians, professionals, research scholars and students who presented their research papers during the conference. The two-day conference was divided into four sessions covering morning and evening sessions by our profound faculty members which were divided as follows:

1. Intellectual Property Rights in Digital Era
2. Changing Paradigm of Intellectual Property Regime
3. Intellectual Property Rights and Policy
4. Towards a Sui Generis System

Each technical session was presided by a chair, a keynote speaker and a co-chair.

Based on the papers received, the organizing committee awarded the following participants with cash prizes:

1. Best Researcher Award: **Ms. Gunjan Chawla**, Assistant Professor, Nirma University.
2. Second Best Paper: **Pranav Anand Ojha**, Assistant Professor, Jayoti Vidyapeeth University, Jaipur.
3. Third Best Paper: **Dr. Tanvi Sehgal**, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE LEX-FIN SUMMIT ON TECHNO-LEGAL DYNAMICS OF BANKING LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The ICFAI Foundation of Higher Education (IFHE), Hyderabad, organized a three-day International Conference Lex-Fin Summit on **Techno-Legal Dynamics of Banking Laws and Regulations**. The inaugural session was held on 23 April, 2021 at 05:00 PM.

Honourable Justice Sri. Challa Kodanda Ram, High Court Judge for the State of Telangana was the Chief Guest for the Event. Mr. Ramchandran K., the Executive Director, Indian Bank, was the guest of honour. It was presided over by Prof. J. Mahender Reddy, Vice Chancellor, IFHE.

Themes of the Conference:

1. Technical Session I: Ease of doing Business and Sustainable Funding.
2. Technical Session II: Innovative Banking: Social and Legal Inclusions.
3. Technical Session III: Restructuring of Banks: Standardization of Services.
4. Technical Session IV: Asset Privacy and Portfolio Management.
5. Technical Session V: Documentation, Legal Audit and Litigations.
6. Technical Session VI: Digital Banking and Security Formulations.
7. Technical Session VII: Crypto-Currencies: BlockChain Technologies.
8. Technical Session VIII: Distress Accounts-Insolvency Resolution.

The Valedictory Session was held on 25 April, 03:00 PM. Dr. Madhnesh Kumar Mishra, Joint Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Government of India, was the Chief Guest for the Valedictory Session. Director of ICFAI Law School, IFHE, Prof. A. V. Narsimha Rao concluded the event and the vote of thanks was given by Prof. Y. Pratap Reddy, Professor at ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad,

WEBINARS

CONVICTION AND CORRECTION ARE NOT THE END BUT GATEWAYS OF REFORMATIVE ANALYTICS

A webinar on **Conviction and Correction are not the end but gateways of Reformative Analysis** was conducted by the Legal Aid Cell of ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad on 09 August, 2021.

Introductory remarks were delivered by Prof. A. V. Narsimha Rao, Director of ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad. Hon'ble Justice Sri Dr. Siva Sankara Bulusu, Judge, Judicial Preview Process (JPP) for the state of Andhra Pradesh, former Judge, High court of Judicature at Hyderabad, for the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh was the guest speaker for the event.

Dr. T. Himavathi, Prof. Dilip Sharma and Prof Anwasha Panigrahi were the coordinators for the event.

INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY LAW - AN OVERVIEW

A webinar was conducted by ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, on **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Law - An Overview** on June 17, 2021. Mr. Omprakash Ellanti, Senior Counsel at Madras and Supreme Court of India was the Speaker for the event. The introductory remarks were presented by the Director of ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, Prof. A. V. Narsimha Rao.

CURRENT EVENTS

NINE NEW JUDGES APPOINTED TO SUPREME COURT

In a first, as many as nine judges were sworn in to the Supreme Court in a single stroke. Nine new judges, including three women, took oath as SC judges on August 31st, Tuesday. The new judges were sworn-in by Chief Justice of India (CJI) N.V. Ramana,

Traditionally, the oath of office to new judges is administered in the CJI's court room, this time the venue was shifted to the auditorium, keeping in view the need to strict adherence to COVID-19 norms.

With the sanctioned strength of 34, SC had 10 vacancies. After the appointment of 9 new judges, the strength stands at 33.



Swearing-in ceremony of new judges in SC. Credit: TOI

The nine new judges who have administered oath in office as top court judges include- Justice Abhaya Sreenivas Oka, Justice Vikram Nath, Justice K.K. Maheshwari, Justice Hima Kohli, Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Justice Bela Trivedi, Justice C.T. Sivakumar and Justice M.M. Sundaresh.

President Ram Nath Kovind signed the warrants of their appointment including that of Justice B. V. Nagarathna, who is in line to become the first woman CJI in September 2027.

The current number of sitting women judges (4) in the Supreme Court are the highest ever for the country..

ANALYSIS OF POCSO ACT A CASE STUDY

BY ARITRA KUNDU

Recently, the Madras High Court has observed that “Punishing an adolescent boy who enters into a relationship with a minor girl by treating him as an offender, was never the objective of the POCSO Act”. What is your opinion on this issue?

-ARITRA KUNDU

My opinion on the concerned issue is that the POCSO Act should be kept out of the purview of consensual sexual relationships which involves adolescents since this Act was introduced to cleanse the society of heinous criminals and safeguard the minors from sexual violence and exploitation. The notion and strong arms of this Act was to obstruct and deter the sexual crimes against the minors but due to its capacious and loosely constructed nature it even took under its grip innocent adolescents who were involved in sexual relationships evolving out of the biological nature and hormonal excitation which is a common phenomenon within young adults or adolescents.

Currently, the POCSO Act sustains these loose ends and such should be the duty of the legislature to amend it and direct the Act more specifically towards the objective it was desired for. This opinion of mine is in consonance with the judgement given by the Madras High Court in **Vijayalakshmi v. State of Madras**.

To understand the contentions of the Court there's a certain need to get familiar

with the background facts of the case. In respect to the facts, the Respondent 2 and the Petitioner 2 both adolescents got involved in a sexual relations with due consent which further matured when both of them fled from their respective homes and married each other.

The mother of the Petitioner (Petitioner 1) filed an FIR against the Respondent 2 alleging offences such as kidnapping under Section 366 of IPC and sexual violence under Section 6 and 9 of POCSO Act. The Court in the case opined that POCSO Act's objective wasn't to punish adolescents who were involved in a romantic relationship and since such cases are growing in number, the legislature should immediately step in to make the required changes to bring the Act out of the purview of such relationships. This judgement also cautioned the legislature that any such amendment should be made after taking due care as this Act touches upon a very delicate matter

If the present case is analysed on the basis of application of legal mind then according to the technicalities of the present Act, the minor boy who was involved in the consensual relationship would still be held liable and would be slapped with the harsh punishment mentioned therein without taking cognizance of factors such as: a) due consent and b) both minor.

One of the major objectives of any sexual relationship is **due consent** obtained from both the parties but in the cases concerning the POCSO Act the consent of the parties are given very less importance unless they are over 18 years of age. The Act is very strict on this aspect without considering the fact that puberty is being attained by minors at a very early age compared to the previous generation owing to various changed circumstances such as the lifestyle, exposure to the digital life, usage of drugs, etc. Due to these reasons there has to be a change in the age of giving consent or the definition of "child" within the Act by changing the age from 18 years to 16 years as the maturity is being attained at a quite an early stage. Though this contention was emphasised by the Court without citing any specific basis but according to me I believe the relation to the said judgement can be traced back to the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 where it stated that the age group of young adults from 16 years to 18 years of age can be considered to be adults. Hence, such can be inferred that they possess enough maturity to give consent for any sexual relationship as well. Such a change in the definition of "child" was also suggested in the case named **Sabari v. Inspector of Police**.

The second major factor that needs to be taken care of is the fact that in such cases both the parties are minor hence, a subtle question appears that how can a minor be treated with the same harshness as an adult. It could also be termed as a violation of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution which talks about the Right to Life and any such punishment would be completely arbitrary in nature. And any minor being charged under this Act would have his adolescent as well as his adult life completely ruined along with that such person has to carry along the guilt of being charged under the Act

In order for this Act not to be used beyond its objective the legislature must make the amendment regarding creating a distinction between above and below 16 years of age so as to differentiate between the age of valid consent and other forms of consent. It can also adopt the Romeo and Juliet laws prevalent in the American legal system in order to keep such cases involving adolescents or young adults engaging in a consensual sexual relationship from the purview of such rigorous Acts by introducing an age gap between the parties involved. Such introduction of such age gap was also emphasised by Justice Anand Venkateshwar in the present case. Since these Romeo and Juliet laws provides a backdoor from being held liable for rape of a minor such can also be used for exploitation and in order to abstain from such happening the legislature must take proper precaution and formulate guidelines that would enable the Court to ascertain whether the young adults or the adolescents involved in the act was truly consensual or not.

In the said case, one of the major arenas that the Court emphasised on is to diversify the current field of child psychology and have the legal field being intricately intertwined with it in order to understand such a situation in a much better way than it was done previously. As with the ever changing world with much faster evolution of humans psychology is deemed to be a major aspect which can not be ignored and such can never be ignored when it comes to understanding the human emotions involved in doing an act.



In conclusion to the above discussion I do believe that the ambit of POCSO Act should not include adolescents or young adults who have consented for the sexual relation without any undue influence or coercion involved in it. As with the current situation this Act still holds a heavy sword of punishment even when the possible offender is a minor and involved in a romantic relationship.

This Act turns a blind eye and swings its sword without taking into view the consent factor nor does it provide any scope for proper adjudication of these factors.

By taking such contentions in view as well as taking cognizance of the judgement given by the Madras High Court the legislature must be swift in its act of formulation of the necessary changes without much delay so that such cases can be obstructed in the near future. The Government should also be taking cognizance of the delicate nature of the situation at hand hence, it should take proper care during its formulation as well as create a possible environment so that the legal and scientific domain involving the humans can be intricately involved and justice can be served more efficiently.

PHOTO

BY ASHISH IYENGAR



INSURANCE AMENDMENT BILL

BY AMBADIPUDI MAHATHI

The Rajya Sabha has passed the **Insurance Amendment Bill 2021**. The bill will amend the Insurance Act, 1938. The bill was passed even after it received much criticism.

This bill will increase the limit of Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) from 49% to 74 % in Indian insurance companies. The bill also comprises the provision for removal of restrictions on ownership and control on the insurance companies. As per the bill, the majority of directors on the board and key management persons will have to be resident Indians. Thus, this provision will make them accountable to Indian law. Further, the bill specifies that at least half of the directors have to be independent directors which also ensures accountability. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has proposed during the presentation of the Union budget 2020-21, to liberalize the Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) in Indian insurance companies to 74%. This move will provide access to fresh capital to some of the insurers. The experts also believe that the decision will also benefit the individual policyholders. Increase in the FDI limit will also attract the foreign capital where it is required.

- **Management persons to be a resident of India:** For an Indian insurance company having foreign investment – majority of its directors, key management persons, and at least one among the chairperson of its board, its

- managing director and its chief executive officer will be a resident India.
- It is likely to help local private insurers grow fast and expand their presence across India, which has one of the lowest insurance penetration levels globally.
- The increase in foreign ownership to 74% can result in inclusion of global best practices in terms of insurance products going forward. It will also help in bringing down the cost of insurance products in India.
- It is good for Indian promoters, it will let them keep control of management and board, the additional capital inflow will help them with funds to push for growth.
- It will benefit insurance players or the ones where the sponsors don't have the ability to put in more capital and hence it will benefit in strengthening them and increasing competition across the industry.

Steps taken to penetration of Insurance in India:

- Insurance penetration in India is currently at 3.7% of the GDP compared to the world.
- Growth in the life Insurance sector has slowed to 11-12% currently from 15-20% until Fiscal 2020, as the pandemic pushed customers to save cash instead of spending on stocks or

- Life Insurance Policies.
- Till 31 st march ,2021 , only 24 life and 34 non life direct insurers in India, where 243 life insurance companies (1956) and 107 non-life insurance companies (1973) at the time of nationalization.
- There should be sufficient appetite for investment from long term investors including sovereign wealth funds, global pension funds and insurance firms.
- The sector needs capital and larger participation of the international partner for evolution and availability of global products in India and for better penetration.

Model Insurance Villages

The Insurance Regulatory and development authority of India (IRDAI) has mooted the concept of **Model Insurance Village**, to boost insurance penetration in rural areas. The idea is to offer comprehensive insurance protection to all major insurable risks that villagers are exposed to and make available covers at affordable or subsidized cost.

The IRDAI was incorporated as a statutory body in April 2000. The key objective of the IRDAI is the promotion of competition so as to enhance customer satisfaction through increased consumer choice and lower premiums while ensuring the financial security of the insurance market.

Expected Outcomes

- More capital at dispense
- Better solvency
- Insurance penetration
- Technological impetus

Key Highlights

- Foreign Investment
- Investment of Assets

The Act requires insurers to hold a minimum investment in assets which would be sufficient to clear their insurance claim liabilities. If the insurer is incorporated or domiciled outside India, such assets must be held in India with trust and vested with trustees who must be residents of India. The Ministry of Finance has notified **Indian Insurance Companies (Foreign Investment) Amendment Rules, 2021**.



PAINTING

BY SANJANA KUYYA



MENSTRUAL LEAVES: A VIOLATION OF RIGHT TO EQUALITY?

BY FARAAZ UDDIN

This paper aims to offer an exemplary perspective on what equality ideally ought to be in this long bone of contention amongst the Indian society. Additionally, this paper will explain and elaborate on the core of the key concept, namely **Distributive Justice**, used to deduce the answer to the question that is whether granting menstrual leaves to women is violating others' right to equality.

Equals must be treated equally and unequals unequally.

-Paraphrase from Plato's Distributive Justice

The last time that there was any form of lobbying on a large scale in the legislative body of the Indian federal government with regards to legally establishing provisions for menstrual leaves was in 2017. Although menstrual leaves were granted in the Indian State, Kerala, as early as 1912. The crux here is if granting menstrual leaves violates the others right to equality. To answer this, we ought to firstly understand the essence rather than the role of

Distributive Justice in delivering justice. Distributive justice essentially requires a resource to be granted to a said element of the society in proportional terms but not with a quantized sense of equality. The principles of equality in the social world are far different from the ones in the mathematical world, but unfortunately the current social norms seem to have the same working principles as the latter. Equality doesn't or for that matter is never in a perfect world the literal same treatment for all the elements of a society but rather is a pro rata treatment.

The Constitution of India embraces the essence of distributive justice and this is evident from the provisions made in Article 15, Clause 3 (Fundamental Rights) which requires that, "Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any special provision for women and children". This clearly justifies a special treatment for women in this case since they clearly are vulnerable to a biological drawback that can be as painful as a heart attack, according to a study done by University College London. On the other hand Article 42 of the Indian Constitution mandates for humane work conditions at workplace

and this law in one way is superficially disregarded by most employers because by denying the grant of menstrual leaves they are doing nothing but making a woman's workplace unsafe for her since a menstrual cycle according to a study can induce extreme tiredness or fatigue and leave women unusually unproductive on the first and second days of their cycle.

just by granting leaves? The answer simply is, no. There are a few east Asian countries like Japan that have had granted menstrual leaves to working women from as early as the World War II but till day there still hasn't been proper functional use of this provision only because of the fact that there still lies a stigma around the concept of menstrual cycles. According to a report from The Guardian (a British Daily),

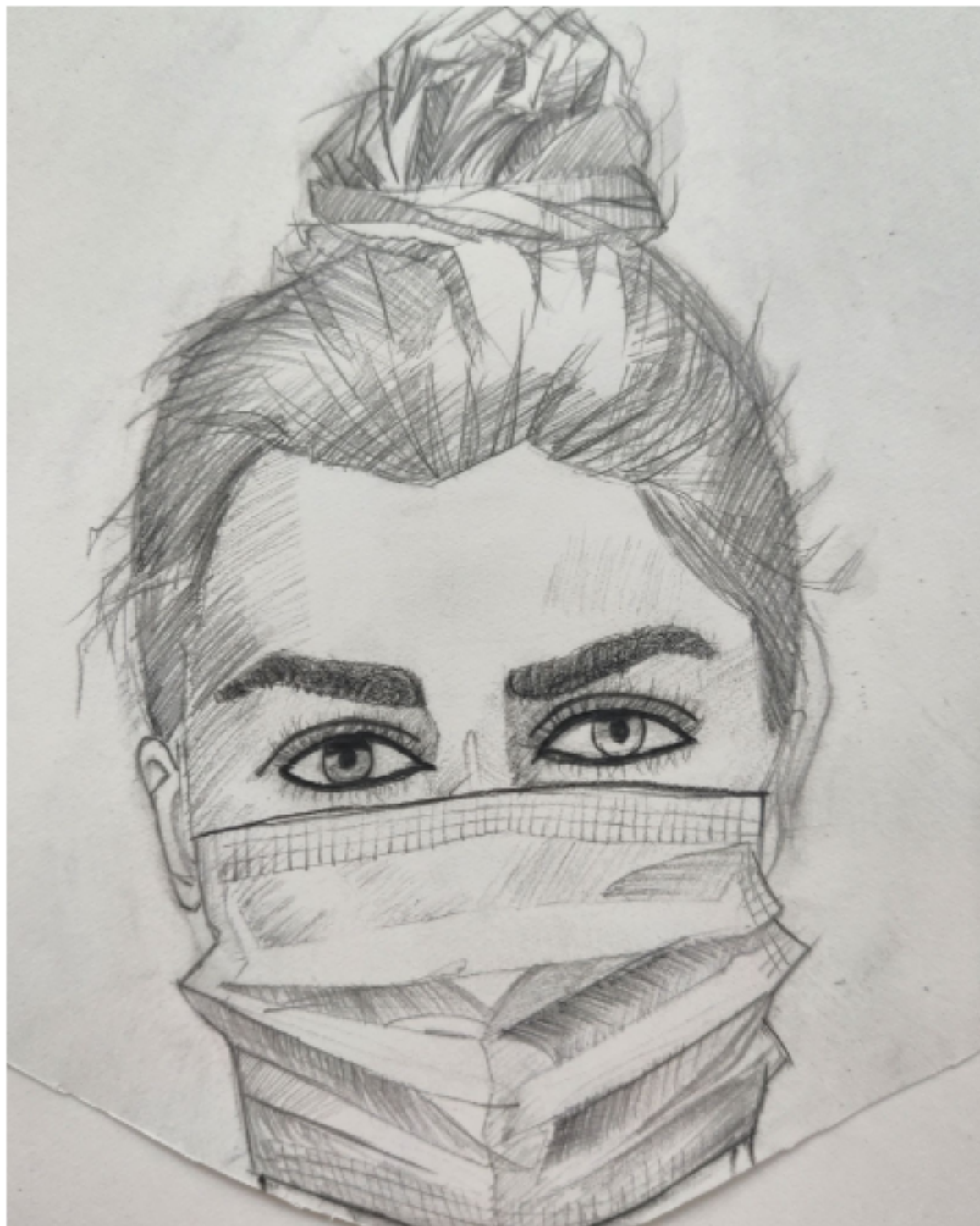


It has taken an eternity for women to be considered an equal part of the society where allowing them to vote alone has taken them about 6 decades of suffrage and fight. It is only in recent times that women of large numbers have stepped forward to participate in various activities and have been liberalized and if we as a society are still unable to provide them with norms and conditions that will act as a tool to boost their participation and liberalization then we once again as a whole have proven to fail to incorporate equality and egalitarianism into our society. But would this issue be solved

Japanese women prefer not to make use of their menstrual leaves because they dislike their male counterparts to be aware of the fact that they're currently on their menstrual cycle while other women female employees inserted that they are identified weak and fragile if they avail their menstrual leave. This is now distinctly another issue our society has to figure out together. Together we shall aim to evict any form of stigma or taboo around such a pure and intrinsic biological process, not only that but we also have to normalize discussions on such topics publicly.

SKETCH

BY VAISHALI SIDDIREDDY



INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY

BY SANIA ROUTRAY

Literacy is not a luxury, it is a right and a responsibility.

-Bill Clinton

Literacy is defined as **percentage of the population aged fifteen years and over who can both read and write with understanding a short simple statement on his or her everyday life**. It can be classified into many types, such as Digital Literacy, Civic Literacy, Functional Literacy, Content Literacy etc.

The importance of literacy for the all-round development of an individual and growth of any nation cannot be overemphasized. Literacy is the foundation for comprehensive development of any nation. Strong literacy skills are necessary to function in today's contemporary world. A means to being competent in society, it is a fundamental component of UNESCO's Right to Education. To recognize its relevance, the United Nation celebrates International Literacy Day on 8th September every year.

In 2003, the UN initiated a **United Nations Literacy Decade** under the motto **Literacy as Freedom**. Acknowledging the expanding meaning and dimensions of literacy, it proclaimed. This motto reflects the fact that over the past few decades, the conception of literacy has moved beyond

its simple notion as the set of technical skills of reading, writing and calculating—the so-called 'three Rs'—to a plural notion encompassing the manifold meanings and dimensions of these undeniably vital competencies.

Such a view, attending recent economic, political and social transformations, including globalization, and the advancement of information and communication technologies (ICTs), recognizes that there are many practices of literacy embedded in different cultural processes, personal circumstances and collective structures. As the literacy rate continues to rise from one generation to another, 13.5% of the world population—773 million adults, out of which 287 million are Indians – are still deprived of this right. Whilst developed nations such as Finland, Norway, North Korea and others boast of 100 percent literacy, third world countries continue to struggle, with South Sudan ranking lowest at 27%, followed closely by Afghanistan at 28.1%.

In India, a person aged seven and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language is treated as literate. The average literacy rate in India stands at 77.7% with Kerala topping the

chart at 95.2% and Andhra Pradesh performing the worst with only 66.4% literacy.

Recognizing the importance of education, the constitution lays down several provisions to ensure the proper implementation of educational rights; Free and Compulsory Education for children below 14, Education of minorities, Equality of Opportunity in educational institutions – these provisions have helped improve Indian literacy that stood at 12% after the end of British rule.

Unsurprisingly, while the global literacy rate for males stands at 90%, it is 82.7% for females. This gap widens even further in India with male literacy at 84.7% and

due to the unprecedented COVID-19 crisis.

The pandemic is a major setback for literacy drives around the globe, but it paved the way for a new form of learning– remote learning. Digital learning is a relatively new concept and hasn't reached all parts of the world yet. On the one hand, it makes sharing information faster, students digitally smarter and learning more interactive, but on the other hand, it widens the economic and social divide as access to smart devices and the internet is still limited.



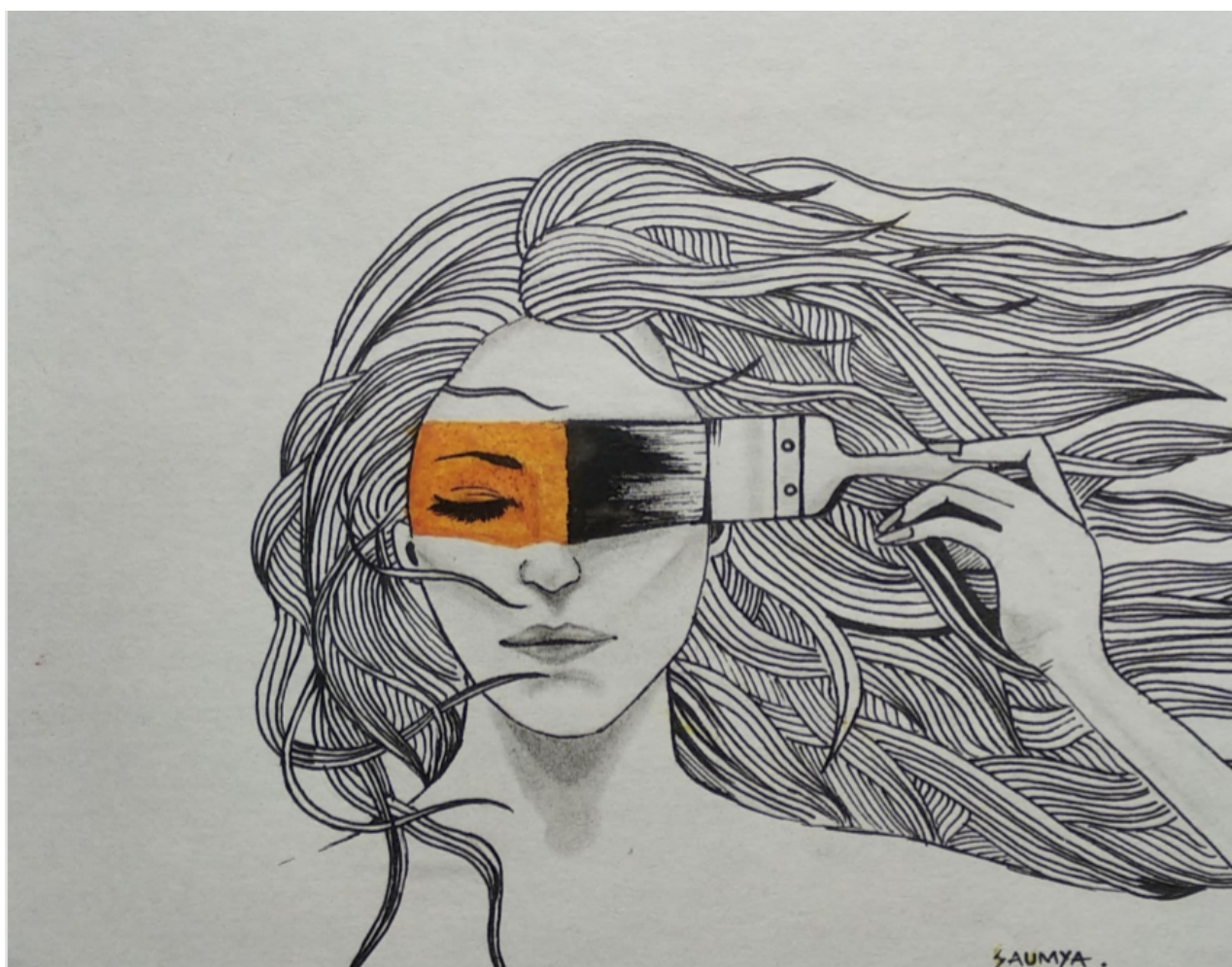
female literacy at 70.3%. The problem of gender disparity remains embedded in literacy, the reason being lack of awareness among women and deep-rooted patriarchy. Although there was only a sluggish 9.2% literacy growth during 2001-2011, female literacy saw an increase, especially after the implementation of free education in rural areas for both men and women. Every International Literacy Day has a specific theme in accordance with **Education For All** goals and other UN literary programs. This year's theme – **Literacy for a human-centered recovery: Narrowing the digital divide** – aims to resolve the issue of disrupted learning

The Annual Status of Education Report 2020 showed only one-third of India's school children could pursue online education. Consequently, educational activists are seeking changes to the online education system to safeguard universal access to education, with special emphasis on tribal areas and marginalized communities.

With internet penetration rate of 50% (59.5% globally) and campaigns like Digital India underway, **Inclusive distance and digital literacy learning** for all is not a distant dream.

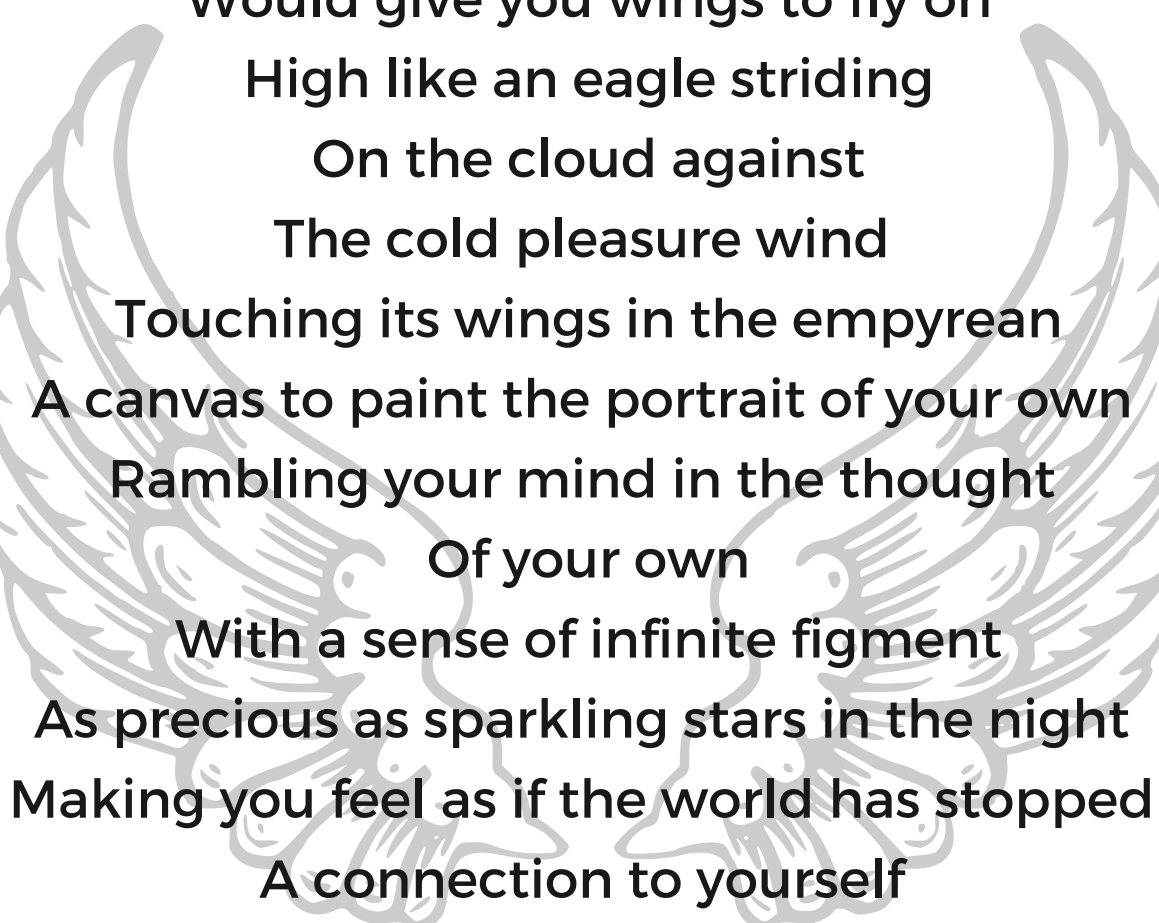
PAINTING

BY SAUMYA MODI



A LITTLE FREEDOM

BY PRACHI SINGH



A little freedom
Would give you wings to fly on
High like an eagle striding
On the cloud against
The cold pleasure wind
Touching its wings in the empyrean
A canvas to paint the portrait of your own
Rambling your mind in the thought
Of your own
With a sense of infinite figment
As precious as sparkling stars in the night
Making you feel as if the world has stopped
A connection to yourself
As the rejoice of heaven
A chaste of piety within.

PRODUCTIVITY HACKS FOR LAW STUDENTS

BY KHUSHBU SHARMA

Life as a law Student is not easy. There is so much to do that at times that even 24 hours a day fees less but not anymore! With an effective and efficient strategy you can get more done within less time.

Being productive is not working 24 x 7, it is to finish the necessary tasks with ease while taking care of your mental and physical health.

So, here are a few tips and tricks that can help you build a solid strategy and have a productive life as a Law Student.

Follow Pomodoro Technique

This technique is a time management hack where you do your work for 25 minutes and then take a 5 minute break. This helps you stay focused and even give your brain the rest it needs. You can easily get back to work after the break with a fresh mind and that will help you work better. Focus To-Do is a Chrome extension that can help you follow this technique

Make To-Do Lists

When you write what you need to do, you get so much clarity about how you need to go about things and what all needs to be done. While making a list, make sure you follow the prioritisation rule, where you start off with things that need your immediate attention.

Have a Clear Workspace

Your surroundings affect you in various ways, so make sure the place you are studying is tidied up. You can even have a few motivational posters above your table which will give you a boost to keep going.

Identify the ways the help you learn Better

Knowing the method that helps you learn faster, is a game changer. If you are a visual learner you might want to try using flash cards, if you learn when you listen then go for podcasts and if you are like the ones who learn from writing then make notes.

Each one of you is different and has different capabilities, capacities and speed when it comes to learning, so figure out something that works the best for you.

Take care of your Health

The current situation makes us realise the importance of physical and mental health. While studying and getting busy with work, make sure you are taking care of yourself because the one who is healthy always works better. Take out some time for yourself and do things that you enjoy, it can be reading or workout or anything that will help you elevate your mood and hence resulting in better productivity.

To conclude, the biggest hack of productivity will always be time management and a clear head space so strive to get better at both of these things.

MOOTERS AND SHOOTERS



Shubham Kumar Dalara, Ebad Ur Rahman and Aritra Kundu, IV-Year students of ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, won the KLE National Moot Court Competition conducted by KLE College of Law, Navi Mumbai, during 26-29 August, 2021, They were adjudged as Winners by beating Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad, in the Finals. Jamadar J. of the Bombay High Court was among the judges for the Finals. **Ebad Ur Rahman** also won the First Best Advocate Award in the competition. There were almost 20 teams in the competition and our team faced four gruelling rounds to reach the Final.

On behalf of the Magazine Committee and Erga Literarium, we wish them the very best for their future!

DREAM OF A BURGEONING NATION

BY AREEBA FEROZ KHAN

Crime and corruption,
Favouritism and war,
We're not making our nation burgeoning at all.

Politicians? They talk,
Poor people being mocked,
Are we really helping our nation
burgeon at all?

Eyes of an infant filled with dreams to fly over the world,
Lack of facilities gives them nothing at all.

Farmers in their field, growing crops as their shield,
Gets nothing in the end but their misery gets them killed.

Living in dirt, playing with rifles,
Our soldiers need more than honour and no
one can deny that.

Zip that mouth, cut those wings,
You're a woman you must not dream.

Wage of a labour is extremely low,

But the load on their shoulders is exceptionally high,
Will we ever be able to burgeon or it's just a beautiful lie?

PHOTO

BY HEENA FERAZ KHAN



WHITE COLLAR CRIME IN INDIA

BY KINJAL SUCHAK

White-collar crime is not new to India The scale is.

-R.V.Raman

White-collar crimes are non-violent crimes perpetrated by individuals, businesses and government professionals. These are committed by the persons who, often by virtue of their occupations exploit their social, technical and economic powers for personal and financial gains. The term white-collar crime was coined in the 1930s by an American criminologist Edwin Sutherland. He referred to this phrase to describe the crimes committed by the people of high societal status and values- "person of respectability". It is also known as the crime of educated and professionals. It refers to the people who belong to higher class societies, with good reputation in the society.

White collar crimes generally have a financial motive. These crimes have evolved in the last few years. These crimes are generally committed in large organizations where various activities are performed, and can be seen happening in trade, commerce, educational institutions, health sectors etc.

As this is the crime committed by elite people, it includes high financial scandals and misrepresentations in their occupational course.

BLUE-COLLAR V WHITE-COLLAR CRIME:

- criminal activity done by the general public. It stems from the general criminal activity to which criminals have access to. Whereas white collar crime is committed by the persons with good position.
- The white-collar crimes are mostly committed by intelligent and smart persons unlike the criminals of blue-crimes
- White-collar crimes are focused on monetary crimes and are not personal in nature, whereas blue-collar crimes are not just of monetary nature, it includes all the types of crimes and they are meant to personally attack.
- The blue-collar criminals are detrimental toward law agencies as the punishment is rigorous imprisonment, but the punishment in case of white-collar crime is short term imprisonment or fines.
- The economic loss is quite higher in white-collar crime than in ordinary blue-collar crimes.
- White-collar crimes are very well planned and executed, whereas the blue-collar crimes are committed out of rage and revenge.
- The loss will be to the finances or cash, in case of white-collar crimes, and in blue-collar crimes the loss will be physical.
- The white-collar crime is also known as socio-economic crime as it affects the society at large. This crime not just affects the criminals but also other people in the society. One white-collar crime is committed, and the whole economy suffers. Prices of
- Blue-collar crime is the general

commodities and services rise in order to make good the losses that occurred due to various scandals and scams the tax rates also increase, and in this way the general citizens of a particular country have to suffer because of these crimes. One financial fraud impacts the businessman, investors and government at large.

There are several types of white-collar crimes, like:

- **FRAUD:** It is a crime committed with the intention of deceiving and gaining through undue influence. Bank fraud is a fraud related to the banks where the fraudulent companies deceive the banks. This affects society at large as there is a trust between public and banks, and this would become a public concern. It is one of the most common crimes under white-collar crime and also corporate crimes.



- **CYBER CRIMES:** Cyber crime is a crime related to computer networks. With an increase in technological advancement there's also an increase in cyber crime. It leads to financial loss and as a threat to the privacy of a person. This is one of the major causes in the present era.

- **MONEY LAUNDERING:** It is a crime where the business person earns money by the illicit acts and then somehow shows it in the legal earnings. This happens where the business deals with huge funds. Basically they try to show the transparency of their business besides the fact being that the earnings are from illegitimate sources, and this will help the business earn much without getting punished. But they have to bear the consequences when caught.
- **BRIBING:** This means offering a commission to a higher authority person in return for a favor. It is done for the purpose of insisting the higher authority person to do or refrain from doing something for their personal or organization's benefit.
- **TAX EVASION:** It is a crime wherein the person conceals their position and the taxable income, which eventually will let them pay less taxes.
- **PONZI SCHEME:** This is an investment scam where the investors are promised extremely higher returns for their investment. Initially they do pay high returns to the investors with the help of the funds received, but later on when the firm runs out of funds, the scheme simply collapses and the investors are left as they are, with huge losses.
- **IDENTITY THEFT:** In the present era of advanced technology it is easy to access personal information of any person, and through this the criminals illegally use someone's personal information and identity for their gains. These are just the limited

crimes perpetrated by white-collar criminals, there are many various kinds of crime committed by reputed individuals and corporations.

There are certain legislations which are against the white-collar crimes in India. These include:

- Indian Companies Act, 2013
- Income Tax Act, 1961
- Indian Penal Code, 1860.
- Commodities Act, 1955.
- Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988
- Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 2018.
- Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002

- IT Act, 2005
- Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1950

These legislations provide various punishments for the white-collar criminals, depending on the crime perpetrated.

We can conclude from the above information that white-collar crimes are perpetrated by highly reputed people with great social standing. It is concerned with financial frauds and scams for one's gain. It includes all the professionals and individuals of high order, and the crimes committed. They are punished under white-collar crimes and other legislations as well.



SKETCH

BY SINCHU V. SUTHRAVE



RANSOMWARE ATTACKS

BY K. REETHAMSHI

Cyberattacks are the new form of attacks that pose a threat to the world. Ransomware is a type of malicious software (malware) that generally uses encryption to threaten, publish or block access to data or a computer system until the victim pays a ransom fee to the attacker. Sometimes, the ransom demand comes with a deadline. If the victim does not pay on time, the data will be gone forever.

Today, ransomware attacks are all too common. Large corporations in North America and Europe alike have fallen victim to it. Cyber Criminals will attack any consumer or any corporation and victims from all walks of life.

The history of ransomware can be traced back to 1989 when the **AIDS virus** was used to blackmail money from recipients of ransomware. The payment for this attack was made through the mail to Panama at which time, the decryption key was also mailed back to the user.

Attackers have become creative over the years by demanding payments that are untraceable and helping the cybercriminals to remain anonymous. For instance, the notorious Fusob mobile ransomware requires victims to pay with Apple iTunes gift cards instead of regular currencies such as U.S. Dollars.

With the growth of cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin, ransomware attacks have become popular. Cryptocurrency is

a digital currency that uses encryption technology to verify and protect transactions and control the creation of new units. Besides Bitcoin, the attackers also urge victims to use other popular cryptocurrencies, such as Ethereum, Litecoin, and Ripple.

Ransomware has hit almost every organization in almost every field. One of the most famous viruses is the attack on the Presbyterian Memorial Hospital. This attack highlights the potential damage and risks of ransomware. This attack affected laboratories, pharmacies and emergency rooms.

WannaCry was a powerful Microsoft ransomware that infected 2,50,000 systems worldwide before a killswitch stopped its spread. CryptoLocker was one of the first malware that demanded payment through Bitcoin (cryptocurrency). This virus was spread through an email with an attachment that claimed to be delivery services notifications. NotPetya was regarded as one of the most damaging ransomware attacks. It infected and encrypted the master boot record systems which are based on Microsoft windows. It has been classified by some as a wiper since NotPetya cannot undo its changes to the master boot record and renders the target system unrecoverable. These are some of the ransomware attacks which affected the worldwide population and extorted millions of money.

Preventing ransomware attacks generally

involves setting up and testing backups, and applying for ransomware protection in security tools. Security tools like email protection gateways are the primary line of defence while endpoints are a secondary line of defence. Intrusion Detection Systems (IDSs) are used to detect ransomware commands and controls to warn of a ransomware system calling a control server. User training is very important, but user training is only one of several layers of defence against ransomware and plays a role after the ransomware is sent via email phishing.

In the event other preventative ransomware defences fail, the backup measure is to store Bitcoin. This is more common when the immediate damage

could affect the customers or users of the affected company. Hospitals and the hotel industry, as well as the lives of patients, are particularly at risk from ransomware. They could be affected or people could be locked inside or outside the premises

If you ever fall prey to any of the ransomware, you should never pay the ransom and should stop talking with them further. And always file a complaint with the competent authorities. Several government agencies, including the FBI, advise against paying the ransom in order not to promote the ransomware cycle, as does the "No More Ransom Project". Besides, half the victims who pay the ransom are likely to be exposed to repeated ransomware attacks. You can prevent these by being security conscious and aware.



PHOTO

BY ASHISH IYENGAR



THE DESTINATION

BY SOUJANYA

It was day four of our trip. My sister and I had been waiting desperately for this part of the trip. We are very very anxious to go to **the destination**. We had reached the hotel room late in the evening. After freshening up we went to the local market to try the street food which we had heard about a lot. The food did deserve all the fame it had got. After some sight seeing we went on to get a few things ready for the next day's plan. We had to get the access to go to the destination. We were informed that there had been a landslide the day before and it would be hard to get a pass, as the authorities had limited the number of passes.

Never in my life had I prayed the way I did that day! Finally after 30 minutes of intense waiting (and praying!), we were informed that we had gotten the passes. We were all very excited to go to the destination. I could not sleep that night! It was around 4:45 AM in the morning when we started our journey. It was 8 degrees Celsius. I had put on 2 sweaters and also covered myself with a shawl and somehow it was still cold. Though it was only 60 km away, the road was very uneven. All through the way we kept the windows open though our hands went numb. It took us 2 hours to reach. Finally I was there, the place I had dreamt from the past 3 years. It was even more beautiful than I had imagined. Big brown mountains covered with snow. It was like a big white mat on all sides and in between was a small pond.

The water; crystal clear, was reflecting the mountains. As I was still processing the view I had just seen, it began to drizzle. My joy knew no bounds. The water drops touching the surface of the pond slightly changing the shape of the mountains was just mesmerising. It was perfect. There are no words to explain the beauty of nature. It has been 3 years since I have been to **Nathula Pass-Sikkim** and I recollect it every single day!

आज़ादी

BY SAUMYA MODI

आज़ादी क्या है?

पर ना होते हुए भी उड़ने की चाहत होना?
घर ना होते हुए भी इमारत की ख्वाहिश होना?
दुख से लिपटे बदन पर खुशियों की लकीर बनाना?
या लकीर सीमाओं की धुंधला कर जाना?
क्या अपनी राह खुद बनाना है आज़ादी?
क्या जीते या हारे, बस लड़ना है आज़ादी?
क्या आग की आंगारो को बुझाना है आज़ादी? या खुद
उसमें जल जाना है आज़ादी?
सबको साथ लेकर चलना या खुद की राह चुनना
क्या है आज़ादी?

PAINTING

BY SANJANA KUYYA



एक सुकून सा मेहसूस होता है

BY VEDDIKA P. DUTTA

एक सुकून सा मेहसूस होता है
जब चोट लगने पर माँ हमें गले लगा लेती है।

एक सुकून सा मेहसूस होता है
जब दिनों से बिछड़ा दोस्त हमें कस के गले लगाता है

एक सुकून सा महसूस होता है
टीचर की डांट के बाद दोस्त हमें हंसाने की कोशिश करता है

एक सुकून सा महसूस होता है
जब वो चेहरा दिख जाए जिसे बरसों से देख ना पाए हो

एक सुकून सा महसूस होता है
जब मां की खुशी के आंसू बहे तुम्हारे कामयाबी पर

एक सुकून सा महसूस होता है
जब मेहनत की कमाई आती है।
जब औलाद नाम रोशन करता है।

और एक सुकून सा महसूस होता है
जब बरसों बाद औलाद का चेहरा दिखता है।

इस सुकून को पहचानना बहुत आसान होता है
और इस सुकून से मिली खुशी हर बेजान चीज में जान भर देता है।

NATIONAL HANDLOOM DAY

BY NAMANA SHREYA ARCHALA

The wearer of Khadi from a Swadeshi standpoint is like a man making use of his lungs. A natural and obligatory act has got to be performed, whether others do it out of impure motives or refrain altogether because they do not believe in its necessity or utility.

— Mahatma Gandhi

The handloom industry in India has been playing an imperative role in preserving India's rich cultural heritage and socio-economic development of the country. The Union Government had declared 7th of August as the National Handloom Day in July 2015 with the objective of generating awareness about the importance of the handloom industry to the socio economic development of the country. August 7 was chosen as the National Handloom Day to commemorate the Swadeshi Movement which was launched on this day in 1905 in Calcutta Town Hall to protest against the partition of Bengal by the British Government. The movement had aimed at reviving domestic products and production processes. Handlooms have been a significant face of India's fight for freedom. Over the years, the sector became a symbol of our country's rich and varied cultural heritage. During the days of freedom struggle, Gandhiji started the Swadeshi Movement which promoted the use of indigenous products. Khadi became a weapon and a symbol of India's freedom, self-reliance, pride, and resilience.

Among the many sectors, the handloom

industry is one of the major symbols that represents Indian cultural heritage. It also holds a great cultural significance in history. This industry has been an important source of livelihood and employment in every part of the country, especially for women. Thus, the day is to make people aware of the rich history of Indian handloom at a time when synthetic fabrics took over the textile industry.

From Kanjeevaram of Tamil Nadu to Punjab's Phulkari, from Chanderi from Madhya Pradesh to Odisha's Ikat, each Indian state has its own traditional handloom preserving in them the true essence of India. These handlooms are a window to India's rich culture, heritage, beauty, and art to the world.

But the Poor infrastructure, older looms and inaccessibility to reach prime markets have made the lives of handloom weavers difficult. While many organisations and NGOs have been helping local communities to reach consumers directly, there is a need to make it a level playing field of weavers of

every income bracket, be it a master weaver with over 50 people working under him, or a smaller weaver, who with his six-member family works from home. While there are nearly 13 government schemes currently for weavers, there's basically three per cent that is aware of the Weavers Health Insurance Scheme and only 10.5 per cent know of the credit waivers for loans that they can avail (Handloom Census 2019-2020). The need for awareness, accessibility to markets and design R&D, easy access to raw material and better credit support can make a difference to weavers in different corners of the country. Last year, our PM launched several campaigns to help these weavers after the Coronavirus pandemic started disrupting the economy. Several programmes like the **Atmanirbhar Bharat, Vocal for Local** campaign, and **Make in India** were launched to solidify the country's positioning in the global textile market. The National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC) has organized a national level, **My Handloom My Pride Expo** at Dilli Haat, New Delhi from August 1 to August 15, 2021,

to mark the 7th anniversary of National Handloom Day. Further, PM Narendra Modi has also urged the nation to buy Indian handloom products and showcase its grandeur by associating with **#MyHandloomMyPride**.

The handloom sector is the 2nd largest employment provider in the country, providing employment and empowerment to a large number of women in the country. Over 70% of handloom weavers and allied workers in the sector are women. Darshana Jardosh, the Minister of State for Textiles also said that the **My Handloom My Pride Expo** will give a big boost to the weavers and artisans in the pandemic period. According to the 4th handloom census (2019-2020), a total number of 35.22 lakh handloom workers are engaged in the sector.

The sector is set on the right path towards making the weavers, the industry, and thus the nation **AtmaNirbhar**.



PHOTO

BY KINJAL SUCHAK



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