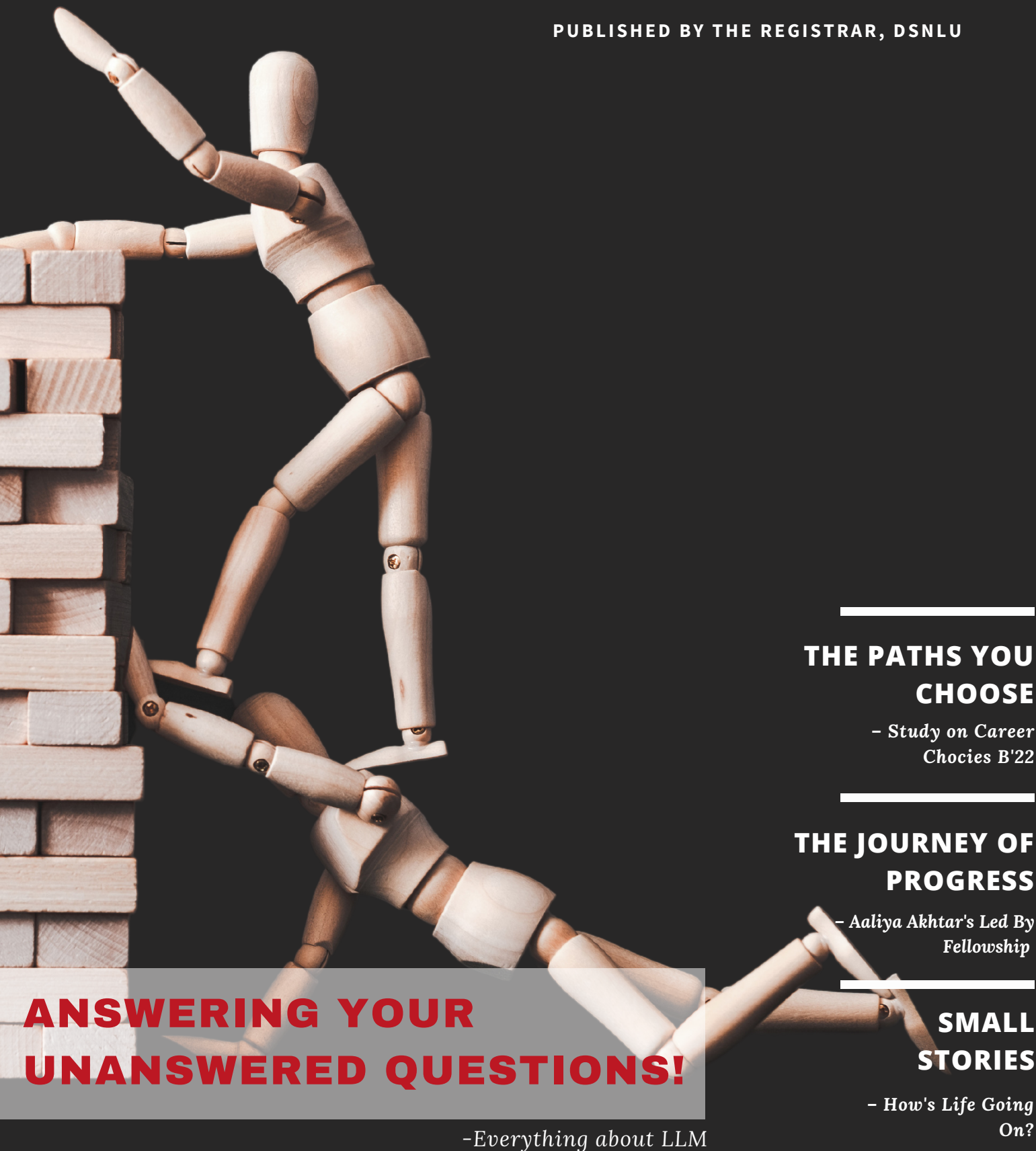


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DSNLU

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THE PATHS YOU CHOOSE

- Study on Career Choices B'22

THE JOURNEY OF PROGRESS

- Aaliya Akhtar's Led By Fellowship

SMALL STORIES

- How's Life Going On?

ANSWERING YOUR UNANSWERED QUESTIONS!

-Everything about LLM

STUDENT NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE OF DSNLU



**VOL 1 ISSUE 4,
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KEEP IN TOUCH

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LETTER FROM SNL'S TEAM



Dear Reader,

Greetings from the Student Newsletter Committee!

We wish you a very happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year. With all the positivity, we hope for new beginnings and healthy lifestyles in this New Year.

Time flies by so fast. Without realizing we progressed into a new year, into a new semester, and towards a new edition. We are living in our long-awaited dream, i.e., in the University! But, how do we know we progressed? Is progress just a step or a process? Of course, it's a process, right?

It hasn't been that long since we came before you all with objectives like bridging the gap between administration and student community, answering all the unanswered questions of the student community w.r.t the career options, to inform, to remind, and to connect with the DSNLU Community. And here we are, now, with our final edition of SNL-DSNLU, a bi-monthly student newsletter. The journey to this point hasn't been as easy as it sounds. In this process, we witnessed the start, identified ourselves, and most importantly struggled. Now, it's time to progress.

We, with your continuous support and encouragement, have come this far in this journey towards success. We all have shared our stories, plights, happiness, and struggles in this journey. In these virtual times, instead of losing it, we came together, talked, understood, traveled, struggled, motivated, and supported each other ebb and flow. We were there for each other, good times and bad times, successes and failures.

After experiencing and sustaining all this, we have reached the point where we can proudly say - we progressed! But, do we stop here? This is not the time to stop! This is not the time to say goodbyes! This is not the time to go separate ways! This is the time to understand what comes next! This is the time to breathe the hard-earned air that comes after a struggle! This is the time to enjoy the present...This is the time to think about the future while enjoying the present...This is the time to progress further. There's no end to the journey towards success. Hope this final edition brings you that zeal to progress further.

With this, we proudly announce the theme of SNL-DSNLU's final edition of this AY 2021-22 - THE PROGRESS 'cause there's no end to this journey! Happy Reading!

Regards,

SNL Committee

NATIONAL UPDATES

INDIAN PARLIAMENT APPROVES LAW LINKING ELECTORAL COLLEGE TO DIGITAL IDENTITY DATABASE

The **Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021**, was passed by Parliament in order to link Electoral Roll Data and Voter Identity Cards with the Government's Digital Identity Database. It empowers Electoral Registration Officers to request and mandates the Voters to disclose Voters' Unique Aadhaar numbers in order to verify their identification and avoid voting fraud. As per a proviso clause, the application shalln't be rejected if all the documentation is provided except for the Aadhar number. The Central Government has yet to prescribe this list of alternative materials.



CHILD MARRIAGE AMENDMENT BILL 2021 - INCREASE IN GIRL CHILD'S AGE LIMIT



Child Marriage (Amendment) Bill, 2021 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Dec 20, 2021. The primary goal of this bill is to raise the legal marriage age for girls in India from 18 to 21 (under Sec-2) to enforce gender equality. Under Sec-3(3), the '2 yrs' minimum age limit for a child to file a petition for the annulment of child marriage is replaced with '5 yrs'. Sec-14A ensures the precedence of these new modifications over existing laws and customs. Moreover, the personal laws which guard this provision will be amended in accordance with this amendment, and the change will take effect two years after the President's approval.

TERMINATING PREGNANCY AFTER THE 24 WEEK MARK?

In **Kumari vs State of Karnataka and Ors**, the Karnataka HC allowed a rape victim to terminate her pregnancy after it had passed the 24-week mark. The court ruled that she must terminate because her bodily and mental health would be jeopardized if she did not. The court may authorize such termination in rare circumstances. On November 17, 2021, the 16-year-old girl had reached 25 weeks and 3 days of gestation, exceeding the 24-week limit set by the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act of 1971.

ORDERING MEDICAL EXAMINATION IN MATRIMONIAL LITIGATION - VIOLATION OF RIGHT TO PRIVACY?

In **Sandeep Aggarwal vs. Priyanka Aggarwal** (CM APPL. 29691/2020), the Delhi HC ruled that if a wife fails to reveal her mental disease prior to marriage, it constitutes fraud. In the judgment, the Division Bench observed that the implicit power of a court to order a medical examination of a party to a matrimonial litigation in a case of dispute regarding a spouse's mental illness cannot be considered a violation of one's right to privacy.

PRESUMPTION UNDER SECTION 304B OF IPC - THE PHRASE 'SOON BEFORE HER DEATH' IMPLIES?

In **Parvati Devi vs. State of Bihar** [Criminal Appeal No. 575 of 2012], the Supreme Court recently ruled that dowry death might be presumed if the widow was tormented, both psychologically and physically, close to her death in the marital home. The court stated that the phrase "soon before her death" would ordinarily imply that the time between the 'cruelty or harassment' and 'the death in question' should be short.

The facts include the death of a woman in Bihar in 1997, just a few months after her marriage. Her body was discovered on the banks of a river several days after she went missing from her married residence. The SC upheld the lower courts' convictions.

FARM LAWS REPEAL BILL 2021- INTROSPECTION OR POLITICS?



On Nov 29, 2021 the **Farm Laws Repeal Bill, 2021** was introduced in Lok Sabha. These are The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act of 2020, The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act of 2020, and The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act of 2020. The Supreme Court suspended the execution of the three-agriculture legislation in January 2021. The critics of this Bill view the repeal of the Bill as a political move in the wake of upcoming elections in several states.

FAILING TO RESIST DURING RAPE - MERE SUBMISSION, NOT CONSENT

The Madras HC in **Gopi @ Saravanan v. The State** [LQ/MADHC/2021/16332] decided that the act of the victim, not aggressively opposing the rape, does not suggest that the deed was consensual. The concept of consent when engaging in any sexual act refers to the voluntary act of submitting one's body while having the option to quit the act at any time. The fact that the prosecutrix had accepted her fate and stopped resisting violently or at all does not imply that she consented to the act of sexual intercourse. Therefore all consent necessitates submission, while the opposite is not true.



SURROGACY (REGULATION) ACT, 2021 - NARTSB AND SARTSB

The Parliament passed the **Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill 2021**, and it received the President's assent on Dec 25, 2021. The Bill governs the practice and procedure of surrogacy. It mandates the establishment of Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Boards at National and State levels. The Bill regulates surrogacy and various aspects around it, prohibits commercial surrogacy, and discusses the legality of surrogacy in certain cases mentioned in the Act, necessitates the issuance of certificate of eligibility and mentions the procedure of surrogacy

DAM SAFETY BILL 2019 - TO MONITOR, INSPECT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE DAMS



The Rajya Sabha passed the **Dam Safety Bill, 2019**, with many opposition members requesting that the Bill be referred to a select committee. The law intends to establish an institutional structure to ensure the safe operation of certain dams throughout the country. The Act mandates the establishment of National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) to issue penalties, National Committee on Dam Safety (NCDS), State Dam Safety Organization (SDSO) within six months, and State Dam Safety Committee (SDSC).

MEDIATION BILL, 2021 TO PROMOTE AND FACILITATE INSTITUTIONAL MEDIATION



On December 20, 2021, a **Mediation Bill** was introduced in Rajya Sabha with the goal of promoting and facilitating mediation, particularly institutional mediation, for the resolution of commercial or other disputes, enforcing mediated settlement agreements, establishing a body for mediator registration, encouraging community mediation, and making online mediation an acceptable and cost-effective process. According to the Bill, the mediation settlement agreement will have the legal force of a court decision or decree. This will go a long way toward ensuring that agreements reached through mediation are legally recognized and executed.

INTERNATIONAL UPDATES

CHINA INTERNET REGULATOR RELEASES DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO MOBILE APP REGULATIONS



The new proposed cyber law is mandated to abide by the Constitution of China and other administrative regulations. The novel rules and regulations govern the App Providers and distribution platforms which are required to promote public order, the spiritual and cultural life of their users, promote socialist core values, and adhere to the correct political direction. The apps are restricted to use the communist party's or country's image mark and if the apps are found to be violating the personal information collection laws or carries illegal information then such apps will be obliterated.

GERMANY COMPETITION AUTHORITY FINDS GOOGLE HAS CROSS-MARKET SIGNIFICANCE AND SUBJECT TO NEW ABUSE CONTROL

Google is subjected to more restrictions by German Competition regulator Bundeskartellamt which found that Google fulfills the criteria for companies having paramount significance for competition across markets. Section 19A of German Act against Restraints on Competition seeks to restrict the anti-competitive effects of large digital companies in the digital economy. Google is holding 80% of the market shares for general search services in Germany and it is also a primary search advertising provider there. Hence, it is subjected to strict scrutiny, and it can be held liable for the specific anti-competitive violations.



TIGRAY MIGRANTS DETAINED IN ETHIOPIA FACE ATROCITIES, HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH REPORTS

Tigray's PM Abiy Ahmed purged the TPLF-led government in 2018 and pushed the Tigray People's Liberation Front back to Tigray. The PM launched a military action against the region, and which has become the ground for Sexual violence, massacres and other human right violations. In those circumstances they have fled to Saudi Arabia. However, in Jan 2021 the Saudi Arabia agreed to return the asylum seekers. Upon their arrival in Ethiopia, the Tigrayans are detained and are being subjected to inhuman situations.



UK GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES COMMITTEE FOR ASSESSING AGES OF ASYLUM SEEKERS



In order to curb the fraudulent practice which are done by asylum seeker, the UK is willing to assess the age using scientific methods. It is alleged that the Asylum Seekers who are adults, fled to UK, are obtaining the children benefits and support by submitting fake proofs posing as children. Hence, the scientific methods such as tooth development, X-rays of bone fusion in the wrist etc., will be used by the UK authorities to determine the age.

MEXICO ENDS VISA-FREE ENTRY FOR VENEZUELA NATIONALS:

The Mexican Ministry of the Interior has ended the entry of the Venezuela nationals without Passport to Mexico. The step is taken to regulate the Venezuelan migration which is of more than one thousand percent when compared to levels which are five years ago. Also, there is an increase in Venezuelans making false statements about their intentions in Mexico, which often are secretly to engage in "irregular transit to a third country" instead of visiting for business or pleasure and in most of the case the third country is US.

INTERNATIONAL UPDATES

FRANCE WATCHDOG FINES GOOGLE, FACEBOOK €210M FOR COOKIE USAGE VIOLATING DATA PROTECTION LAWS



A restricted committee of France's National Commission for Information and Liberty (CNIL) held Google and Facebook liable for violating the French Data Protection Act (DPA). CNIL noted that while a button to "accept all cookies" was readily provided in a pop-up on visiting Facebook, there was no such button to reject cookies. Thus, the CNIL has imposed an injunctive penalty that the companies must provide the means to reject such cookies as easy as to accept them within 3 months or pay €100,000 for each day of delay.

CAN THE GOVERNMENTS IMPOSE A VACCINE MANDATE ON HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN US?

Recently, U.S. Secretary of Health Department an interim rule mandating the staff of the health care providers must to complete covid vaccination. The suit was filed by Missouri states in their respective district circuits for which an injunction was granted. In an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States the injunction was stayed by a majority. The Majority are of the view that the mandate squarely falls within the scope of the law-making power of the executive agencies of the department of health that is allowed as per the Constitution. However, the minority opined that the government cannot justify the 3 months delay of the compliance of the mandate and as to why they did not follow the "rule of notice and comment" when the law has been made by the executive agencies and having a huge impact on 10 million health care providers.

SEOUL COURT BLOCKS COVID-19 PASS MANDATE FOR PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES



The Seoul Administrative Court ruled that private education facilities like cram schools, public study rooms and study cafes should be exempt from South Korea's COVID-19 vaccine pass requirements. The parents and owners of private education institutes claim that the mandate violates unvaccinated students' right to learn. The Court agreed that the mandate results in the government "effectively limiting the rights" of unvaccinated students to access and use study institutions.

US APPEALS COURT RENEWS LAWSUIT AGAINST COMPANIES ALLEGEDLY FUNDING IRAQ TERRORISM

The covid vaccine providers such as AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, and other companies are accused of funding the terrorist organizations during Iraq War which led to the death of many American Soldiers. This is what alleged by the families of those victims. When they filed a case against the giant pharmaceutical companies the District of Columbia Circuit rejected it stating proximate causation was defeated by defendant's insistence that they provided "life-saving medical goods" to the Iraqi Ministry of Health, not Jaysh al-Mahdi. Later, the aggrieved parties approached the US Court of where it renewed the lawsuit by reversing three issues and sending back the rest to District of Columbia Circuit to adjudicate.

UNHCR COMMENDS PAKISTAN FOR COMPLETING AFGHAN REFUGEE ID CAMPAIGN



The Pakistan has started issuing smart Identity cards to the Afghan refugees after verifying and updating their data in the portals. About 1.4 million Afghan refugees are provided with the ID cards. The Documentation Renewal and Information Verification Exercise (DRIVE) has started in April 2021 to collect the data of the Afghan refugees in Pakistan. The identity cards which expire by Mid-2023 allow Pakistan officials to authenticate nationals' identities through biometric data which arises a doubt regarding the protection of such data.

AALIYA AKHTAR - A FEMINIST STRIVING FOR EQUALITY IN ALL ASPECTS!

**The Journey Towards
Progress
#LedByFellowship**

In December 2020, I have come across an Instagram Ad that says that an organization is providing fellowship exclusively for "Indian Muslim Women" and when I click on it and was filling that form I realized my identity as an "Indian Muslim Women." Before that, I never much emphasized this particular identity of mine. I have never come across something which would affect me pertaining to that Identity of mine. Considering the political situation from the past few years, I was always in a vulnerable state being a Muslim and a woman, but for the first time I have come across something which would benefit me for having this Identity, that is fellowship by "Led By Foundation."

What is Led By Foundation?

Led By Foundation, a Harvard-incubated social enterprise is a professional leadership incubator for Indian Muslim women. 36 high-potential Muslim women were selected for its rigorous 6-month co-curricular Fellowship from 1200+ candidates. A Fellow undergoes ~100 hours of experiential leadership training and executive coaching and serves as a mentor (paying it forward) to two school girls. Led By Fellows are trained to be exceptional professionals and team members.

As a law student, I had no idea about Business or Entrepreneurship, but the help of my wonderful friends who are very smart and kind enough helped me with this task. This made me churn some of my buried skills, which I have never known of.

One month after successfully submitting my presentation, I have received a mail from Led By Foundation, saying I have been selected for the third and final round of this screening test, i.e. personal Interview. I was confident enough that I would crack this, during the interview when the interviewer was asking me to tell something interesting about me, I could think only about the "Not a Goddess" movement, which is very close to my heart.

Finally, after a few days, I have received this email which qualified me to become a Led By fellow. My happiness was out of the world, and I felt extremely proud of myself.

The Led By Journey

The journey of my Led By Fellowship was very unique. I met 35 extremely talented, high-potential Indian Muslim Womxn from different backgrounds, and 4 amazing team members. During my fellowship journey, I had various tasks involving peer mentoring, up mentoring, down mentoring and 16+ sessions which pushed my potential to a higher level. Starting from how women should claim spaces in Public, that is "why loitering" by Sameera Khan to "Negotiation skills" by Joan Moon, to "Leadership lessons from Game of Thrones" by Bruce Craven, all the sessions were highly enlightening.



I have learned a lot of new skills, improved many skills I already have.

As part of my fellowship, I got an opportunity to mentor 2 young schoolgirls, not just related to their studies but about other life skills too. At the same time, I could interact with the Advisors in Residence for their guidance. There are 50+ advisors from various fields to mentor us, and we can interact with any one of our interests. I have interacted with 3 powerful, strong Muslim women who shattered the glass ceiling in their respective fields.

Adv. Masooma Rana, an advocate activist from Delhi, and founder of "We Speakout" fights against Female Genital Mutilation which is a common practice in the Bohra Muslim community in India.

Later, I interacted with Adv. Bader Sayeed, an advocate, and Ex-MLA from Tamil Nadu. She is the first woman in South Asia to serve as the Chairperson of a Waqf Board (Tamil Nadu Waqf Board - 2002-2006), and the first woman to be the Chairperson of the Minority Commission in India.

Finally, I interacted with Dr. Farah Usmani, a doctor, International health, gender, and development expert. She currently serves at UNFPA Headquarters in New York at the Director level.

Talking to these women changed my perspective on various aspects; they motivated me to aim for excellence and guided me to in some of my career choices.

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Talking to these women changed my perspective on various aspects; they motivated me to aim for excellence and guided me to in some of my career choices.

Apart from all, this fellowship gave me a safe space to share my thoughts, which is a privilege for a woman according to me. Here I could share my thoughts without any fear of judgment, and they are many women who could relate to me.

This fellowship helped me to understand various perspectives, made me a better leader and a better human being.

Finally, I met another fellow named Aaliya, who became one of my closest friends. Yes, it all started from having the same name XD.

Thus this journey of my Led By fellowship is one of the memorable experiences I had in this pandemic. I suggest every person who could fit the criteria opt for it, and you can contact me in case of any queries. You can find my details from the SNL team.

- Ms. Aaliya Akhtar, final year student.

LED BY
FOUNDATION



DSNLU NEWS

1. Research Grant: The Centre for Intellectual Property Rights & Technology (CIPR&T), DSNLU, is sanctioned with an empirical research project by the Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India on "Study of the Functioning of Commercial Courts in the Southern Region of India for improving Ease of Doing Business". The Centre needs to consult corporate bodies, associations, litigation offices, and judges who are active in South India to promote commercial activities.

2. LLM Guide by DSNLU Alumni: An initiative, by Alumni Relations Committee, wherein our Alumni, who are either pursuing or completed their LLM abroad, have come forward to help the students who are keen to pursue their masters abroad.

3. Hybrid Classes: Due to the surge of Covid and Omicron cases, we witnessed the re-opening of our university being further postponed in the month of January 2022. Now, in the month of February 2022, our university witnessed the entry of some happy fifth years and LLM Students. In the month of March 2022, the first, second, third, and fourth years have entered the premises with all the positive vibes. Hostel rooms getting personalized, Rejuvenation of grounds with all sorts of sports, and most importantly our University got its life back! Can witness the moments on the Facebook page of Zoom In Inc.

4. Seminar on 'International Commercial Arbitration: Issues and Challenges': The Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution (CADR) is conducting this seminar virtually on 26th and 27th March 2022. No registration fee for DSNLU students!

5. Sports Events: Finally, to all the first and second years, do not miss these wonderful Intra-Sports Competitions! Check out the event schedules and start enjoying! So, who's gonna take the cup this year?

ANSWERING YOUR UNANSWERED QUESTIONS!

- *Everything about LLM*

The fact that each one of us has many questions that are unanswered or answered hear-say is not something that can be ignored or avoided...right? The Student Newsletter Committee has come forward gladly to make an attempt in answering those unanswered questions through primary sources. To make this possible, six of our alumni have come forward to support us by answering all our questions.

They are **Ms. Anjana Ramanathan (2011-16)** [Advanced LLM in European and International Human Rights Law from Leiden University, Netherlands], **Ms. Sri Hari Priya Kanuparti (2013-18)** [LLM in Business Law from University of California Davis; Founder/President- Cyber Justice and IT Governance Inc.], **Mr. Sahil Mathur (2015-20)** [Ph.D Scholar from NLSIU, Bangalore, India], **Ms. Saman Siddiqui (2011-16)** [Doctoral Candidate at the Universität Hamburg, Germany and International Associate at Hargrove Real Assets LLP, Hamburg, Germany (LLM from Europa Kolleg Hamburg, Germany)], **Ms. Sushmita Patel (2012-17)** [Policy Lead-Climate at Youth ki Awaaz; LLM at Azim Premji University, India] and an **Anonymous Alumnus (AA)**.

Know everything about LLM (National and International) from the subject preferences to the career choices with their responses.



**MS. ANJANA
RAMANATHAN**



**MR. SAHIL
MATHUR**



**MS. HARI PRIYA
KANUPARTI**



**MS. SAMAN
SIDDIQUI**

LLM IN INDIA:

Q: When do you think is the ideal time to start preparing for CLAT PG? Would you please share any tips for the same?

A: Mr. Sahil says, “Start in your final year or final semester/trimester when the burden of the curriculum is not that fierce.”

Ms. Anjana says, “I haven’t given this exam but one tip for any exam is – focus, plan ahead well in advance, and be consistent. Last-minute won’t do at all.”

Q: How exactly should we choose the correct specialization?

A: Mr. Sahil says, “Your area of interest should be the guiding factor.”

Ms. Anjana says, “This only the student can be the best judge. Of Course, talking to peers, mentors and seniors definitely help in shaping an individual’s build his/her idea.”

Ms. Sushmita says, “While this may not work for all, one of the questions I asked myself while picking my specialization was, “What did I study in LLB that I did not get enough of? – especially if I want to make a career out of it or not?” If the answer excites you and can put food on the table (if that’s a criterion for you), then that is all that should probably matter.”

Q: What can we learn more in LLM when compared to undergraduate LLB?

A: Mr. Sahil says, “Research work and in-depth understanding of a narrower spectrum of law.”

Ms. Anjana says, “An LLM focuses on one particular area under the vast umbrella called “Law”. The latter is an introduction to many areas, whereas the latter empowers a student to hone his or her skills in that specific field.”

Ms. Sushmita says, “a new perspective”

Q: Many students believe that doing LLM, especially in NLUs will be helpful for recruitments – your Opinion? Does the ranking of NLUs play a vital role in determining the value of the LLM pursued?

A: Mr. Sahil says, “Doing LLM makes no substantial difference w.r.t placements in the corporate sector.”

Ms. Anjana says, “Definitely, the school you go to matters, and equally there are people who defy all the odds. However, one must be careful, conscious in choosing schools to pursue their LLM. An LLM will be purely beneficial for an academic/ researcher. If your goal is to practice or work in a law firm – think it out very very carefully. Money doesn’t grow on trees. If your idea is to be self-sufficient.”

Ms. Sushmita says, “I wanted an interdisciplinary LLM so that I could look at

law from a more wholistic perspective. If you want something like this, then NLUs are too singularly visioned to offer that approach.”

Q: Apart from CLAT are there any other exams that can be written to pursue LLM in Good Universities. Also, kindly suggest some good universities (private and government) apart from NLUs to pursue LLM.

A: Mr. Sahil says, “Yes, there are other good options like ILI, SAU, IIT, etc. A little bit of research can bring out all the options to you.”

Ms. Sushmita says, “I would highly recommend Azim Premji University as well as TISS, especially if you want to head to the development sector or have a ‘social science’ inclination towards the understanding of the law.”

Q: What would you say are the benefits of pursuing LLM in India? Can we expect a well-paid job after the same? In addition to the teaching profession, what other career opportunities can be sought after by pursuing LLM?

A: Mr. Sahil says, “Yes, a well-paid job in the teaching profession can be expected. LLM is mainly to become an academician. So, one can expect research or teaching roles after LLM.”

Ms. Anjana says, “Whether, in India or abroad, you have to give the NET exam and only then expect good job prospects. The latter will definitely get you a job but clearing the NET exam is a must-do.”

Ms. Sushmita says, “One of the reasons that I opted for an LLM in India was so that my research and work could be rooted in an Indian context. If that’s a priority for you as well, an Indian LLM might hold larger value for the learning and preparatory ground that it will offer. Think tanks, NGOs, Research Centres, Civil Society Organizations, etc., Depending on your specialization treat lawyers (especially those with an LLM) with the utmost respect. The job roles in these are largely centered around research. While they may not pay much initially, they do promise a good growth trajectory opening up avenues in academia too.”

Q: Would you share some suggestions w.r.t pursuing LLM in India and how students should plan their career after LLM?

A: Mr. Sahil says, “If you decide to do LLM make it your primary focus. Try to plan your career first, otherwise do whatever you find interesting.”

Q: What are your thoughts on job opportunities abroad (foreign law firms or UN) after pursuing LLM in India?

A: Mr. Sahil says, “Same opportunities as one can get after LL.B.”

Ms. Anjana says, “Wherever you are you have to give the best to the job and be ready to try and wait for the job. In the meanwhile, never ever not be without a job. Do something. Practice, teach, prepare, your CV should have something to show.”

Q: To pursue a career in research and teaching Human Rights Law, do you think it is preferable to pursue LLM in India or abroad?

A: Mr. Sahil says, “Both are good options, try to do it from a good institute.”

Ms. Anjana says, “Both work, and this totally depends on the individual.”

AA says, “If you would like to opt for research and teaching, I would highly recommend pursuing an LL.M. abroad instead of in India. If you look at the articles published in top journals in Human Rights Law, e.g., The International Journal of Human Rights, Human Rights Quarterly, and Human Rights Law Review, you can notice that there is nearly no publication from Indian universities, let alone on a regular basis. The research culture in India is yet to develop and there is much to learn about research abroad, including a focus on research methodology, critical viewpoints on legal issues, and interdisciplinary approaches to human rights, to name a few. While an LL.M. abroad may not guarantee you a career, it can certainly make you a better researcher if you put in the effort to become one.”

LLM - INTERNATIONAL

Q: Why should we pursue LLM?

A: Ms. Priya says, “Masters Degree, in general, is an advanced degree that requires a lot of attention, this degree will help you to explore your interest further, gain knowledge in great depth and develop your skills in the subject. LLB in most countries doesn’t provide us the option to specialize in a particular field which is also good for several reasons, however, it lacks the concept of exploring your passion, where LLM helps you serve your field of interest better. Do your research, be sure about what you want to pursue, your destiny lies in your hands. No matter what you choose to become tomorrow, you need to lay the foundation for it today.”

Q: Which Countries and Universities do you think are best and available for Indian law students to pursue LLM or Masters? Kindly do share your thoughts on the essentials required to increase our probability to get into good Universities.

A: Ms. Anjana says, “There is no one best country, the student should completely study every university threadbare, look at the courses they offer, alumni associations, job prospects, QS Ranking and a professor. If you do get admission, then be ready to get crushed under the grinder. The learning curve is steep but believe me, the one-year grind abroad will do you a lifetime’s good.”

Ms. Saman says, “In my opinion, USA, UK, and Germany are the countries which are mostly being considered by the students for the further studies. According to my personal experience, Germany is the best country for further studies, as it is student-friendly (in terms of scholarship) and affordable, as tuition fee in most of the universities is free of cost. Apart from grades, one must focus on participating in extra-curricular activities, social activities, good score in TOEFL or IELTS and a good knowledge of German language (only for Germany).”

AA says, “The best options for an LL.M. are USA and UK, but not for the reasons one might imagine. Let me explain. There are two major reasons one can do an LL.M., viz. (1) to satiate a thirst for knowledge and (2) in search for better career opportunities. At the outset, it must be emphasized that one is not better than the other; (1) is only possible when one comes from a position of privilege.

The inordinate focus of Indian law students on countries or particular universities comes from the majority of students being necessitated to pursue an LL.M. for the second reason, and rightly so. Anyone looking for an LL.M. for career enhancement should be informed of two caveats: (1) the LL.M. is the cherry on top of the cake and not the actual cake; work experience is much more valuable to a junior lawyer than an LL.M., and (2) barring a few exceptions, only (some) Commonwealth countries will recognize the Indian law degree. This means that one has to carefully research how the license to practice is treated in the country of the LL.M.. In the UK, for example, one can sit for the SQE and become a Solicitor of England and Wales with an Indian law degree. Similarly, one can sit for the bar examination in a few states in the USA (like California and New York) with an Indian law degree and a US LL.M. (but requires specific subjects to be taken). In contrast, an Indian law degree is and will remain, unrecognized in France, for example, because the legal system runs on French and requires much different compliance than for becoming a solicitor after an English law degree. The thoughts on the essentials for increased probabilities to get into a foreign LL.M. are answered one by one in the subsequent questions.”

Ms. Priya says, “This is a five-prong decision (Speciality, Location, Visa, Opportunities, and

Cost), and it differs from candidate to candidate based on their idea of pursuing LL.M. First, you need to decide on the specialty/focus, what are the good schools across the globe that deeply pursue the specialty, what does the scope of the subject look like in different countries, if the scope is good, then ask yourself an important question, what do you intend to do after LL.M? Do you intend to pursue a job internationally? Then what are the visa status options in that country, i.e; OPT, what are the no. of employment opportunities present in the country/state, and what is the probability, later what will be the cost? Are there any scholarship opportunities or financial aid options available in the school I am applying to? and if you don't intend to work abroad and just want to pursue LL.M abroad for global exposure or to advance knowledge, then maybe you need to weigh factors like location, cost, and specialty

There are a few specialties whose scope is comparatively lesser in other countries, such as Human Rights. I would prefer schools in the UK/EU for Human Rights or International Humanitarian Law, or International Law as its relevance and the practice on these subjects is more prevalent in these regions comparatively. There are a few exceptional schools for Arbitration, I would suggest schools in London or Singapore for specialization on the same, for its evident germaneness. There are a few specialties that are equally good across the globe, such as Business Law, Corporate, Banking and Finance, IP, Environment, Taxation, Privacy, and Cyber Law or Medical Law.

US - Positive- Top law schools, vast specialties offered, good scholarship opportunities, more employment opportunities, bar exam process is shorter. **Negative-** OPT is only 1 year, highly expensive, common law except for a few regions, law changes from state to state so does the bar license, early applications.

UK/EU - Positive- Top law schools, various specialties offered, OPT is 2 years, 50% fewer costs comparatively, common law, late applications. **Negative-** Scholarship is competitive, fewer employment opportunities comparatively, solicitor exam process is lengthy comparatively.

Ms. Priya also says, “Start planning ahead, I suggest planning your years ahead, if you haven't it's never too late. Join a committee on campus, engage yourself in activities happening on campus, be an active and curious student. Nothing is shabby or outlandish, everything you pursue carries weight, whether it's playing sports or burning midnight oil working on organizing an event, or writing a paper and definitely doing good in class. But doing good in class alone is not enough, nor anything alone.

You need to be an all-rounder. Never underestimate yourself, apply to really good schools, trust me you don't know yourself enough. You are capable of anything and everything.”

Q: Is gaining work experience required if the overall academic record is average in order to apply for LL.M abroad? If yes, how many years of work experience do you suggest?

A: Ms. Anjana says, “Definitely, 2 -3years. Most scholarships also come this way.”

Ms. Saman says, “Yes, work experience could play an important role but it's not mandatory. In my opinion 2 years of work experience is good enough. This totally depends on the criterion of the University; some university doesn't require work experience.”

AA says, “Like my answer to the previous question stated, it depends on what one wants an LL.M. for. If the primary motive behind an LL.M. is career enhancement, then this, by definition, requires work experience (to enhance).

In some fields where the barriers to entry are incredibly high, like international law, for example, where it is impossible to get a job without a masters, one can get by applying without work experience. In fields like general corporate, M&A, banking & finance, disputes etc. work experience can incredibly increase the understanding of materials being taught in an LL.M. So, more often than not, people opt for an LL.M. after gaining some work experience and this thus becomes expected when applying for an LL.M. Irrespective of its intellectual value, work experience also increases the chances that one might receive a scholarship. Some scholarships like the Chevening and Fulbright mandate a few years of work experience to apply.

There is no ideal number of years of work experience, but one needs about four years to have a grasp of the work being done and whether or not an LL.M. is indeed what one wants to do. The rule of thumb is: the more, the merrier.”

Ms. Priya says, “Work experience is not required, however, it will be an asset to what one brings to the class, most of the students in the LL.M class coming from other countries usually have work experience of at least 3-4 years. It's totally fine if you have an average academic record. LL.M selection protocol looks into your overall achievement.”

Q: What are the basic qualifications to pursue LL.M abroad? Are co-curricular activities essential?

A: Ms. Anjana says, “Every bit of your personality is essential. Mainly how you write your SOP is the crux to make or break the deal.”

Ms. Saman says, “Yes, apart from the good grades co-curricular activities play an important role in the selection.”

AA says, “There are no basic qualifications required to pursue an LL.M. other than having an undergraduate law degree. That said, if the question is read with the second one on co-curricular, I think one has to demonstrate a genuine interest and connection with the subject and specialization that one is applying for.

If you apply for an LL.M. in International Tax Law and you have publications in human rights law from college after which you worked in a General Corporate team at a law firm, be rest assured your application will meet some skepticism from the admissions committee. The ideal applications show not only interest and motivation, but consistency and demonstrable capability to utilize opportunities in your specific field.

The lesson here is to explore to your heart's content but find a niche that you like and try to make a mark. One cannot really mould oneself to fit an application profile for a one-year degree: do what you love and choose your LL.M. accordingly, not the other way round.”

Ms. Priya says, “A lot of factors play a role in the selection, it includes Academics (GPA); Academic activities i.e; moot, conferences, seminars, paper publications, MUN's, debates, etc.; Internship and Volunteership i.e; internships and volunteering activities off-campus, supporting causes, etc.; Co-curricular activities i.e; sports, arts etc.; Organization Skills and Interpersonal Skills i.e; organizing events, participating in committees on campus, etc.”

Q: It is said that the essays play a major role in the selection procedure. Could you please share your experiences and suggestions w.r.t the same?

A: Ms. Anjana says, “Write from your heart. Be moved and only then write. Get it corrected by people who have gone before you. Be ready to correct it a gazillion times and only then send it in.”

Ms. Saman says, “Actually, the term is SOP (Statement of Purpose) which plays the major role. I was very fortunate in this part of the selection procedure, as my SOP was selected and considered as one of the best which helped me to get the scholarship for the studies.”

AA says, “The essay or motivation letter is the crown jewel of the application. Let me begin with this: there will be people who have similar interests and ambitions and have outperformed you drastically in all possible ways. This is exactly why the LL.M.

the application procedure is not a competition, and hence not merely based on a comparison of CVs from different individuals.

Think of the LL.M. procedure more as a matchmaking procedure than a competition: there are no objective criteria that one has to meet but universities look for a ‘good fit’. The only possible way to do this is through your essay. The essay, therefore, has to convey a ‘story’ of one’s ambitions and achievements in a way that resonates with the university selection committee. Being the batch topper does not matter much if you cannot demonstrate any interest in topics that are being researched at the university that you are applying for.

The contents of the essay should already have been there from years earlier; one cannot manufacture facts or contents for an LL.M. essay (much like most other things in life). The essay should merely crystallize what you have done into one coherent format for persons to read within a minute. It should read like poetry complementing the objective achievements in your CV.

This ties in with the previous question; your essay should explain your natural progression into the LL.M. from your work or your undergraduate degree. Take a pivot point, e.g., some matter that you worked on, or some article that you wrote to connect what you expect from the LL.M. and what you have done in the past.

One quick and dirty suggestion would be to look up the professors in the department (of your specialization applied for) of the university you chose on Google Scholar and read some of their prominent (and more importantly, recent) works. This might enable you to use their own work as a pivot to tie it with what you did previously. Perhaps their work inspires you to write an article or a newspaper piece? Perhaps their article inspired you to include some arguments in a matter that you worked on? Perhaps their work shaped your understanding of a particular concept? It can be immediately visible that you have already formed a connection with the intellectual produce of the university, and you seek more. However, keep in mind that this should be demonstrable and verifiable (like through your publications or your work experience on the CV)."

Ms. Priya says, “Your academic requirements play a major role in the selection procedure. Academic Record- School to LLB Transcripts (Grades); Statement of Purpose/ Letter of Intent (SOP plays a major role, SOP needs to depict why did you intend to pursue Law as your career, why do you want to pursue LL.M., your short term and long term goals, how do you think LL.M will help you reach your goals

and why this school); 2 Academic References and 1 Recommendation Letter (References play an important role too); and Curriculum Vitae (Statement of Record/ Personal Achievements)."

Q: What is the INR cost per annum for both living and studies together? Could you please suggest any perfect places to settle and study?

A: Ms. Anjana says, “This totally depends on the country. But monthly you should expect to spend 50 to 60 k everything put together.”

Ms. Saman says, “Big cities of course are more expensive than the countryside. Cost can always differ with respect to the cities, but as per the rule now, for the application of Visa student must show 9000 euros (8,10,000 INR) in his/her blocked account. Living costs and health insurance are covered with this amount. As I already stated above Germany has universities with and without tuition fees. Tuition fee gets revised every year, so that's where one must keep an eye upon.”

AA says, “The cost per annum differs between countries but the US and UK would be the costliest places to study in. One can easily look up the tuition fees and cost of living in the city of that university on the internet. However, continental European universities can cost anywhere from half to a third of American or British universities. Depending on your specialization, that might be an attractive option.”

Ms. Priya says, “In the US it costs roughly around 45-65 Lakhs, tuition and living expenses together, depending on the public to private schools and the Ivy's (Public Ivy's and Ivy's). California and New York's standards of living are higher compared to other states, however, most of the good law schools are in and around these areas.”

PROCEDURE:

Q: How to shortlist the best universities? What factors are we supposed to consider while selecting a University?

A: Ms. Anjana says, “Their courses, professors and your convenience to pay the fees are the most important.”

Ms. Saman says, “Teaching method is same all over Germany, so every university is good in my opinion. It is always good to go by one's interest while selecting a university. Every University has different specialization so it's wise to choose as per the field of interest.”

AA says, “The only factor other than financing the degree that you should consider is which university has the highest concentration of the notable people in your field. That said, the geographical location can be a large factor if you are considering building a network or

interning during your studies; New York or London, for example, would be obviously preferable to Santa Barbara or Toronto.

The easiest way to go about selecting universities is to find out from literature who the most famous professors currently in service are. For that, one can go on Google Scholar (or SSRN) and see who is being cited the most on a particular topic of your interest. The first step of shortlisting becomes quite easy, that way. Often, universities also have famous research centers that produce stellar output; so, be on the lookout for particular research centers that may have made a mark in the field.

That said, I would caution against merely going after brands. While Harvard and LSE might sound better than NYU or Sciences Po, be rest assured that for tax or arbitration respectively, e.g., the latter two are miles ahead of the former two. It all depends on what you want to study. Foreign universities do not have 'placements' so the brand value is quite illusory unless you see some specific advantage you will get with a name tag in your particular circumstance."

Ms. Priya says, "ABA affiliation or relevant affiliations, school ranking in the specialty, faculty and their research work, courses offered in the specialty, location, graduate employment rate, bar exam pass rate, does their LL.M offer STEM OPT (less likely, it's fine), cost, financial aid, extra-curricular, facility, part-time jobs opportunities."

Q: How to choose the correct specialization?

A: Ms. Anjana says, "Only the student is the best judge of this. Additionally, talking to seniors, peers and mentors also help very very much."

Ms. Saman says, "As mentioned above, it is always wise to choose as per the field of interest. Enjoying learning is the key for everything, same goes here."

AA says, "Choosing a specialization is a personal choice, and one cannot set a procedure on going about it. I would advise one to do what they feel they would be comfortable doing for the next fifty years. While sports law may sound 'cool', when its charm wears off, would you still want to dedicate your life to it? While banking and finance law makes you imagine people in snazzy suits, would you still want to edit a client advice draft at 2 a.m. for the third night in a row? A one-year course should not be the reason you choose some specialization over the other. Choose whatever has meaning to you and find what drives you: all I can advise is never choose a shallow purpose to opt for one subject over the other. Everything else will fall in place eventually."

Ms. Priya says, "Most of the students choose a specialization based on their interest/ passion. Some choose a specialization based on the scope

of the subject in the future. Both are good ways to approach it, but the subject that has good scope in the future may not be your interest, and that's fine. Law is so vast and extremely synergic, try to find synergy and explore its bounds. Isn't that what we are expected to master?"

Q: What kind of references will work well for application and how to get them?

A: Ms. Anjana says, "Any kind. The person needs to know you personally."

Ms. Saman says, "During the application process the university asks for the two academic references from one's last universities or schools. It is always good to provide two references from the Professors who know you well, for a German university reference plays an important role and it's very sensitive and private for them."

AA says, "References only work well when it is detailed, balanced, and articulate about what is really needed by the applications committee (which should be provided on the website of the university). This also means that the shorter the reference letter, the better."

That also excludes asking people who may be famous or are legal luminaries unless you have extensively worked for them and they know you well personally. In any other case, such references harm your application rather than enhance it. Always choose the person who can honestly lay down your strengths and weaknesses because they know you for a long time, no matter how junior they may seem to you. References are usually required from your colleagues or boss (or your teachers if you are applying straight out of undergraduate studies) with at least one academic reference (from a teacher who has taught you). Ideally, the referee should be able to independently vouch for you what you say in your letter of motivation and portray it in your CV. For the academic reference, it is always helpful to take the reference of the teacher who has taught the subject you are applying to specialize in. Contrary to popular belief, one need not have a good rapport to get references. Seldom have deserving candidates been denied references when asked, irrespective of how their personal relations may be. The only reason people would deny giving references is if they do not know you well enough."

Ms. Priya says, "Most of the schools require 2 academic and 1 professional reference, I recommend getting 2 each if you can. Academic references are recommended to be from a prof who taught your focus of the specialty and another reference from any other professor who is likely to give a good reference with a similar subject interest. Professional reference needs to

be issued by the office where you interned. However, a few exceptionally top schools have a procedure to list your references with contact details, after which the school personally emails your references with a questionnaire and requests for a reference to be uploaded."

Q: How to apply for scholarships? Full and partial. Are any options other than student loans available?

A: Ms. Anjana says, "Plan well in advance. If you want to go next fall. You should start working towards everything from the previous fall itself. Meticulous planning."

Ms. Saman says, "University does provide scholarship. International student scholarship is available in the majority of the universities."

AA says, "For scholarships, one has to apply much earlier than the usual LL.M. deadline. First, one has to make a list of scholarships for themselves. There are two types: (1) one is the scholarships provided by the government of the country or other organizations irrespective of the university, and (2) the scholarships that are tied to the university and/or specific programmes. The first category consists of scholarships like the Commonwealth Scholarship, Chevening Scholarship of the UK, Endeavour Scholarship of Australia, Inlaks Scholarship, etc. which have their own scholarship applications that end much before the applications for LL.M. even open. The second category generally consists of scholarships that go along with your application. Or they are need-based (i.e., you get a scholarship depending on your submitted asset statements irrespective of your academic profile). There are some exceptions (like the Rhodes scholarship) where applications end before LL.M. applications open. The various scholarships have various criteria of selection so be diligent in checking those and applying. One statement of purpose and CV will not work for two applications (just like that in your LL.M. applications)."

Ms. Priya says, "Most of the universities share the details about funding, financial aid, and scholarship programs details on their websites, and be attentive to the notifications. Stay ahead of your game, seize every opportunity. Check the websites well in advance and apply for scholarship options, for external funding please look into your home country's government-issued scholarship programs, most of them support finance for an advanced degree. I do recommend working a part-time job on campus or teaching assistantship or research assistantship. Although it's strenuous, it's helpful to pay off the living expenses. The positions on campus will be notified on the school's careers website."

Q: What is the procedure to do LLM in either U.S. or U.K from the initial point?

A: Ms. Anjana says, “I did it in the Netherlands, it totally depends where you are pursuing the same from.”

Ms. Saman says, “I am not sure about the procedure in US or UK, as criteria could differ according to the countries. But I am pretty sure that TOEFL or IELTS is required for admission as English is not our mother tongue.”

AA says, “For the U.K., it is straightforward in directly applying for the LL.M., getting selected, applying for a visa, and beginning classes. The procedures are given very clearly on the websites of individual universities. Take your time to read them. For the USA, one has to create an LSAC account, ask the university to send mark sheets to LSAC in a tamper-proof cover, and then ask LSAC to send your mark sheets to the universities. This is parallel to your applications for LL.M. at those universities and applying for your visa thereafter. Be sure to have ensured that the university has sent your mark sheets to LSAC way ahead of the deadline for your LL.M. applications; the LSAC process takes multiple weeks!”

Ms. Priya says, “You apply to most of the across the globe through their website by uploading your academic requirements in their portal. In the US most of the schools go through the procedure of LSAC, you'll have to register with LSAC, upload your required documents, and select the schools you intend to apply to all in front of the same portal.”

Q: What makes me exceptional by pursuing LLM abroad and what are the career opportunities for the same?

A: Ms. Anjana says, “There's nothing that will make you exceptional. It is how much you do after the LLM, what you do with the degree (As in are you able to convert the same into a Ph.D. seat) That is the most crucial thing. Then you'd really see the benefit of it. Even otherwise, your market value back at home will increase. It depends how you land up a job.”

Ms. Saman says, “I will say exposure, learning with the international students from the different corners of the world makes it exceptional. Coming across different culture, eating habits, language, etc. make things exceptional.”

AA says, “Pursuing an LL.M. abroad is not an achievement and it cannot make you exceptional just like wearing a costly watch cannot make you exceptional. All that an LL.M. abroad can do is present you with viewpoints and discussions that you ordinarily would not have undertaken in your current setting. How much you take out of that is what might make you exceptional.

This is why it must be made clear that with a foreign LL.M., no one will hand you jobs on a platter; this is simply because your LL.M. does not matter to an employer, but your competence does. If you would like to have career opportunities abroad, the LL.M. is your time to network (because placements are not a thing), prove your capability to prospective employers and make your mark before the end of the LL.M.. Also, one has to keep in mind the licence to practice situation I mentioned in the answer to the question on selection of countries. You will not get a licence to practice in continental Europe, for example, with an Indian law degree – so it will be very difficult for French law firms to hire you, for example.

I am tempted to say this: if your goals are accomplishments instead of self-improvement and knowledge gathering, the incentive for higher studies is rather perverse. In a world dominated by persistent and continuous comparisons of CVs, it might seem natural to do so, but it would be illusory to think that your value lies in your accomplishments. Your value lies in your experience and expertise. No one admires H.L.A. Hart because he had a degree from Oxford; people admire him because he wrote something incredibly valuable which changed our perception of the law. Similarly, Amartya Sen (and Martha Nussbaum) did not come up with the capabilities approach to win a Nobel Prize; Sen got a Nobel prize because he came up with the novel approach.”

Ms. Priya says, “LLM helped get an edge over the subject, as LLM is an advanced degree. A lot of employers do require a Master's degree. Law itself is so vast, it opens up avenues for you to pursue a career in many places. Right out of graduation, I was offered a judicial clerkship, 3 of my colleagues were JD grads and 2 of them were LLM grads including myself. NETWORK NETWORK NETWORK! Never lose an opportunity to interact, communicate and ask for help. Meet your career counselors for advice, build your resume and cover letter, build a network on LinkedIn and connect to the HRs of the firms or companies you applied for the position to. Attend events and receptions organized by committees of your interest. A few professors also have good connections, who can introduce you to the dignitaries in the field of your interest.”

Q: Is LLM abroad worth for people aiming to join the UN by choosing international human rights as their stream? Also, is there any guarantee regarding the Return of Investment (ROI) in this field?

A: Ms. Anjana says, “Yes but the UN is a big gamble again. Careful planning of the career trajectory needs to be there.”

Ms. Saman says, “Yes, one can aim to join the UN. The UN has internship and fellowship program where one can apply and gain experience.”

AA says, “If one would like to join the UN, one needs much more than an LL.M. abroad, but it can serve as a stepping stone into international institutions. If joining the UN is your primary motive, check careers.un.org for vacancies and what kind of degrees and experience they require: you will get your answer.

One other suggestion might be to go for LL.M.s in places that are close to UN institutions (e.g., IHEID in Geneva; Leiden, Amsterdam and Erasmus University Rotterdam in The Netherlands; NYU and Columbia in New York are some that come to mind). This enables you to network and pursues opportunities there. I can also highly recommend that you apply for the ICJ Judicial Fellowship Programme (there is a trust fund application that you can send for funding). Also, some universities also send quite a few people to this fellowship programme, and you can choose to do your LL.M. from there if you think that might be worth a shot.

As for your return on investment for an LL.M. abroad, realistically speaking, the probability of a good return on investment is worse than if you become a potato seller if you look at the return on investment in monetary terms. However, one does not really think of knowledge as an economic investment, right? What has been your return on investment for your primary or secondary school? How do you even calculate that? Financially speaking, doing an LL.M. abroad is a big gamble with no guarantee of any return other than increasing your knowledge.”

Ms. Priya says, “Definitely, LLM, in general, will help you to get into the UN along with at least 3 years of work experience in the relevant field, there is certainly less scope for IHR in India as compared to countries like the UK or in the EU. There are exceptional schools of Human Rights across the globe i.e; Oxford, Columbia, Geneva Academy, Leiden, etc. LLM abroad will certainly be an asset to any opportunity in the UN owing to the global exposure. Return of Investment shouldn't be intended to any degree one pursues. One should seek a degree to expand knowledge and learn deeper with an intent to gain extreme definition to the subject, the same goes with IHR or IHL.”

Q: What is the procedure to bag a Ph.D. seat abroad? Especially in the UK, Switzerland, and Netherlands. For Human Rights Law?

A: Ms. Anjana says, “Good grades. As in par excellent. Getting a cum laude or summa cum laude. Trust me it's not like scoring an O in

India. To pass barely, you will have to literally go under the knife. Be prepared to fail, fall, and rise again. If you have this attitude, it will help. Else, you will find it difficult."

Ms. Saman says, "Sorry, I have no idea about the UK, Switzerland, and Netherlands. In Germany, Ph.D. can be done in two ways: 1. Structured- In this course, the university comes up with 5-10 seats with the structured syllabus for 3 years, and the university bears expenses for the studies. 2. Unstructured- In this course, students must search for professors on their own who will supervise the thesis and then enroll themselves in the university. For this course, students must bear the expenses on their own. Furthermore, scholarships and part-time jobs are available to bear the expense."

AA says, "A Ph.D. abroad is far more difficult than an LL.M. abroad simply because there is exponentially lesser number of seats for doctoral studies than masters."

In the UK, (generally but not universally) one has to apply to universities like applying for an LL.M. with the exception that you have to send in a well-developed research proposal as well and the standard of review of applications is very high. Applications open every year (like those for the LL.M.) and one has to apply in these application cycles.

Unlike in the UK where PhDs are students, those doing a Ph.D. in the Netherlands, France, Belgium, Denmark, Norway, Germany, etc. are employees of the university much like Assistant Professors. This means that your applications can only be sent in against advertised vacancies like any other job and the chances are exponentially lower than those in other countries since hundreds of people apply for one position. The application generally contains the same requirements as those mentioned earlier when speaking of the UK, with the additional requirement that a professor generally has to sponsor your application beforehand for you to even apply. So, bear in mind that one professor can sponsor only a handful of applications.

Switzerland kind of follows a hybrid model that is in-between the above two systems. Some Swiss positions are employee positions, and some are student positions. That means you have to keep an eye on both regular application cycles and vacancies, depending on the university and project. Switzerland, however, has the Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships for Foreign Scholars which covers the cost of PhDs. One has to apply earlier than the actual programme if you would apply for the scholarship."

ABOUT YOU:

Q: What's the reason behind opting for this career? What do you think about it, now?

A: Ms. Anjana says, "I was just passionate to study human rights theoretically as a subject and see how the law functions nationally and internationally."

Mr. Sahil says, "What interests me towards law is the fact that law is fundamental in all aspects of life, may it be politics, science, sports, or something else. Without any law, the world would be full of chaos and this fact in itself is fascinating."

Ms. Saman says, "The objective was to develop myself into an accomplished lawyer well versed in international laws, and in this quest, I applied for the LL.M abroad."

Ms. Sushmita says, "Human history has largely been controlled by environmental factors such as the availability of resources, climate, etc., I was drawn to the interface of environmental law and policy since the start, mostly because I saw larger utility in my education that way."

Albeit I rarely get to utilize the ten semesters of law that I learned in undergraduate law school, my career choice is a rewarding experience - but whose rewards do take time to reap. It takes a lot of patience since the results of policy and advocacy are not borne overnight, and yet every action has the potential to make a difference, which helps maintain the momentum for enjoying and believing in what one does."

Ms. Priya says, "I chose to study for an advanced degree right out of law school. I always engaged myself with respect to developing society in different ways. I challenge myself every day to transform myself for the better and face my fears. I spent most of my law school career and primetime in public interest service and volunteered for several local and international organizations. I was interested in pursuing business law, I have always been a curious learner, I was interested in gaining depth in the subject and an advanced degree like LL.M was the only way to deepen my understanding of the subject. I believe it served the need to its finest, I thoroughly enjoyed learning it and now I enjoy it IRL!"

Q: What in your opinion is most valuable - LL.M in India or LL.M Abroad?

A: Ms. Anjana says, "Both are valuable in the way what you do after the degree. It totally depends on the individual but an LL.M from abroad is definitely beneficial"

Mr. Sahil says, "According to me, LL.M from NLU is mostly designed to prepare you for a career in academics but that does not rule out corporate jobs. LL.M from foreign universities is an indicator of your skills in a particular area of law."

Ms. Saman says, "In my opinion, both have their own value."

Ms. Sushmita says, "I was caught at this very crossroad after having finished law school. I had applied for LL.Ms in the US and UK, as well as in India. In the end, I finally had to make a choice between two offer letters - one from the US (an LL.M specializing in environmental law) and India (specializing in Law and Development). Deciding which LL.M is more valuable is a rather personal question whose answer lies in our individual belief systems. I believed that an LL.M in a liberal Indian setup that had just started experimenting on how interdisciplinary legal education at a master's level could be imparted to students was more valuable for me at that point. For the work that I wanted to do, I associated value with an institute for the principles that it believes in and what it could teach me. So assigning a value to a choice is very personal and must only be made as a personal choice - trying to determine the larger role it can play in your growth and the contribution it can have in your future choices could help make that decision."

Ms. Priya says, "LL.M is valuable, the country doesn't matter. LL.M abroad does give you global exposure, learning from erudite across the globe bringing in their international perspective to the subject is certainly worldly, but more than so, a degree abroad helps to develop your personality, like welcoming new cultures and learning about different ethnicities shapes your communication and interpersonal skills. Managing your finances and expenses away from home helps develop responsibility (especially when everything is so expensive :p). However, these things are true even if you are studying anywhere away from home. If you intend to work and practice in India, then LL.M in India is highly suggested and accommodating."

Q: In your words, what does life while/after pursuing LL.M look like? Has that life reached your expectations?

A: Ms. Anjana says, "It was a great experience. Be prepared for bad experiences also. You should go with zero expectations. All you should do is sink in whatever the place has to offer. Work hard, make the best of friends and also chill, save up, travel, eat, don't starve yourself. You might face racism, just deal with it."

Be proud of your brown Indian skin and wear it on your heart. Don't copy the accent just be you. That's what they appreciate. There's no fitting in. You'll stand out and you should take pride in that aspect and work just like that."

Mr. Sahil says, "Yes, Life is good."

Ms. Saman says, "Yes, I feel more confident and stable now."

Ms. Sushmita says, "LLM was a perspective-building course from me. To be honest, it was rather disjointed from the previous five years of law school that I did. My life would have been different if I had pursued an LLM from another institute or even if I hadn't pursued one. The additional course and the atmosphere of the education there has indeed opened newer doors for me and took me to places that I hadn't imagined I'd go."

Ms. Priya says, "I wouldn't change anything about my experience, it was the most memorable experience I've had in my career and my personal life. I learned the most valuable lessons as a student, as a board member, as a student employee, as a police cadet, and as a curious learner. Before I started my LLM, I knew it was just a mere chance that I might end up with a job, it was a risk of huge student debt and, I still took it, not because I thought I may be able to afford it but because I believed in what I truly needed and grabbed every opportunity I found and diligently did my duty. I was one of the first people to have been offered a job and a clerkship before graduation. I was offered an appointment as a judicial law clerk with the New Jersey State Courts. My experience after LLM was beyond my expectations."

Q: Anything you would like to share with our students?

A: Ms. Anjana says, "The key to an LLM abroad is to go fully prepared. As in study whatever they tell you to do before. Be thorough, make notes, don't take it lightly at all. From Day 1 YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO DELIVER. BE PREPARED TO READ AT LEAST 200 PAGES IN A DAY! Only then, go abroad, else, no point. Honestly, you won't understand anything if you aren't prepared. The teacher will just randomly question and you don't want to not have an answer."

Mr. Sahil says, "Don't let anyone tell you that you can't do something."

Ms. Saman says, "Hard work pays you back, just be consistent and focused."

Ms. Priya says, "Time is the essence of every advanced degree program, especially LLM. In my opinion, it is a highly professional and intense program, where you are expected to take LLM mandated courses, a few Bar courses, and courses from your specialty."

One year feels quite less (9 months) to be precise. You have to be well prepared for the classes, as you may be called at any point during the class. However, every LLM aspirant knows well how important extracurriculars and academic activities are for building a good resume, it goes unsaid, yet again, that networking opportunities play a significant role in finding an internship or an opportunity post-graduation. Every law school has multiple academic committees like moot court society, mock trial, negotiation, immigration, and legal aid clinics, that you can certainly participate in. There are also many associations for several fields of law, they also play an important role as they are keen on organizing seminars and promoting advocacy in the particular field of law. It'll certainly develop your interpersonal skills, communication skills and organizing skills also most certainly shows your devoted interest towards the subject. There are many opportunities in front of you if you are willing to pursue them. Grab every opportunity."

Q: Finally, could you please share your journey? We would love to hear all about it from you.

A: Ms. Anjana says, "It was excruciating with finances but I had the best friends who literally pulled me along and I also worked my butt off. I'm happy to speak to the students and share it personally. ☺ Additionally, anyone wanting to pursue an LLM in Europe can always get in touch!"

Mr. Sahil says, "I hail from Haryana and completed my BA-LLB course from DSNLU in 2020. Old students of DSNLU might know that it has been full of ups and downs but in the end, your hard work is always rewarded."

Ms. Saman says, "Well, that would be too long but to cut it short I planned to pursue LLM abroad when I was in my 4th year at DSNLU after Company law was introduced as one of the subjects. I am grateful to Dr. Dayananda Murthy C P for making the subject easy and understandable through his teachings. My interest in the subject continuously grew even after my graduation and I decided to make a career in the field of Company Law, so I applied for the LLM with a specialization in International Company Law. At first, it took me some time to understand the teaching style, it's way different than we had it in India. The sessions were more interactive. The weird part during the class as we can use gadgets in the class while the session is on, and the Professors were fine which usually we are not allowed to do in India."

For legal paper, we used to get the Bare Acts during the exam, so we never mug the provisions. We used to have open book exams for most of the subjects and believe me those exams were the toughest. During that one year of the programme, I managed to gain some experience through my internship with the law firm which worked in the field of Mergers and Acquisitions. I can rate my overall experience of the masters' programme as great. I came across different teaching methods, exam patterns, cultures, food, languages, friends from different corners of the world, etc."

Ms. Priya says, "What I want to personally say to prospective LLM students is that do not do LLM thinking you'll end up with a job or a way to settle in a country or wonder if you'll get a return on investment. LLM or any other degree is so so much beyond that, it is about pursuing your passion, even finding yourself, and understanding what you seek deep within. I want you to pursue LLM whether you end up with a job or not and whether you get your money back or not. LLM was more than a degree to me, it was my journey into myself, to see myself reflected on the knowledge I had, to learn new things, to gain experiences, to make memories, and impart my wisdom. Never leave an opportunity to grow and become better. Knowledge comes to those who seek it, look for it everywhere you go. LLM helped me push my limits, test myself every day, and challenge harder to do things above and beyond. Most importantly, it made me realize that I can do it, it showed me that I had it in me and I just had to believe in myself. Keep your expectation low but your anticipation high and never stop."

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SMALL STORIES - HOW'S LIFE GOING ON?

Valluri Viswanadham's budding NLU experience - 1st year

After being exposed to NLU life after 12th exams, life hasn't been the same, it's been a roller-coaster ride. Completely new terms like projects, committees, internships, etc. In the beginning, I was excited about that part but later succumbing to pressures and online classes, projects and assignments I felt that my personal life ambit was lost forever, starting while doing projects I never slept at night because of pressure to perform well and be at top. I was rejected in top committees and centers interviews it added an pressure to me that I'm not fit for this NLU life, and one point in time I decided to quit this NLU, but all my hard work for preparation of CLAT and my family's support made me rethink, I tried to take everything in a positive way whether I achieved anything or not in my academics or anything and I thought that a university in which I am studying with great facilities and infrastructure there must also to me come great responsibility and will to perform in my academics and in college life. So I decided to study the whole 5 years from now taking everything from university life whether it's positive or negative and try to build an experience which will help for my progression.

Deepasree's desperate wait to see DSNLU!

For a law student it would be really hard to study through online classes without using any hard copies of University library. For me, I desperately wanted to come to the university but this Corona didn't let me to come. It is really hard to imagine how the university will be for these long days. Can't wait anymore to see University. Hope this Corona and all its waves will end very soon.

Chandra's Minute Reminiscent to Get Your Daily Dose of Vitamin D and Keep a Good Posture - 4th year

For many of us, lockdown meant staying at home, taking online classes, writing papers, eating, and sleeping. I'd like to use this opportunity to remind you all to get out in the sun and get some exercise as well as your daily dosage of Vitamin D. According to studies, for every inch that the head is held forward in poor posture, an additional 10 pounds of weight is felt on the cervical spine, causing severe pain, stiffness, that radiates into the shoulders and arms (Kapandji IA, 2007), and not having vitamin D to strengthen your bones will only make it worse.

Our age is confronted with major medical disorders such as Cervical Spondylitis, Lordosis, and Spondylitis, which some of our forefathers encountered in their 50s. Simply put, a lack of vitamin D and poor posture causes an abnormal curve in the spine, making daily movements such as gripping a pen or sitting upright without feeling dizzy difficult.

So, my dear friends, have a good posture when attending classes or working on your computers, and go for a stroll in the sun (physical exercise combined with a balanced diet can also help us shed the pandemic weight as well!!) if you despise being tanned, take a supplement and avoid sitting in a cervical collar.

Anonymous one-line stories: While one says, "Stressed from boards and entrance exams at the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown. And still stressing and depressed like everyone else nothing new is happening, no interaction with people, the same routine of stressful classes and projects.

The other says, "I like to study, but online classes are definitely not something I would like to choose for that." And finally the third says, "travel, eat and sleep."

Much needed motivation in this pandemic by Swetha -1st year

From the beginning of this pandemic, all of us had gone through some struggles, but not to the same degree, some of us had lost loved ones, while others gasped for oxygen. However, all of us have fought, some are fighting and shall fight with anxiety, doubtfulness and depression, bravely. So my story is no exception, I've seen some of the highest ups and lowest downs. In all of this, it is easy to give up, to let go, to feel worthless and to feel defeated, to feel scared of trying new things, self-esteem and confidence drops to an all-time low. Loneliness becomes your best friend and positivism has already left your mind, but amidst this, there is something called hope, it has the power to enter into even the darkest rooms, all you need to do is to let that light fill with faith. There is a difference between being alone and loneliness. It is ok to be alone and lost with the world, but loneliness will make you disconnected with yourself.

So whenever you feel lonely, depressed, tell yourself that no matter what happens I will not give up on my dreams, my relationships, and most importantly on my own self. I'm here for a reason, and I mean it. Remember stars can't shine without darkness. And one thing I've always told to myself whenever i compare myself with others, there is no comparison between sun and moon, they both shine when it is their time.

On an endnote, to conclude the most beautiful things in life happen, the moment you start to believe in yourself, no matter even if it is in the darkest of your times, you've gone through all these days with perseverance and I'm proud of you for you didn't give up and chose to fight. You are no less than anyone, you are a born fighter and you always fight to win. This pandemic has changed the definition of success for many people, so define what sets your heart on fire and work on it with all your passion.

OPINION COLUMN

A. Only 1 woman Member of Parliament in 31-Member Parliamentary Panel to examine Child Marriage Bill which seeks to raise the woman's legal age of marriage from 18 to 21. Opinion.

Opinion by Ms. Anubhuti Singh – 21LLM006



Equality is one of the fundamental facets under the Constitution of India, 1950. The ultimate goal of all the fundamental principles is to promote unity and integrity of the nation and the dignity of the individual. Any kind of discrimination that is negative discrimination under the Constitution will be unreasonable, arbitrary, and unjust and hence such discrimination will be per se unconstitutional.

The above proposition deals with two aspects relating to the concept of equality, embedded in it:

- First, whether only 1 Woman MP in 31 Member Parliamentary Panel amounts to a breach of equality and discrimination under Article 14 of the Constitution?
- Second, whether increasing the age of marriage from 18 to 21 for women and keeping it the same as that of men give that woman the right to enjoy principles of equality embedded under the Indian Constitution?

In my opinion, in this jet age life 'we the people' are trying to curb the menaces engraved in the society and treating the man and woman at par with each other. Therefore keeping the marriage age of women the same as men are justifiable. However, while passing the Child Marriage Bill, the Parliamentarians failed to constitute a panel where only 1 woman was given a chance to examine the same.

So as per Article 14 of the Constitution, the concept of under-inclusive classification is dealt with where more women should have been included but they are not, yet such classification amounts to reasonable and constitutional in most of the cases.

Further, the issues relating to children are sensitive for both men and women. To assume that only women can understand the sensitivity of the Bill mentioned is itself unreasonable, arbitrary and discriminating on the part of individuals who are thinking so. In the sensational case which caused hue and cry after the Honorable Supreme Court opined its decision i.e., *Indian Young Lawyer Association vs the State of Kerala* (2019) 11 SCC 1, where the dissenting opinion was given by Honorable Justice Indu Malhotra, the only lady on the bench consisting of 5 judges where she said that woman should not be allowed to enter into the temple because that is the religious practice and the matter must not be interpreted in light of the principles of equality embedded in the Constitution.

Therefore, in the above proposition also how can we assume that if more and more women would have been there in the panel then they will decide the matter in favor of women. The matter must be decided by those who can understand its sensitivity irrespective of their gender.

Opinion by Ms. Katyayni Singh – 21LLB051



Raising the minimum age of marriage of girls to 21 years in parity with that of boys is an epoch-making the moment for India. This amendment will not only evince equal protection of law but also create a healthy milieu for women to thrive in. There is no doubt in the fact that raising the age of marriage of girls has been one of the demands of women rights' activists but it would be naïve to believe that the bill would not face any opposition as a result of which the bill need to be probed by a parliamentary panel which can find out the merits and demerits and put forth necessary recommendations.

The Parliament must make sure that the panel to be constituted reflect the aims of the stakeholders which are women and girls in this case. The bill intends to allow equal chances for both men and women in terms of education and profession. It also aspires to reduce the mortality rate of women and improve the levels of nutrition, thereby, moving ahead for achieving an unbiased India where the interests of both men and women are taken care of. Unfortunately, the panel consisting of as many as 31 members includes only one woman in its composition. This is a paradox refuting the intention of the bill. It seems that the State is ready to provide women with their rights but not willing to let them carry the ropes of their lives.

The Panel administered by the Upper House appoints people on the basis of their strength in the House. This is a mere excuse in the guise of depriving the stakeholders of the required representatives. The question, of whether the panel would be able to put a stop to the misuse of child marriage law or not, still lingers in the dark. The panel should have at least 50 percent of its members as women. Now, the public can just wait and watch to see the fruits that the panel bear at the end. We can only pray that "the dreary sand of dead habit" gives way to an equal world.

B. Comment on JPC Report on the Personal Data Protection Bill. Do the recommendations strengthen or weaken the Data Protection Act?

Opinion of Ms. Pallavi Singh – 21LLB085

Today in this digital era, tons of data is being stored online. And even they are being used without the consent of individuals for profit purposes. To safeguard the right of users, Personal Data Protection Bill 2019 was introduced. The Bill was further renamed “The Data Protection Bill, 2021” (“2021 Bill”) after the Joint Parliamentary Committee, headed by Member of Parliament PP Chaudhary, adopted the final draft of the Data Protection Bill which was originally drafted in 2018 by Justice B.N. Srikrishna.

Even though the data protection bill is to safeguard the right of individuals; few provisions recommended by the JPC committee undermine the fundamental rights of users. The Recommendations has posed challenges to the protection of users' data in the following manner:

- The JPC committee recommended an exemption clause 35 which allows the government or any agency under the central government to collect and use individual data whenever it deems necessary, for protecting sovereignty and integrity of the state, without any consent. The recommendation itself digress from the SC landmark judgment “K.S. Puttaswamy vs Union Of India” [AIR 2017 SC 4161], which explicitly rejected the claim of forsaking the right to privacy in the interest of welfare entitlements provided by the state.
- Further Section 12 of the 2021 bill have added a few provisions like individual's data can be processed without their consent to bring it in compliance with any law or any judgment or order of any court, quasi-judicial authority, or tribunal in India, thereby violating Right of Privacy inscribed in Article 21 of Indian Constitution.
- The 2021 data bill seeks to introduce words like “to ensure the interest and security of the State” in the preamble, which in itself shows the primacy of the state's interest against the protection of the individual right.
- Furthermore, the word ‘digital’ has been added before the ‘privacy of individuals, which limits the scope to digital privacy only.
- There is no check and balance on the data collected by the government. No clarity has been provided in the 2021 bill.
- As per JPC recommendations, now data of individuals can be stored for an uncertain time period, thus, exposing it to the risk of being misused.

These recommended provisions compromise the fundamental right of an individual by the state, thereby posing more challenges to data protection when at present no such comprehensive safeguard is there. Therefore, the time necessities the legislation which laid out the procedure to handle data appropriately while ensuring strict adherence to it.

Opinion of Ms. Susmita Tripathy - 2017096

The introduction of non-personal data in the DPB, 2021, and the transition from PDPB (Personal Data Protection Bill) to DPB (Data Protection Bill) has brought ample complications. In a major contradiction, where personal data becomes anonymized data, concerned entities no longer remain as the data fiduciary and data processor. This makes the implementation of the provisions confusing. On the other hand, the addition of clauses providing expansive state powers and exemptions is not a welcoming step as it shall inevitably reduce the effectiveness of the Bill by undermining the independence of the Data Protection Act. Keeping this would make us an ‘Orwellian state’, as opined by Rt. Justice B. N. Srikrishna.

- On the note of breach notification, provisions of the bill have limited effect. Delay of breach notifications to the data principals might cost heavily as here also the bottleneck is created by making it mandatory for the data fiduciary to inform DPA and wait for its order to notify the data principal.
- Privacy by design policy is an international best practice that had been made mandatory in the earlier bill but now is limited to self-application by the data fiduciary. For this, the earlier position should be legislated as it warrants better consumer data protection.
- Data localization provisions have been strengthened in the JPC Recommendations which asks the government to ensure a mirror copy to be collected of all sensitive and critical personal data stored outside the country and brought into India in a time-bound manner.
- The addition of ‘rights of the deceased person’ in the Report is a surprise move. Removing trade secret exemption from data portability on grounds of difficulty of defining weakens the bill as it disregards the IP rights of the data fiduciary. The Recommendation of framing of Guidelines w.r.t. Data Protection Officers by the significant data fiduciaries strengthens the Bill.

No clause specifying independent members of technical or legal experts finds a place in the board of members for the DPA. The addition of such members can bring different perspectives to the fast-evolving arena of data protection regulation. With bureaucrats on the board, the current Select Committee members seem tilted towards the government side. This has been identified by the bipartisan JPC Report and recommended a change by the inclusion of jurists as independent legal experts and other technical experts in the field.

However, the clauses asking traceability of the first-party generator of information are against the idea of Data Minimisation and Encryption policies. Holding social media companies liable for their content dissemination gives excessive control over news platforms is going beyond scope of the parent act. Thus the JPC Report is a mix of the good and still lagging piece of advisory. The data protection laws in India have a long way to go.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DSNLU?

A STUDY ON THE CAREER CHOICES OF BATCH OF 2017-22

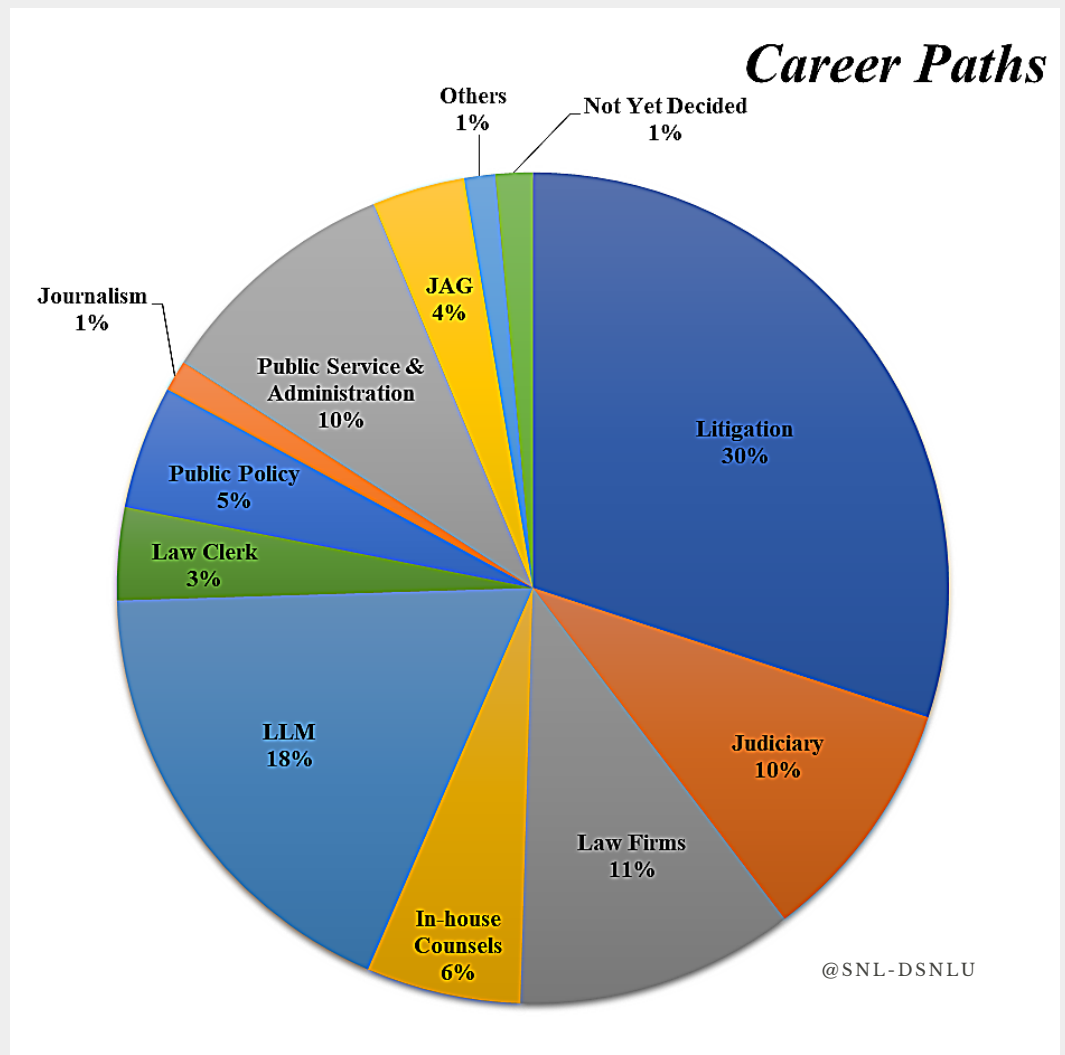
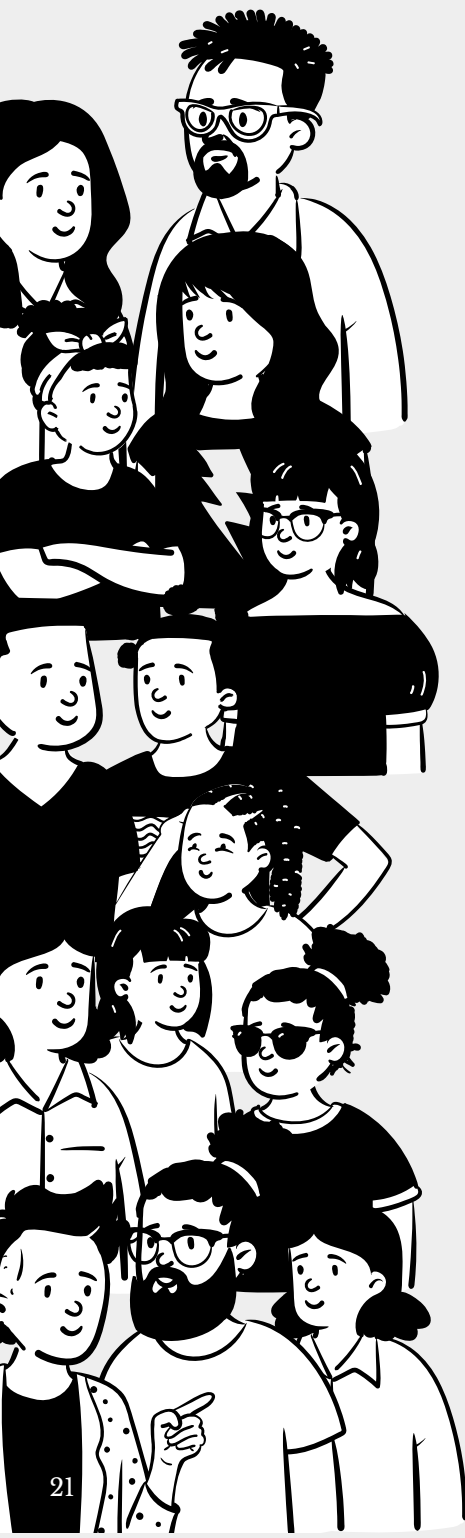
Out of the 120 students in Batch of 2017-2022, 42% of students participated in this small survey to understand the career paths they will be choosing after their graduation. While unfortunately, 58% of students did not participate, we still have interesting answers from the batch.

Assumptions: We assumed that many students would choose corporate law firms as their career choice. This is because traditional career choices like litigation require a considerable time to establish oneself in the field and initial years may be hard for many first-generation lawyers. Corporate law firms, though may not offer a six-figure paycheck right in the beginning, might be enough to get a first-generation lawyer going.

Result:

However, around 30% of the students chose the option of litigation as their career choice. 11% of students chose law firms and 6% chose in-house counsel as their option. Other options chosen by the students include diverse fields like the judiciary, public services, public policy, and higher studies. Around 18% showed their interest in pursuing LLM at some point in their life.

The students showed interest in various types of laws, criminal law being the most popular one with 16%. They also showed interest in other core subjects like civil law, commercial law, and constitutional law. Apart from these, there are very interesting choices like technology law, military law, entertainment & media law, international law, and maritime law. Administrative law, environment law, and gender development laws also make the list.



Reasons:

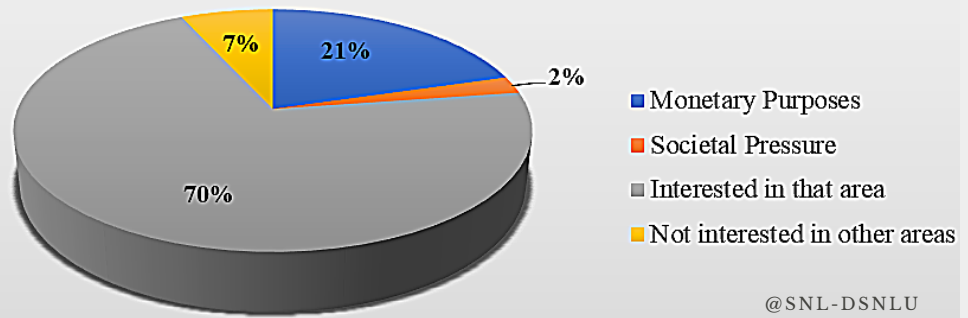
When we asked the students what was the reason behind choosing their specified career path, 70% answered that they are choosing it owing to their interest in that particular field. 20% stated that it was due to monetary reasons, while some said it is due to societal pressure!

Career paths other than law:

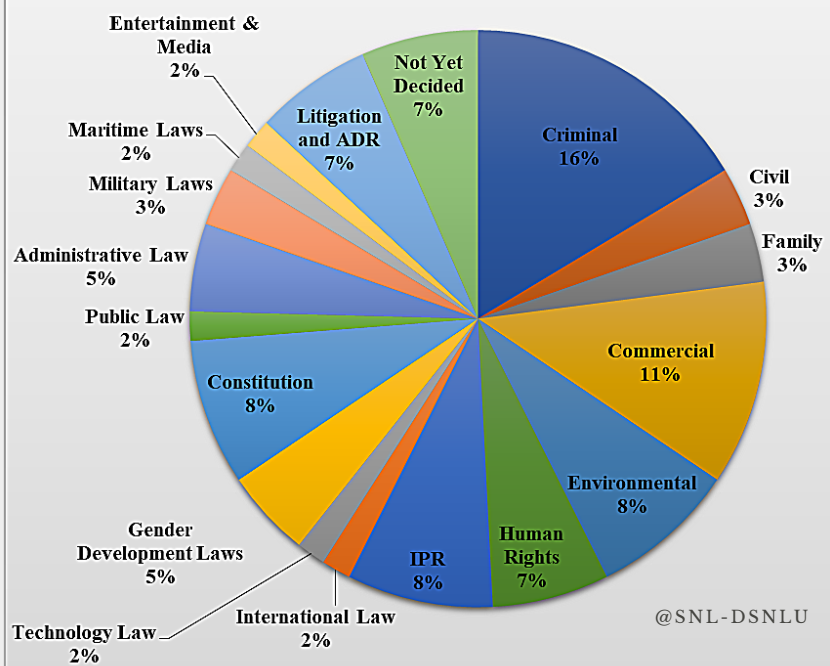
This is almost a tie. 51% of students stated that they would not mind a career different from law. They would love to explore other options if they get an opportunity or is better suited for them. Few stated that UPSC or administration could be a possible option. Few others stated that if not law, business, marketing, entrepreneurship, acting, writing or art and management are also possibilities. One student showed an interest in learning disabilities and psychology, if law does not work out. They stated they intend to be a certified instructor for children neglected by the education system.

The reason for saying so is, they state "I have seen people around me struggling with education and being bullied for the same. I believe something as basic as education cannot be a ground of rejection by society." 49% do not want to deviate from law for different reasons like not having any other alternatives or their law degree already costing a fortune! Few others answered that simply because they are not interested in any other fields, they will stick with law! One of the students states "I don't intend to completely steer away from law but I might pick up something inter-disciplinary over time."

Reasons Specified

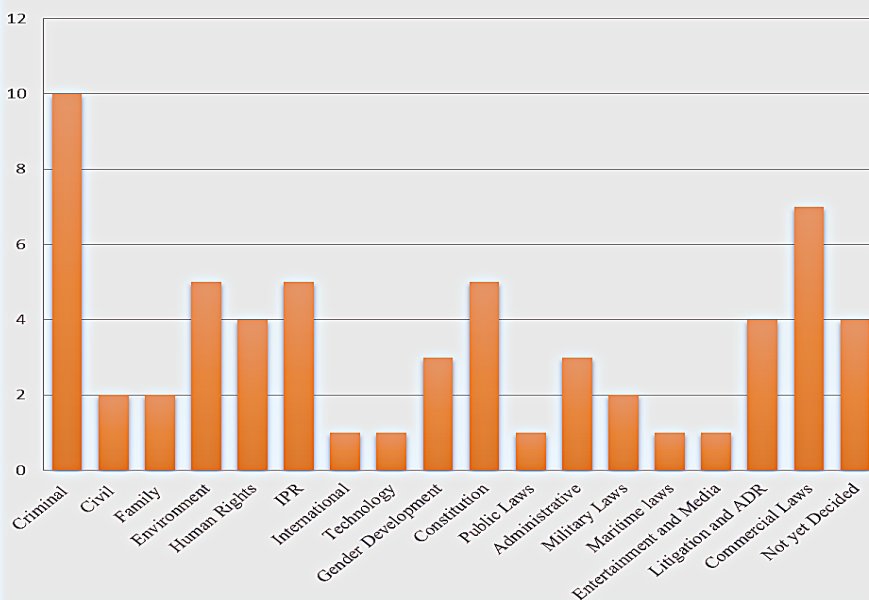


Areas of Interest



Areas of Interest

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India or abroad:

The majority of the students, 72% of them, want to pursue their careers in India for various reasons. Few want to serve the country and bring justice to society. Few like the comfort and assurance that their home country provides. 13% of them want to pursue their career abroad mostly because there are wide opportunities and options available abroad. While 9% of the students do not mind pursuing both in India and abroad. Few students want to gain work experience in India and move abroad and vice versa as well. One of the students states "I'd love to go litigate in other jurisdictions too. There's a lot of scope to IP in India since it's still a booming subject. So I primarily want to pursue a career in India." Another student states "Both. Law is broad, so are its interpretations. The more we learn, the more we gain, the more we can apply for the benefit of our clients."

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Moot and Advocacy Society (MAS):

The Moot and Advocacy Society of DSNLU is currently working on hosting the Shri Damodaram Sanjivayya Centenary International Moot Court Competition. With registrations closed, we at MAS are readying ourselves to host this. The society is also conducting the 9th Intra Mock Trial Competition 2022 tentatively in the first week of February 2022. This will be based on Christ University's Mock Trial Competition. Registrations close on 22nd January 2022. MAS wishes all the participants the best of luck.

Centre for Business and Commercial Laws (CBCL):

CBCL, DSNLU has released the first issue (October edition) of the Center's quarterly E-Newsletter 'Lex Commerciale' Issue 2, the January edition of Lex Commerciale is due to be released in the month of January 2022. This edition included regulatory updates, infographics, articles, case analysis, a puzzle, and an illustration of an IBC procedure. The Committee has also conducted a Webinar in association with the ALGO Legal team (Bangalore office); and a Masterclass on Recovery of Debts by Banks and Financial Institutions - A Journey from RDB Act to IBC.

Centre for Intellectual Property Rights (CIPR&T):

The Team of CIPR&T, DSNLU will conduct a National Webinar on "Safeguarding the traditional knowledge in India-Need of the hour." It is to be conducted virtually from 9th - 10th April 2022 through the Zoom platform. Manuscripts are invited from students, scholars, and professionals, with registration fees of Rs 200 for students and Rs 300 for scholars/professionals. The manuscripts must comply with the guidelines mentioned in the brochure and are to be sent at nationalseminartk@gmail.com. Moreover, the students of DSNLU will be given 5 slots for publication regarding which information will be provided soon.

Sports Committee:

The Sports Committee is one of the most active committees on campus with various sporting events taking place throughout the year. With the ongoing pandemic, the committee is currently unable to conduct any sports events. However, the committee has recruited 12 new members with Vikranth as the Student Convenor and Ch. Karthik as Co-Convenor. The committee is solely responsible for conducting massive scale intra-athletic events within the university campus. The recruits of the Society along with other students have gone on to win National Championship Trophies and bring numerous laurels to the University in the field of sports.

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