

VIPSLAW Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 3

March, 2022



श्रद्धावानम् लभते ज्ञानम्



**VIVEKANANDA INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
VIVEKANANDA SCHOOL OF LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES**

VIPSLAW NEWSLETTER

VIPS

योग: कर्मसु कौशलम्

IN PURSUIT OF PERFECTION

VIVEKANANDA INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
VIVEKANANDA SCHOOL OF LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES

LIFE@LAW SCHOOL

Memorandum of Understanding signed with National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi



On 25th March, 2022 Memorandum of Understanding was signed between National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi and Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies, Delhi at VIPS Campus, Delhi. The MOU signing ceremony was held in the presence of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Kesava Rao Vurakula, National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi, Shri. Suneet Vats, Vice-Chairman, VIPS, Prof. R Venkata Rao, Chairperson, VSLLS and VSES, Prof. Dr. T V Subba Rao, Professor-Emeritus

and Prof. Dr. Rashmi Salpekar, Dean, VSLLS, VIPS.

On the same day, The faculty of Law of Contract namely Ms. Cheshta Dahiya, Ms. Sonia Maan, Ms. Manan Dardi, Ms. Anchal Mittal, Dr. Ashu Dhiman, and Mr. Avinash organised a guest lecture on 'standard form of contract' which was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Kesava Rao Vurakula, Vice-Chancellor National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi. Prof.



Kesava Rao enlightened the students about the nature of contract, essentials of a contract, contractual relationships, Indian Contract Act(1872) and the standard form of contract. He discussed various landmark judgements and made the lecture intriguing for the students by using a plethora of examples and maintaining active interaction. Ashu Dhiman, and Mr. Avinash organised a guest lecture on 'standard form of contract'

which was delivered by Prof. (Dr.) Kesava Rao Vurakula, Vice-Chancellor National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi. Prof. Kesava Rao enlightened the students about the nature of contract, essentials of a contract, contractual relationships, Indian Contract Act(1872) and the standard form of contract. He discussed various landmark judgements and made the lecture intriguing for the students by using a plethora of examples and maintaining active interaction.

A Golden Moment for VSLLS, VIPS



VSLLS bagged five of the University gold medals for postgraduate and under graduate courses as declared by the GGS Indraprastha University. The following

students received gold medals during the 14th Convocation of GGSIPU: Sarthak Arora (LLM) Batch 2019-20, Saumya Punj (LLM) Batch 2020-21 & BA LLB Batch 2015-20, Vinay Juneja (BALLB) Batch 2016-21 & Akanksha Yadav (BBA LLB) Batch 2016-21

VSLLS awarded with National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Project



VIPS continues to strive towards nation building by equipping students with work-skills while, at the same time, raising the bar of legal research. It is a proud moment for the institution that our faculty members Prof. (Dr.) Rashmi Salpekar, Dean, VSLLS and Dr. Navjeet Sindhu Kundal, Assistant

Professor, VSLLS have been awarded a prestigious Research Project by the National Human Rights Commission on the topic of Working of Ashram (Tribal) Schools in Central India.

Inaugural Session of the Value-Added Course on Culture, Heritage and Law



On 29th March, 2022, inaugural session of the Value added course “Culture, Heritage and Law” was organized by the course convener, Dr. Aditi Mann. The event was graced with the presence of Guest of Honor, Prof. Nayanjot Lahiri , professor at Ashoka University, Prof. R. Venkata Rao, Chairperson, VSLLS & VSES and Prof. Rashmi Salpekar, Dean, VSLLS,VIPS. Prof. Lahiri in her address mentioned the role of State and significance of Laws in conserving the National Heritage. The session

received overwhelming response from the first semester students.

Participation of students of law in an International webinar on Russian and Ukrainian Engagement with International Law



Students of law participated in an International Webinar on Russian and Ukrainian Engagement with International Law by Professor Ben Saul, Challis Chair of International Law at the University of Sydney and an Associate Fellow of Chatham House (the Royal Institute of International Affairs) in London on Saturday, 26 March 2022 at 12.00 p.m. (IST). The webinar was organised by Indian Society of International Law, Delhi. The Law School made all efforts to

engage students effectively for their academic development. The students of the VI semester along with Prof Rashmi Salpekar, Dean, VSLLS, VIPS participated in the webinar. Names of the student participants are as follows: Ms Sameeksha Dua, Manvi, Heba Ajaz, Jia Singh, Naman Grover, Disha Sisodia, Diva Sarvagya, Priyanshi Sahrma, Srishti Bhardwaj, Paarijat, Rishi Raj Gautam, Vaishnavi Singh.

Legal Aid Drive under DSLSA Project : Legal Awareness and Outreach Programme

VIPS Legal Aid Centre under the aegis of the Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLSA) has commenced the project: "Legal Awareness and Outreach Programme" with the goal to contribute to the development of society through a strong legal approach. The project was inaugurated on 15th February, 2022 and will continue for a duration of six months. VLAC has taken up 20 villages for which 100 law students have volunteered.



The month of March commenced with enthusiasm among the student volunteers. The volunteers interacted and noted down the problems of the people. They filled questionnaires and distributed pamphlets according to their problems. Also, people were made aware about the free legal aid facility available right around the corner. In Ghevra village, students noted water logging and cleanliness issues. In Raghubir Nagar, students apprised

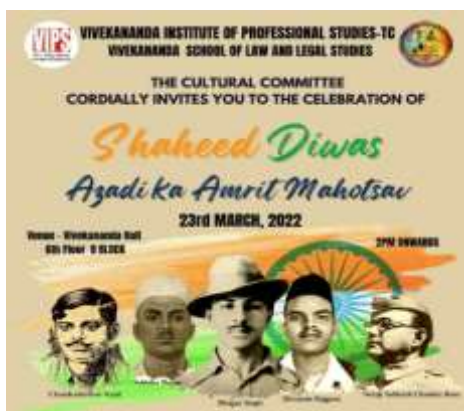


March, 2022

the villagers about the documents needed for admission of their ward to schools.

It was also found that the inhabitants were facing many problems primarily related to birth certificates, Aadhar cards, and Ration cards, denial of school admission to their children, pension issues, cases of domestic violence and atrocities of the authorities faced by the marginalized sections etc. People have started recognizing and approaching the volunteers and discussing with them their problems. The volunteers are able to build a bond with the villagers.

“SHAHEED DIWAS”



The Cultural Committee of VSLLS, VIPS organized a program on the occasion of “Shaheed Diwas” on March 23, 2022. The event commenced with Prof. R. Venkata Rao addressing the students with his golden words of wisdom. This was followed by Lakshay Sharma’s poetry and a classical group dance performance by Liza Popli, Lakshita, Swati Singh and Kavya Bajaj. Later on a symphonic duet song was performed by Prachi Ray and Aditya Pandey. A vigorously dynamic dance drama was performed by Ananya Singh, Gaurika Verma, Jhalak mehta, Danish Chandra, Ananya Agarwal, Drishti

Ahuja, Shreya Jha, Mahika Bisht, Rishi Raj Gautam, Harshita Thakran, Shubhangi Gupta, Tanishka Bali, Sanya gupta and Kinjal Sharma displaying the life of a soldier which was concluded by Keshni through her epic poem presentation.



Dr. T.V. Subba Rao (Professor-Emeritus) addressed the gathering with his words of enlightenment, followed by a solo song performed by Jhalak Bhargav. Later, a solo dance by Khushi Ahuja and a duet dance was performed by Ishika and Arya Pandey. Suhani also recited her heartfelt words through poetry.

The performances ended with a group song performed by Jhalak

Bhargav, Raagansh Kaushik, Srijaa Grover, Bikram, Aditya Pandey, Aditya Chaudhary, Prachi Ray, Keshav Soni, Aryan Dabas, Sunidhi Bhutani, Dhruv Mathur, Arshdeep, Swati Singh, Yash Parashar, Yash Singh, Mansi Goyal and Rachin Kataria.

After this, Prof. Dr. Rashmi Salpekar (Dean, VSLLS) conveyed her message to the students and performed a song filled with melodious warmth followed by the vote of thanks by Dr. Namrata Arora. The event was convened by Dr. Namrata Arora, Convenor together with Ms. Chabbi Ojha Malik, Dr. Shefali Sachdeva and Ms. Manini Syali.



Women's Day Celebration



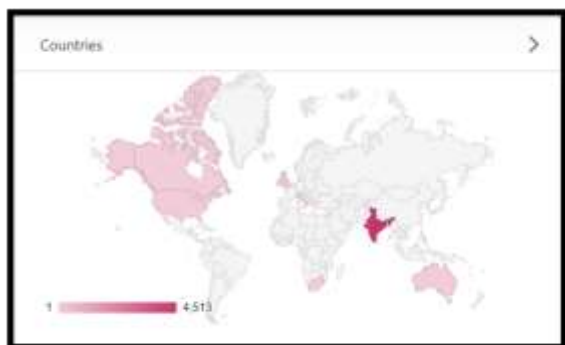
On 8th March, 2022, VLSS organized an online session to celebrate the occasion of International Women's Day. The event commenced with an opening address by Prof. (Dr.) Rashmi Salpekar, Dean VSLLS, wherein she welcomed Prof. R. Venkata Rao (Chairperson, VSLLS) and Prof. Dr. T.V. Subba Rao (Professor-Emeritus). Dr. Salpekar in her address highlighted the significance of the day for the law school and how the values of women empowerment and equality guide the institution's everyday functioning. Prof. Venkata Rao also enlightened the staff members present with his words of wisdom. He discussed how in every person's lifetime there are three motherly figures, namely the biological mother, a teacher and the mother land, which help in

giving meaning to life and determine a person's fate. Prof. Subba Rao in his speech acknowledged the hard work and dedication of the female faculty members and how they act like the driving force of the institution. After these encouraging words, faculty members were



invited to share their ideas. Dr. Sushila Sharma, Dr. Garima Singh, Mr. Paras Aggarwal and Mr. Vivek Verma, shared their thoughts pertaining to the occasion. Dr. Garima talked about the support rendered by the institution towards female faculty members and how it helps in creating a balance between work and personal life. Mr. Paras talked about the contribution of women towards growth and development of the Indian economy and that in the future much better avenues lie in front of the women workforce of the nation.

VIPS Law Blog Completes Six Months



The Vivekananda School of Law & Legal Studies under the umbrella of the Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies affiliated to GGSIP University, New Delhi launched two law blogs in 2021; the VIPS Law Blog in September 2021 and the VSLLS Chairperson's Blog in November 2021.

The VIPS Law Blog aims to host original

March, 2022

contributions consisting of in-depth analysis and interpretation of legal issues and concepts. The mission of the blog is to promote academic scholarship through the development of legal reasoning and argumentation. The blog has hosted entries from many leading professionals in the legal fraternity including law firm partners and leading academics in the field of law. Our student entries also boost a wide diversity including entries from National Law Universities, State Government Law Schools and Private Law Schools from all across the country.

The VSLLS Chairperson's Blog hosts entries handpicked by Prof. (Dr.) R. Venkata Rao, Chairperson, Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies (VSLLS) and Vivekananda schools of English Studies(VSES), in Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies (VIPS), New Delhi. The blog aims to create a virtual research library including articles from various national dailies on matters ranging from law and policy to culture and technology. The blogs have viewers from over 15 countries including India, the United States of America, Australia, the United Kingdom, Finland and many more.

The platform hopes to create an environment conducive to the exchange of opinion amongst law students, academicians, jurists, legal practitioners, and law and policy enthusiasts. It accommodates submissions that initiate, further, and transform discourse on matters of law.

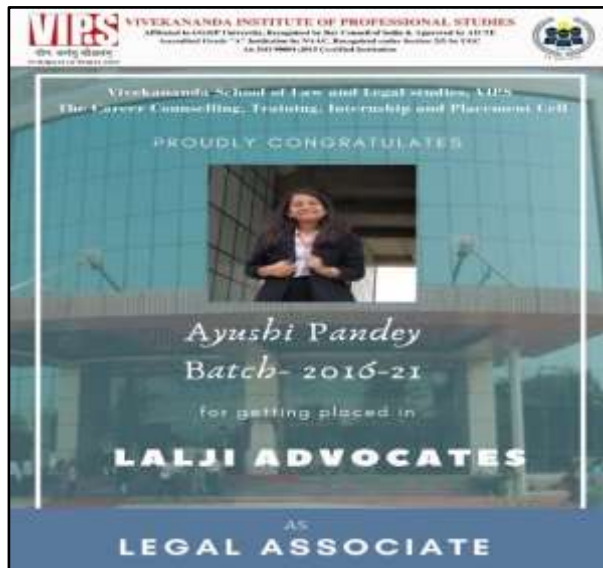
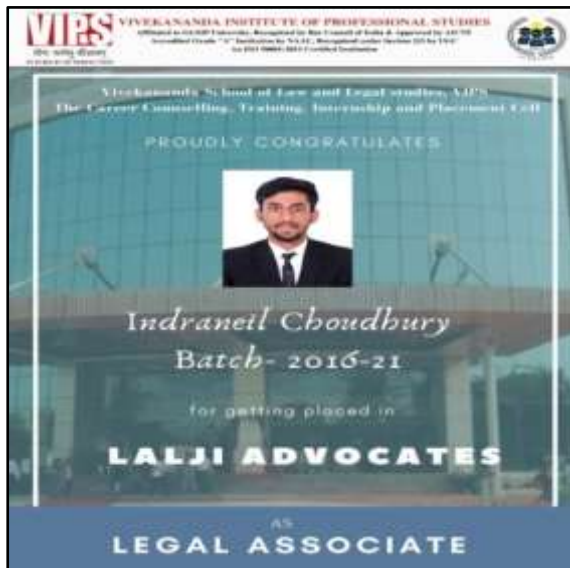
Guest Lecture on 'Investigation' under Criminal Procedure Code



The faculty members of VSLLS, VIPS, teaching Code of Criminal Procedure, organised a guest lecture on 'Investigation: Provisions and Procedure under Cr.P.C' on 12th March. The guest speaker for the same was Mr. Raja Bagga, Clinical Lecturer of Law, Jindal Global Law School. Mr. Bagga holds a M.Sc. in Criminal Justice Policy from the London School of Economics as a *Chevening Scholar* and has worked for more than eight years at the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI). His practical knowledge in the domain of criminal justice and restorative justice proved to be beneficial for the students.

ALUMNI CORNER

VSLLS Alumni Bag Placement Offers



Mr. Indraneil Choudhury and Ms. Ayushi Pandey, of the Batch 2016-21, successfully got placed as Legal Associates in Lalji Advocates.



From the same batch i.e. 2016-21, Ms. Niharika Bajaj received a placement offer from the prestigious Tata Capital Finance Services Limited, for the post of Legal Assistant Manager and Ms. Jagriti Vij, was offered the post of Legal Associate at Positive Moves (India) Consulting Private Limited.

Lexplore Webinar

The Alumni Engagement Committee of the Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies (VSLLS), VIPS conducted LEXPLORE to help connect present law students of VSLLS to alumni of the law school. It was conducted on Monday, 21st March 2022. Mr. Manik Ahluwalia, Principal Associate P&A Law Offices was the Guest Speaker for the event and Prof. (Dr.) Rashmi Salpekar Dean, VSLLS, VIPS was also present for the session.

VIVEKANANDA SCHOOL OF LAW AND LEGAL STUDIES
ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE
INVITES YOU TO A WEBINAR

LEXPLORE 2022

An annual event for law students to enhance their skills

ADVOCATE MR. MANIK AHLUWALIA
(VIPS ALUMNUS)
Principal Associate
P&A Law offices

4:30-5:30 PM MARCH 21, 2022
PART 1

CLICK HERE TO JOIN

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

DR. NIPUN GUPTA JAIN
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
(CONVENER, ALUMNI
ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE)

DR. TUSHITA SHARMA
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
(CO-CONVENER, ALUMNI
ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE)

For further queries, contact: (Student Co-ordinators)

LIPU GARG (+91-9999589759)
SAHARSH PANJWANI (+91 90139 05521)

The esteemed guest speaker Mr. Manik Ahluwalia started the session by interacting with the students and during the interaction, varied issues were discussed by Mr. Manik as to how to approach for internships, how to choose a niche practice area, client acquisition, how to develop drafting skills during law school, deciding which chamber to join after law school and many more.

While addressing the student on internships, Mr. Manik encouraged attendees to use internships as a platform to explore and engage with different areas of law on both the civil and criminal sides. Manik Sir's point can be perfectly explained through this excerpt from his address when he said, *"Internships may not tell what you want to do but will certainly tell you*

what you don't want to do.."

Students benefitted from this session. The event was coordinated by Dr. Nipun Gupta Jain, Convenor, Alumni Engagement Committee, Dr. Tushita Sharma, Co-Convenor, along with students team Lipi Garg and Saharsh Panjwani.



STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS



Mr. Divij Kumar, X semester, received an admission offer from George Washington University, for their flagship IP LLM program as a GW Law Merit Scholar. The university has been consistently ranked among the world's best universities for an IP LLM. He will be receiving a scholarship of \$30,000 for the course.

VIPS adjudged winner of the IV Bennett National Moot Court Competition



A team consisting of Pritthish Roy, Pankhuri Pankaj and Vinny Pradhan (from L-R), students of semester VIII, represented Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies at the IV Bennett National Moot Court Competition, 2022 hosted by the School of Law, Bennett University, Greater NOIDA. The Competition was focused on the

constitutionality of crypto-currency along with the application of the writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India vide Article 32 in bail matters. There were 30 teams that registered for the event across India.

The Team was adjudged as the winners of the Moot Court Competition and Pritthish Roy was declared as the Best Mooter (Male) in the competition.

VIPS reaches Octa Finals of the XVIII K.K. Luthra Memorial Moot Court Competition, 2022



Mr. Romit Nandan Sahai, Mr. Rishabh Gupta & Mr. Rishi Nandy (pictured from L-R), students of semester VIII, reached the octa-final rounds of the 18th K.K. Luthra Memorial Moot Court, 2022, out of a total of 70 Teams from various National and International Universities. The

virtual event was organized by the Campus Law Centre (CLC), Faculty of Law, University of Delhi (India) from 8th March to 13th March, 2022. The prime objective of the moot court was to test and nurture the skills of participants on topical legal issues of Criminal Law.

Publications

Ms. Aarushi Chawla, Semester VIII, has authored a research paper titled “Diminishing Labour Rights: An Analysis of The Essential Defence Services Act, 2021” in volume 11 issue 1 of the *International Journal of Legal Studies and Research* bearing ISSN (O): 2278-4764.

Ms. Sonali Ahuja, Semester VI, has contributed article titled “Marital Rape: A Question of Sexual Autonomy of Married Women” to the *Lex Life India*.

Ms. Phalguni Nautiyal, Semester IV, has contributed a blog-post titled “Forceful Conversions and Jihad - A Socio-Legal Study” to *Know-Law.in*

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS



Dr. Anjali has been awarded her doctorate degree in the 14th Convocation of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University held on 30th March 2022. The title of her PhD thesis is “Maternity Benefit Amendment Act, 2017: A Socio-Legal Study with Special Emphasis on its Implications in Private Sector.”

Dr. Ashu Dhiman judged the Quarter-Finals of the 8th RMNLU International Mediation Competition, 2022, the Preliminary Rounds of the 10th NLIU-INADR International Mediation Tournament and the semi-final round of MAIMS 2nd Justice J.S. Verma Memorial ADR and Negotiation Competition, 2022. She also presented a paper titled “Women Centric Laws: Use and Abuse” at International Conference on Gender Disparity organized by Amity University, Noida.

Dr. Garima Singh chaired a session at ‘International Conference on Cartographies of Gender Based Violence: Literary Reflections from South Asia and Beyond’, organised by Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Pune and Saint Mary University Halifax (Canada). She also presented a paper titled “Behind The Veil: North Indian Women Folksongs And Voices Against Domestic Violence” at International Conference On Cartographies Of Gender Based Violence : Literary Reflections From South Asia And Beyond, organised by department of humanities and social sciences, IIT Pune and saint Mary University Halifax (Canada).

Ms. Himanshi Babbar published a paper titled “Constitutional Perspective on Right to Clean Environment” in the edited book titled 'Environment and Unsustainable Human Life' by Dr. Sunil Kumar Verma.

Ms. Mohita Yadav and Ms. Manan Dardi have published a research paper titled "Sustainable Development Goals During Covid 19: With Special Reference To Education (SDG4)" in the Indian Journal of Integrated Research in Law, Volume II Issue II, ISSN: 2583-0538. The Journal is indexed in reputable database like Google Scholar and ROAD.

Dr. Narender Kumar served as a reviewer for Journal of Public Affair (Wiley) in the month of March, 2022. Before this, he has published for special issue on: Legal Prospects and Challenges of a Globalised and Digitalized World: An International Perspective, a research paper titled “Impact of Digitalization on Legal Education in India”, in Lex Revolution,

March, 2022

Volume-VII, Issue-4, 2021 (International Peer Reviewed Journal of Social & Legal Studies). He has also published a research paper titled “Leniency regimes in BRICS nations: lessons for India” in International Journal of Public Law and Policy, Vol. 8, No. 1, 2022 (Indexed in Scopus (Elsevier)).

Dr. Payal Jain participated in an international webinar on Cyber Security and Law organised by Faculty of Law, University of Delhi in collaboration with Institute of Cyber Security and Law, University of Delhi and Delhi School of Public Policy and Governance, Institution of Eminence, University of Delhi.

Dr. Srishty Banerjee has presented a research paper titled "Gender Equality- A Fundamental Tool to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals" in the International Conference on Women and Abusive Relationship: Challenges on Path to SDG 2030, organised by Vishwakarma University, Faculty of Law, Pune, on 7th-8th March 2022.

THINKING BOX

Women's Day is a reminder of aspirations of women, realities they are saddled with, and urgent need to close that gap

All days must belong to women — not just one day in a calendar year. There is little in that aspiration to quarrel with. But it is not an argument against marking and celebrating International Women's Day. True, like all remembrances, it is prone to being turned into an empty token, or made palatable, pink and powerless. But the day exists as a reminder that gender equality is a work in slow progress. And to recall that the vast majority of women in India, whose labour and skills keep institutions running, from the home that ties them down to the workplace that seldom lets them rise, experience a world run by men's rules, one that remains hostile to their independence, education and self-realisation. The edge of that experience is made sharper by the burdens of caste and class and poverty.

The roots of International Women's Day lie in the mobilisation of women in the early decades of the 20th century for better pay and voting rights. In India, the republic's founders placed trust in universal adult franchise, the Constitution made the promise of equality to all citizens, irrespective of gender or caste. But the journey of Indian women since Independence has been a struggle to grasp that equality, against the formidable weight of culture, patriarchy and economic deprivation ranged against them. To mark March 8 is to reckon with the present in the light of this history. In the here and now, there are reasons for both despair and hope. All too often, Indian women remain shut out from access to economic opportunities — with a female labour participation rate that is one of the lowest in the world. That is not just a function of lack of education, or indeed the pandemic's blows, but of the resilience of the set of patriarchal values that see women primarily as agents of the family. According to a recent survey by Pew Research Centre, for example, more than half Indians believe that men have a greater right to available jobs than women. While women continue to remain on the margins of power, their assertion in political spaces is a growing one. That is reflected in impressive voter turnouts — most recently in the just-concluded assembly elections — but also in the growing realisation among parties that women add up to a constituency responsive to welfare schemes. Their “silent” support has, arguably, propelled electoral victories, whether of Nitish Kumar in Bihar, or Mamata Banerjee in West Bengal, and by all accounts, continues to shore up the popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. This political agency was also strikingly visible in the women-led protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act in towns and cities across India; or in the year-long farmers' mobilisation against the farm laws. But the increased presence and aspirations of women political workers struggle to find a path to representation in assemblies and the Parliament, or in decision-making within parties.

What remains to be done to put women at the centre of the public and economic life; to make it possible for women to work and play with freedom, equality, dignity, adds up to a substantial challenge, a long to-do list. Women's Day, then, demands not tokenism but a re-commitment to that urgent task.

Courtesy: The Indian Express

DOMESTIC LAW NEWS

Changing views of Supreme Court on environment

March 29, 2022: The apex court during the course of four days had expressed divergent views on the aspect of preservation of the environment with regard to the other rights.

Justice Indira Banerjee in a judgment on March 25, observed that the industrial units that provided livelihood to a number of workers contributed towards national economy and need not be shut down on account of not getting prior environmental clearance. Justice Banerjee said the lack of prior environmental clearance was only a "procedural lapse". Further it was noted that, "the court cannot be oblivious to the economy or the need to protect the livelihood of hundreds of employees and others employed in the project and others dependent on the project, if such projects comply with environmental norms."

In another case a bench led by Justice Khanwilkar orally observed that the environment must prevail. The court observed that forests must be preserved and the increasing forest cover is a result of courts strict interpretation. The courts judgments have often interlinked the survival of humanity to the survival of environment thereby upholding that right to life includes right to wholesome environment.

The court had paid due regards to the polluter pays principle as well as the public trust doctrine by a catena of public interest litigation.

Distant dream of society free of caste- based discrimination: Delhi HC

March 9, 2022: The Delhi High court in a case pertaining to quashing of FIR under the SC/ST act against three persons for derogatory and casteist remarks observed that unless the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act are enforced in their true letter and spirit, the vision of a society free of caste-based discrimination will only remain a distant dream.

Justice Chandra Dhari Singh noted that the offence was preceded by criminal intent, thereby humiliating the victim solely on the basis of his caste. The court taking note of the submissions made by the additional standing counsel for the state, held that "the humiliation of the victim/complainant was totally unprovoked, uncalled for, with the sole intention of humiliating the victim for a petty sum of money."

The plight of under-trials waiting endlessly behind bars

March 10, 2022: A bench led by justice Khanwilkar said that rights of under-trials in the money laundering cases have been violated by putting them endlessly behind bars for the trial to commence.

The court while hearing a batch of petitions pertaining to the provisions of Prevention of Money Laundering Act, it noted that though section 45 of the act had made the offences cognizable and non-bailable, Section 436-A of the Code of Criminal Procedure mandates a "maximum period" for which an under-trial prisoner can be detained.

The Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had argued that the offence caused loss of public funds and a threat to nation's economy. He said that due to international nature of the offence and cross border transactions the accused in that particular country has his own infrastructure, where it may park his money along with had ensured his stay getting citizenship.

Hijab Row Controversy: Hijab is not an essential practice under Article 25

March 16, 2022: The much-awaited judgment was pronounced by the three-judge bench of the Karnataka high court upholding that wearing hijab does not constitute an essential practice thus putting a ban on wearing of hijab by students in schools and colleges in the State. It observed that the ban was a reasonable restriction and permissible by the constitution.

The Bench also upheld the legality of the Karnataka government's February 5, 2022, order prescribing guidelines for uniforms in schools and pre-university colleges under the provisions of the Karnataka Education Act, 1983, after a row over hijab in Udupi and other districts.

The bench observed that, "Hijab is a veil ordinarily worn by Muslim women. Its origin in the Arabic verb *hajaba* has etymological similarities with the verb 'to hide.'... This way, the hijab hides, marks the difference, protects, and arguably affirms the religious identity of Muslim women. That this word as such is not employed in the Quran cannot be disputed, although commentators may have employed it." Quoting Ali's commentaries, it held that Quran does not mandate wearing of hijab.

Stay upheld on Centre's decision to impose telecast ban on Media One: Supreme Court

March 16, 2022: The centre had decided to revoke the security clearance of Kerala based TV channer media one, reasoning that, "on the basis of intelligence inputs which are sensitive and secretive in nature."

A three-judge bench headed by Justice D.Y. Chandrachud noted that the centre decision to immediately shut down the business of Media One in the name of national security and public order was with incomplete disclosure of specific reasons to support the same.

The advocates appearing for the company argued that if this were to happen then, "no media or publication is safe. Everybody can be shut down anytime". The court noting a case for interim relief for the company, directed that, "We accordingly direct that, pending further orders, the order of the Union government of January 31, 2022 revoking security clearance to Madhyamam Broadcasting Limited shall remain stayed."

Drug trafficking, a menace for the society at large

March 21, 2022: The Delhi High Court had rejected the bail plea of a man who was arrested when a huge amount of contraband was recovered from his godown. It was noted by Justice Chandra Dhari Singh that premises were commercial in nature and thus section 32 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act was applicable.

He observed that, "The offences prescribed under the Act are not only a menace to a particular individual but to the entire society especially, the youth of the country." Further it was observed that, "Such offences have a cascading effect and are in vogue these days, thus destroying the capabilities and lives of a big chunk of the population and trend has been growing over the years. Therefore, in order to prevent the devastating impact on the people of the nation, Parliament in its wisdom deemed it fit to introduce stringent conditions for grant of bail under the Act."

INTERNATIONAL LAW NEWS

Allegations of Genocide under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, ICJ indicates provisional measures

THE HAGUE, 16 March 2022: International Court of Justice, by 13 votes to 2, issued its order on provisional measures in the case brought by Ukraine against Russia under the Genocide Convention.

In its Order, which has binding effect, the Court indicates the following provisional measures:

- (1) The Russian Federation shall immediately suspend the military operations that it commenced on 24 February 2022 in the territory of Ukraine
- (2) The Russian Federation shall ensure that any military or irregular armed units which may be directed or supported by it, as well as any organizations and persons which may be subject to its control or direction, take no steps in furtherance of the military operations
- (3) Both Parties shall refrain from any action which might aggravate or extend the dispute before the Court or make it more difficult to resolve.

(Ukraine v. Russian Federation)

Situation in Central African Republic II: Maxime Jeffroy Eli Mokom Gawaka surrendered to the ICC for crimes against humanity and war crimes

14 March 2022: Mr Maxime Jeffroy Eli Mokom Gawaka ("Mr Mokom"), was surrendered to the International Criminal Court by the authorities of the Republic of Chad on account of an ICC warrant of arrest issued under seal on 10 December 2018. Mr Mokom is suspected of war crimes and crimes against humanity allegedly committed in Bangui and other locations in the Central African Republic in 2013 and 2014.

March, 2022

When issuing the warrant of arrest, Pre-Trial Chamber II found that there were reasonable grounds to believe that an armed conflict not of an international character was ongoing on the territory of the CAR from at least September 2013 until at least December 2014 between the Seleka – a coalition of armed groups predominantly composed of Muslims opposed to former president François Bozizé – and the Anti-Balaka – a movement opposed to the Seleka and supportive of former president Bozizé.

The Chamber found reasonable grounds to believe that Mr Mokom, a national of the Central African Republic, born on 30 December 1978 in Bangui, was a National Coordinator of Operations of the Anti-Balaka and, in this capacity, he is suspected of being responsible for the following crimes:

- crimes against humanity consisting in (attempted) murder, extermination, deportation or forcible transfer of population, imprisonment or other severe deprivation of physical liberty, torture, persecution, enforced disappearance and other inhumane acts; and
- war crimes consisting in (attempted) murder, torture, cruel treatment, mutilation, intentionally directing an attack against the civilian population, intentionally directing an attack against personnel, installations, material, units or vehicles involved in a humanitarian assistance, intentionally directing an attack against buildings dedicated to religion, pillaging, enlistment of children under the age of 15 years and their use to participate actively in hostilities, displacement of the civilian population and destroying or seizing the property of an adversary.

Mr Mokom is suspected of having committed these crimes jointly with others and/or through others in furtherance of a policy to target the Muslim population and others perceived to support the Seleka or to be "foreigners" in Bangui and in western CAR; or aided, abetted or otherwise assisted in the commission or attempted commission of these crimes.

ICC Presidency assigns the Situation in Ukraine to Pre-Trial Chamber II

March 2, 2022: The Presidency of the International Criminal Court ("ICC" or the "Court") has assigned the Situation in Ukraine to Pre-Trial Chamber II, composed of Judge Antoine Kesia-Mbe Mindua, Judge Tomoko Akane and Judge Rosario Salvatore Aitala. This decision follows the memorandum of the ICC Prosecutor, Karim A. A. Khan QC, on 1 March 2022 informing the Presidency of his intention to submit a request for an authorisation to open an investigation into this Situation.

The Prosecutor has notified the judges of his intention to submit a request under article 15(3) of the Rome Statute seeking authorisation to open an investigation into the Situation in Ukraine with respect to alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in Ukraine from 21 November 2013 onwards.

Once the Prosecutor submits his request in accordance with the ICC Rome Statute, it will then be for the Judges of Pre-Trial Chamber II to decide whether or not to authorise the Prosecutor to open an investigation into the Situation. The Judges will have to consider

whether there is a reasonable basis to proceed with an investigation, upon examination of the Prosecutor's request and the supporting material.

EU initiates WTO dispute complaint regarding UK low carbon energy subsidies

March 30, 2022: The European Union has requested WTO dispute consultations with the United Kingdom regarding UK measures relating to the promotion of low carbon energy generation projects. The EU request was circulated to WTO members on 30 March. The EU alleges that the United Kingdom is acting inconsistently with the national treatment obligation under Article III:4 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade by making local content a criterion of eligibility for, and payment of, subsidies covering the difference between the cost of low carbon electricity generation and the regular market price.

HONORARY ADVISORY BOARD

Dr. S.C. Vats

Founder and Chairman, Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies, Delhi

Prof. R. Venkata Rao

Chairperson, Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies and Vivekananda School of English, VIPS

Former Vice-Chancellor, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru

Prof. Dr. T.V. Subba Rao

Professor Emeritus

Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies, VIPS

Former Professor, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Prof. (Dr.) Rashmi Salpekar

Dean

Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies, VIPS, Delhi

EDITORS

Ms. Manini Syali and Ms. Sonia Maan

Assistant Professor(s)

Vivekananda School of Law and Legal Studies, VIPS, Delhi

STUDENT BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Aarushi Chawla, Semester VIII

Ms. Ambika Gupta, Semester VIII

Ms. Sanya Pahouja, Semester VIII



For any feedback, comment or submission, write to us at vslls.newsletter@vips.edu.

AU Block (Outer Ring Road) Pitampura, Delhi - 110034

Nearest Metro Station -

Pitampura (2 km) & Haiderpur (0.5 km)

www.vips.edu

Tel.: +91 27343401 / 02 / 03