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Legal Current Affairs Weekly Round-up for CLAT 2023: Nov 15-Nov 21

Ruchika Mohapatra · 24 Nov 2022

Here’s a round-up of legal current affairs from Nov 15 – Nov 21 to help you prepare better for CLAT 2023.

1. VC Facility not being provided to foreign prisoners for security reasons

Per the Superintendent of Tihar Jail, video conferencing facility is not being provided to foreign prisoners for security reasons. However, weekly telephonic conversations on request are allowed for inmates whose family members live abroad.

Himachal Pradesh was the first state in the country to offer video conferencing for all its inmates. This came in handy during the pandemic when families wanted to speak to inmates and could do so by registering on e-prisoner website.

2. National Company Law Tribunal’s strength rises to 36 as 9 members take oath

The NCLT adjudicates matters related to Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC). It has a sanctioned strength of 63 however, of late, it has been dealing with the shortage of judges. With 9 judicial and technical members taking oath, the strength has now increased to 36 from 27.

The oath was administered to the new appointees by Chief Justice (Retd.) Ramalingam Sudhakar [President, NCLT]. The members have been appointed for a period of 5 years or till they attain 65 years of age; whichever happens earlier.

3. Draft Digital Personal Data Protection Bill uses ‘Her’ & ‘She’ to refer to individuals

Draft Digital Protection Bill, in a first in the legislative history, used terms like “her” and “she” to refer to individuals as opposed to using terms like “he” and “him”. The Minister of Electronics and IT (MeitY) Ashiwini Vaishnaw said that this attempt has been made keeping in line with PM

Modi's philosophy on empowering women.

This is in sync with PM Modi's "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" campaign which emphasises on the need to educate and empower girls. The Bill is expected to be presented in the Parliament in the next budget session.

Read the bill here.

4.Karnataka HC Quashes BCI's Order Suspending Ex-KSBC Head's Practice

The Bar Council of India suspended the practice of Mr. K.B Naik as he was accused of misusing the signatures of his client and the selling a property without his knowledge. Mr. Naik is a former Chairman of Karnataka State Bar Council and also a sitting member of the same. He was not heard before an order was passed against him.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna observed that he was not heard while the Order was passed against him. The Court further observed that, "It is said, God himself did not pass any sentence on Adam before calling upon him to make his defence for the act of having consumed the proscribed fruit in the Eden Garden."

Given that not giving a chance to the accused to be heard is a flagrant violation of the principles of natural justice, the Court quashed the order and remitted the case back to the BCI.

5. Digital Personal Data Protection Bill proposes to amend RTI Act to bar Disclosure Of Personal Information

The draft of the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill released by the MeitY on November 18 has a provision that seeks to amend the RTI Act 2005. Clause 30(2) of the draft proposes an amendment to Section 8(j) of the RTI Act. This Amendment will have the effect of totally exempting personal information from disclosure.

Section 8(j) of the RTI Act states that information which relates to personal information will be exempted from RTI Act, if its disclosure has no relationship to any public activity or interest. However, the Public Information Officer can order disclosure of the information if it is in the larger public interest. If the RTI Act is amended, there will be complete exemption of personal information and this might weaken the RTI Act

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All the best!