

SEPTEMBER 2021 | SECOND ISSUE

DSNLU

ISSUED BY THE STUDENT NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE, DSNLU



ARE YOU READY TO ACCEPT?

- Asks every queer!
#identifyyourself

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

- Virtual or Physical ?

NOT A GODDESS

- Not just an IG page
but a Movement!!

**ANSWERING YOUR
UNANSWERED QUESTIONS!**

- Life at top Law Firms

STUDENT NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE OF DSNLU



VOL 1 ISSUE 2, 2021

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KEEP IN TOUCH

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LETTER FROM SNL'S TEAM



Dear Reader,

Greetings from the Student Newsletter Committee!

In this open letter, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our fellow mates, faculty members, and contributors for supporting us and believing in us. The response that we have received from you for our inaugural issue will never be forgotten. The fact that our first edition reached your expectations has brought us an enormous amount of satisfaction which cannot be put in words. It gave us the courage to move forward. The theme of our previous edition, a journey towards success, truly has become our reality. The path which was laid down by us from the very first day has definitely been a journey towards success only because of your continuous support. It's been an honour to take another step in this journey towards proving ourselves.

It is obvious that while taking a step towards success in this journey towards proving our worth, we try to identify ourselves and discover ourselves. You have become our family in this process. We, with our family – that's you, would like to identify ourselves in this process. Hoping that you will always be on our side, we are here before you with our second edition of SNL-DSNLU, the student newsletter. We would like to proudly announce that the theme of our second edition is "Identifying ourselves."

Thank you once again for traveling with us in this journey of identifying ourselves, discovering, and proving our worth in the path to success.

Happy Reading!

Regards,
SNL Committee

NATIONAL UPDATES

SUPREME COURT HAS RECENTLY GIVEN OUT GUIDELINES FOR BAIL PLEA DECISIONS BY HIGH COURTS:

Action should be taken before the wrong is committed. The SC recently followed this and given a set of guidelines in the case where bail is granted to the offender wrongfully. The accused was charged with rioting with deadly weapons under various provisions of IPC, 1860. However, the Trial Court and High Court granted bail to the accused. In order to correct similar instances, the SC has set certain guidelines to grant bail.



ASSAM PASSES CATTLE PRESERVATION LAW



The Bill aims to follow the constitutional directive as per Article 48 which mandates the State to “Organise animal husbandry on contemporary and scientific lines”. Existing law on the protection of Cattle i.e., Assam Cattle Protection Act, 1950 is repealed. The new Bill provides that only government-approved slaughterhouses are allowed to kill cattle. The Bill compels to use cattle that are handicapped or above 14 years of age for slaughter. In addition to these, there are many similar provisions included in the Bill.

SUPREME COURT RULES WOMEN CAN TAKE DEFENCE ACADEMY ADMISSION EXAM



The Interim Ruling that women are eligible to take Defence Academy Admission Exam is one of the historical rulings given by SC. The Bench was headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Justice Hrishikesh Roy. The writ petition was filed by Mr. Kush Kalra. He was pleading for the eligibility of women in this exam. This matter raises concerns over the Right to Equality and other constitutional freedoms guaranteed under Article 14, Article 15, Article 16, and Article 19 of the Indian Constitution.

TRIBUNAL REFORMS BILL, 2021



Parliament re-enacting various provisions that are previously struck down by SC in various cases is not new in India. The same instance has been repeated with this Tribunal Reforms Bill, 2021 too. Here, the Bill tries to re-enact the very same provision that's struck down by SC in the case of Madras Bar Association. The Bill proposes to ban some of the Appellate Tribunals and reallocate their powers to other legal bodies. Moreover, the majority view that there are many loopholes in enacting this Bill which is meant to replace the Tribunals Reforms (Rationalisation and Conditions of Service) Ordinance, 2021 [Also quashed by SC].

LOK SABHA PASSES ESSENTIAL DEFENCE SERVICES



The Government is more concerned with the passing of the Essential Defence Services Bill despite the concerns raised by the Opposition over the claims of Government Surveillance using the Pegasus Spyware and the three agricultural laws. The Bill replaces the Ordinance which authorizes the Central Government to restrict workers at enterprises that provide "important defence services" from striking or locking out. According to the Bill, the employers violating the prohibition order through illegal lock-outs or lay-offs shall be punished with up to one-year imprisonment or Rs 10,000 fine or both.

NEW IT RULES AND FREE SPEECH VIOLATION



The New IT rules, which violated various constitutional freedoms guaranteed by the Indian Constitution, has faced a setback before the Bombay High Court. Two provisions of India's Information Technology Rules ("the Rules" or "Rules") designed to control digital content providers such as social network intermediaries, OTT (over-the-top) platforms, and online news and current affairs websites have been halted by the Bombay High Court. A petition was filed before the High Court of Bombay challenging that these IT rules infringe the parent legislation i.e., the Information Technology Act, 2000, and the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution of India, 1950.

NEW INCOME TAX RULES ON PF SAVING

The Central Board of Direct Taxes [CBDT] has passed new rules on how to tax the provident fund contribution of employees over a certain limit. For example, if there are employer contributions included in the Employee Provident Fund [EPF], then the threshold to levy tax is 2.5 lakh per year. If there are no employer contributions to EPF then the threshold to impose the tax is 5 lakh per year as per the notification issued on August 31, 2021.



MARITAL RAPE AND THE CONTRADICTORY JUDGEMENTS



Marriage does not give men the license to have sexual intercourse with his wife without consent. The Ruling that Marital Rape is a ground for divorce even if it's not considered a crime, is a progressive step taken by the Kerala High Court. The Ruling was given in the appeal filed by the husband against the family court's judgement, which granted the divorce to the petition filed by the Wife on the grounds of cruelty.

On the contrary, the court in Maharashtra granted anticipatory bail to a man while concluding that having forcible sex with his wife is not an "illegal thing" even if the wife claimed that it left her paralyzed. The courts continue to contradict this matter.

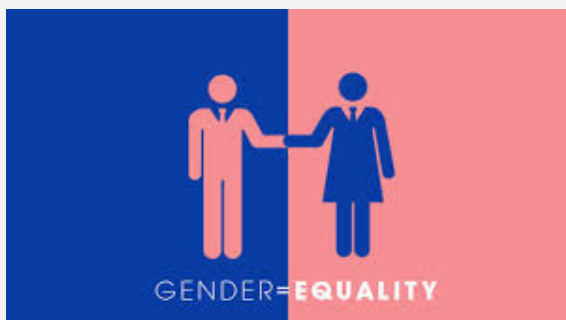
INTERNATIONAL UPDATES



EU TOP COURT RULES 'ZERO TARIFF' CONTRARY TO EU OPEN INTERNET ACCESS REGULATIONS

In the era of modern markets, Anti-Competitive agreements play a regressive role in the development of a country. Recently the highest court of European Union decided that the zero-tariff plans provided by various internet access providers are contrary to the open internet access and incompatible with EU law. As per these zero-tariff plans, the data used on specific applications will not be counted. This strategy promotes anti-competitiveness in the market by going to differing level playing field idea of net neutrality.

AUSTRALIA SENATE APPROVES WORKPLACE SEXUAL HARASSMENT BILL



After the Me-too movement, most governments across the world have strengthened their Sexual harassment laws. Australia is one among them. The Australian Senate passed the Sex Discrimination and Fair Work (Respect at Work) Amendment Bill, 2021 which proposes to prevent workplace sexual harassment. This new Bill is considered an improvement to the current law to minimize the procedural barriers for Sexual Harassment Complaints.

UK CHILDREN'S DIGITAL PROTECTION CODE BECOMES LAW



In this digital world having a proper digital law protecting children's interests is considered essential. The Children's Digital Protection Code came into effect after one year transition period in the United Kingdom. This is an age-appropriated design code which ensures the safety of online services that are accessed through various apps, games, websites and other digital platforms by children.

GOOGLE APPEALS €500M FINE IMPOSED BY FRENCH ANTITRUST AUTHORITY



In 2019, the EU's Digital Copyright Rules have been updated with a new right for press publishers for the online use of their publication which reads as, "Authors of works incorporated in the press publication will be entitled to a share of the press publisher's revenue deriving from this new right."

Google News and other online sharing platforms have ended publishing content from press publications shared by them on their sites for years. In the light of this, the antitrust body of the French Government i.e., Autorité de la concurrence imposed a \$591 million penalty. Google preferred to go for an appeal in this matter.

SOUTH KOREA PASSES 'ANTI-GOOGLE LAW'



Google has faced many setbacks from South-East Asian countries beginning from China in 2009. Newly, South Korea has passed a bill which is an amendment to the Telecommunications Business Act which is commonly known as “Anti-Google law”. The Bill aims to curb Google and Apple’s payment policies.

WTO ESTABLISHES PANEL TO REVIEW CHINA’S COMPLIANCE WITH AGRICULTURE IMPORT QUOTAS



The conflict between the US and China has raised concerns about whether China is in compliance with its TRQ (Tariff Rate Quotas) obligations in the agriculture industry as a part of the World Trade Organisation. In this regard, the WTO’s Dispute Settlement Body has granted permission [upon China’s request] to appoint a panel to determine the compliance mechanism followed by China. In case the panel decides against China, then it should have to seek authorization in order to suspend concessions.

PANAMA LEGALIZES MEDICAL MARIJUANA USE



Joining the seven Latin-American nations, recently Panama’s National Assembly unanimously passed a Bill legalizing the medical usage of marijuana. The officials are mandated to import cannabis in pill and liquid drop form so that it is used for medical purposes only. However, the commercial use of the homegrown cannabis is prohibited according to that Bill.

SOUTH KOREA PASSES LEGISLATION TO HEAR MILITARY SEX CRIME AND HOMICIDE CASES IN CIVILIAN COURTS



In order to build confidence in the Military’s Judicial System, the South Korean government passes legislation allowing the Civil Courts to hear its military sex crime and homicide cases. Prior to this, such cases were heard by the specialized military court. It was said that the excessive involvement of commanders in the process has adversely affected the independence & fairness in the investigation and trial process in Specialized Military Court.

JE NE SAIS QUOI

NOT A GODDESS - NOT JUST AN IG PAGE BUT A MOVEMENT!!

“I THOUGHT HOW UNPLEASANT IT IS TO BE LOCKED OUT; AND I THOUGHT HOW IT IS WORSE, PERHAPS, TO BE LOCKED IN.” — VIRGINIA WOOLF



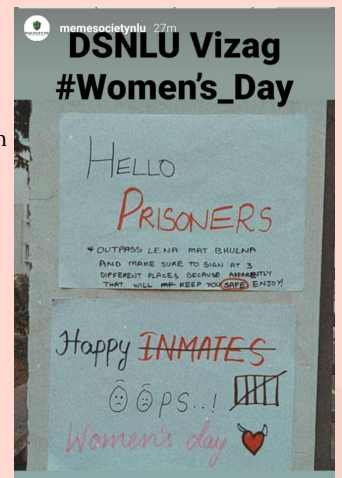
In the night before 8th March 2020 i.e., Women's Day at around 12:30 AM, I along with my friends, Priyanka Arthimalla, Priyanka Grandhi, Thota Anusha & Abhigna was sitting in my hostel room discussing random things, and during those talks we realised that it's Women's day tomorrow and how even being law students we are still facing gender discrimination from our administration.

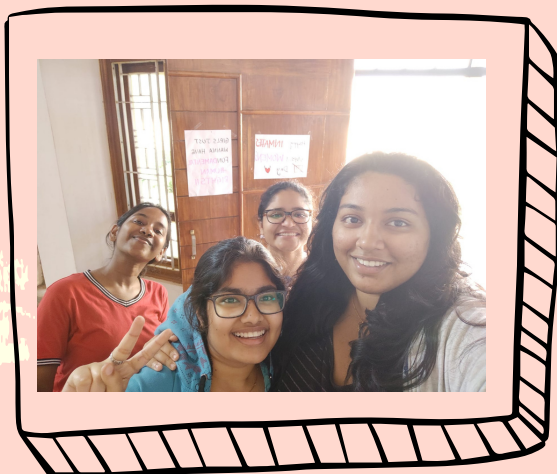
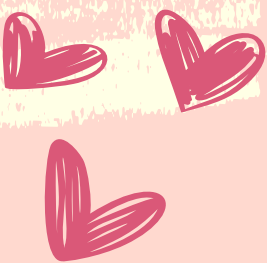


The Hostel rules are the same for both genders on paper, but in practice, they are different. It's just on paper for men, but for us womxn, it's nothing short of a Bible, because our life runs according to that. And if we don't follow that the consequences will be hard. We women are always considered as property by the administration and themselves as the caretakers of the same. We were angry, furious and most importantly frustrated. We wanted to highlight this issue, and what can be a better day than Women's Day. We wanted people, especially our administration to realize the meaning of Article 14 of our Indian Constitution. With this thought, we decided to make some posters writing the same, and later we improvised this plan and made many varieties of posters. Everyone was venting out their frustration in the form of powerful posters. Swetlana, my very good friend also joined us in this. We all together made the poster throughout the night, till 5:00 AM, barely slept for 1 hour and woke up at 6:00 AM to stick those posters around the campus. It was very challenging and exciting at the same time.

We wanted to do it anonymously as we didn't want to get into any trouble as it may angry the administration. Thankfully no one was awake at that time and we could complete our mission successfully. The next thing we all were waiting for was the reaction from the students. We were in the mess area, eagerly waiting to witness the reactions. It started slowly, but as a storm, it spread across the campus. Many students started posting pictures of the posters on their social media accounts and expressing their thoughts on the discrimination women are facing. Then our Warden Ma'am came and removed those posters from the Girls hostel as we apparently didn't take permission from the administration for this. But by that time it spread like a wildfire. All of my social media accounts are filled with stories of our posters. It was even featured on the 'Meme Society NLU' page on Instagram. All thanks to our juniors Rudra and his Friends. Then my friend Anusha Thota posted a story revealing the faces behind this whole thing. Seriously, in my whole life, I never felt this happy and proud of myself. We were congratulated by everyone; many brave students started sharing their personal incidents where they had faced Sexism and Misogyny from the administration and faculty.

Few men posted stories apologizing for their behaviour and acts they did know or unknowingly. Then our seniors (Batch 2021) and a bunch of juniors made more posters in order to support the movement that we have started. Some stick them on their hostel room door. The whole day was nothing but like dream for me, and I can remember everything that happened on that day. This incident helped to start the talk about the discrimination faced in girl's hostel, and we wanted to work on the amendment of these rules. For this, we were planning a strong action plan along with many other girls in the University from all the batches, but then unfortunately COVID 19 happened which changed our lives. We had to leave the campus and our plans were shelved. But we decided to start this online, to this my friend Sanjana Dadmialso joined. We wanted to start an Instagram page, and the name "Not a Goddess" was given by her. She started posting things from the beginning, and other friends also wrote some captions related to Patriarchy, Feminism etc.





Later, the page became a little dormant as we all were busy figuring out the new system of 'Online Classes'. And thus "Not a Goddess" slowly became a past in our lives. A few days before the next Women's day, I was watching a movie on Netflix called "Moxie", that movie gave me chills as it was based on a similar story that we did on our campus. I could relate to many scenes of that movie. And that movie gave me the idea and motivation to start the Online Magazine "Not a Goddess". I discussed this idea with my other friends, and as it was my idea I was ready to take complete responsibility for the same. I asked them to write articles related to our topic "Feminism".

And I roped in all of my close friends and cousins into this. I don't even know the 'M' of magazine publishing, but with the constant support of my friends I could figure it out. I made a video using all the pictures and videos of the last year's women's day and posted it on the next Women's day i.e., 8th March 2021. It was like a trailer as well as an inaugural video of "Not a Goddess" the online magazine. Its tagline is "We aim to amplify the Feminist voices."

Thus the first edition of "Not a Goddess" magazine was released with little hiccups. The response was very encouraging, though it was not even close to the proper format of Magazine, the words in that were straight from the heart. This increased the expectations and responsibility of "Not a Goddess" and most importantly my responsibility as "Founder and Editor".

I started learning about the working of magazine publishing, and with the help of some amazing people and content, I could release the 2nd edition of "Not a Goddess" close to the actual format of the Magazine. After this, the 2nd wave of Covid happened, and I could not continue my plan of publishing one edition per month. I postponed it until things settle down. And after a lot of struggle, and with the help of many amazing womxn I could publish the 3rd Edition

of "Not a Goddess." After the publication of the 3rd Edition, the Not a Goddess Instagram page received a message from a woman who read our magazine. She said, **"Hey! I saw your page after reading Vaishnavi's story, such a great initiative. I have battled patriarchy, depression, dowry harassment and now a divorce. They say social media is a bane. But so glad I came across your page that still gives courage to those fighting their way out of all the patriarchy. It's a long fight but maybe one at a time, things would change"**

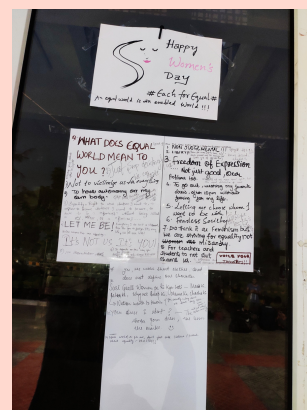
It made me emotional and happy that this could add to the courage of at least one woman. This message gave me the strength of 1000 elephants and courage to continue this movement. I call "Not a Goddess" a movement and I don't want it to be confined to a single platform. With this idea, and also a deep-rooted thought to create a safe space for Womxn to share their thoughts and experiences they face every day in this Patriarchal society, I am planning to create a Womxn's online club. This club will also be a platform for a healthy discussion/debate on various burning issues related to Gender and Feminism. Thoughts that are different from us will be welcomed because we believe, **"We are not Goddesses, we are not witches, we are womxn who believe in the end of Patriarchy. If this offends your senses, then let's talk about it."** This idea is still at its nascent stage, and lot of hard work and support is required to bring this to shape.

I must mention that the "Not a Goddess" movement was supported by many men from our university and in my life. It gives a refreshing and strong feeling because, thanks to the misconceptions, many people think that Feminism isn't about Equality of Genders but the domination of one gender that is Female, and that Women only can become Feminists. But these men shattered that misconception and openly expressed their support towards Feminism and how it strives for equal rights for all Genders. It's a very long movement, but we are strong and determined. And finally, I am going to release the 4th edition of "Not a Goddess" soon this month. Stay Tuned!!

PS: Whoever is interested in this idea of starting the Womxn's club can contact me at 7396901935(WA).

Follow @notagoddess_ on Instagram for more updates.

Regards, Aaliya Akhtar (Woman, Feminist)



ANSWERING YOUR UNANSWERED QUESTIONS! - LIFE AT TOP LAW FIRMS

The fact that each one of us has many questions that are unanswered or answered hear-say is not something that can be ignored...right? The Student Newsletter Committee has come forward gladly to make an attempt in answering those unanswered questions through primary sources. Yes, you heard it right, through primary sources and not hearsay! To make this possible, three of our alumni have come forward to support us by answering all our questions. They are Mr. Amiya Kumar Pati (2012-17), Senior Associate at Khaitan & Co.; Mr. Sourav Naug (2014-19), Associate at Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas and Mr. Himanshu Mene (2012-17), Associate at Khaitan & Co. Identify yourselves by reading their honest answers!



**MR. AMIYA KUMAR PATI
(2012-17), SENIOR
ASSOCIATE AT KHAITAN
& CO.**



**MR. SOURAV NAUG (2014-
19), ASSOCIATE AT
SHARDUL AMARCHAND
MANGALDAS**



**MR. HIMANSHU MENE
(2012-17), ASSOCIATE
AT KHAITAN &
CO.**



Skills and Interest Areas: Planning Internships:

Q: How do you explore your area of interest (from career perspective)?

Mr. Amiya Kumar Pati shares, “It was not easy in the first place to understand the area I wanted to get into. I interned with various law firms, advocates, NGO’s etc. to understand my underlying area of interest. During my 4th year while interning with Link Legal India Law Services, I figured out that Corporate practice was my calling.”

Mr. Sourav Naug says, “In my case, even in my fourth or fifth year, it was too early to decide what I wanted. And to be honest, even after graduating and working as an associate for two-and-a-half years, I am still not sure where my area of interest lies. So, to put it simply, if someone is very sure as to what their area of interest is, they can perhaps plan their internships in that direction.

Co-curricular activities help in exploring areas of interest. For example, I primarily focused on electricity laws in the area of Project and Project Finances because of my limited knowledge. To expand it, I took a lot of courses, did internships, wrote research papers that I could, and participated in moot court competitions. These helped me in strengthening my interests.”

Mr. Himanshu says, “I had a genuine interest in the area of Corporate Law since the beginning, but working with various law firms allowed me to understand the nuances and develop keen interest.”

Q: What skills should we develop to enter into the corporate field?

According to Mr. Amiya Kumar, —One has to be an avid reader and a decent draftsman. Drafting is key to entering the corporate world. Although to date I consider myself a beginner when it comes to drafting. However, one should hone up their skills by writing articles and publishing them in reputed journals, LinkedIn, social media, etc.

Mr. Sourav Naug opines, “There isn’t any specific skill set that the firms are looking for. I think it’s more about being earnest, grounded, and knowing what you are doing. One should be sure about what they are delivering as a product. Communication skills, both written and spoken, play a vital role. How you speak, what you write, and how effectively you discharge whatever you are doing are some skills that one needs to develop while entering into the corporate field.”

Mr. Himanshu answers, “Prepare yourself with Contract Drafting, increase your knowledge about Companies Act and Exchange Laws.”

Q: Should internships be structured only in one particular area of law?

Mr. Amiya Kumar thinks, “I would say from the very first year to the fourth year, a student should explore all such areas of law that are available out in the market. Starting from my experience, I have interned with NGOs during my first year, advocates during my second year, and law firms/corporates starting my third year. Structuring my internships through various layers helped me understand the area where I would like to practice going forward.”

In the same line, Mr. Sourav says, “Absolutely not! When I was in law school, during my first year, it didn’t make sense for me to join a law firm because, at that point in time, I did not possess the kind of skill-set or the kind of knowledge application required. It made sense to get to know the ground reality through NGOs or litigation internships. From my practical experience, it helped me a lot in understanding how the legal world functioned at that point in time.

And, after the first or second year, you get a certain understanding of whether NGOs or litigation interests you or not. From the third year, you can start interning in law firms.

So, it’s an elimination process. You intern and decide whether you like it or not. A lot of intricacies lie when you start interning; perhaps three years would be a very short time. So, you need not stress about it. It’s just to know if you are interested in getting into law firms, litigations, NGOs or think-tanks, etc. Internships, for the first three years, should be structured in a way that one gets clarity on to what they want after their law course finishes.”

According to Mr. Himanshu, “Not necessarily, you can explore as much you can to decide as to which area you want to continue with.”

Q: Is there any way to prepare for the work delegated during internships so that we won’t be clueless, and can actually contribute to the firm?

Mr. Amiya Kumar suggests, “In law firms, majority of the work given to an intern is on research. A law student should have a working knowledge of using legal databases such as Manupatra/Westlaw etc. This acts as an add-on while getting work from seniors in law firms.

One should have the ability to juggle through statutory websites/articles and should have a problem-solving attitude. As one of my seniors once said during my internship, “**There is nothing you can’t find in law. For every legal question, there is an answer. It all depends how deep you dive!**”

Mr. Sourav says asking questions! – “When work is being delegated to an intern, it is always expected that they ask questions upfront, rather than bringing it up when the project is to be submitted. In internships, usually, you’ll get research related works. Asking questions as many as you want to at one go, to understand the proposition, will go a long way; only then you will deliver the product as expected without being clueless. This also helps in building trust with the law firm you’re interning at.

Asking questions is the only way of not being clueless because the delegated work would ordinarily be case specific. Questioning about the expectations and timelines would help in forming a clear communication between you and your senior. This way you can ensure that you are effectively contributing to the firm and also ascertain your chances of getting more responsibilities and opportunities.”

Mr. Himanshu suggests, “A simple trick is to Google the task given to you, read what it is all about, refer to publicly available information and if you still don’t get it, speak to the Associates at the firm, they will be happy to help. Don’t hesitate to speak to them.”

What Law firms think?

Q: Are firms being biased towards hiring interns/associates who worked with them in physical internships as opposed to a virtual-graduate?

Mr. Amiya Kumar explains, “This is not the case. Considering the pandemic, law firms have changed the thought process on recruitment. Firms do look for candidates who are good in what they do. From a first year student, law firms don’t expect expertise in legal aspects. However, law firms do expect basic understanding of law from students and an attitude to learn throughout the process.”

Mr. Sourav opines, “I don’t think so. Many of my juniors who graduated in 2020 and 2021 have done it virtually and successfully bagged their jobs, too—be it tier-1 law firms or mid-size law firms. It is more about how one executes the work given during their internships, and how effectively they are communicating it with the law firm they intend to work with.”

In the words of Mr. Himanshu, “It helps them to see the candidate in a better sense of he/she has worked with them physically. But it is not necessary to have to attend physical internship, it is all about how you work and how is your response.”

Q: Is it true that law firms often choose to hire from/offer PPOs to NLUs/universities that are closer to the office of the law firm?

Mr. Amiya Kumar says, “This is not the case always. Although law firms do prefer hiring long-term interns/article assistants who get enough time to spend in the firm, gel up with the partners/seniors and imbibe the work culture of the firm. However, law firms do not restrict themselves from hiring the right talent, even if such talent stays far apart from the base location of the firm.”

Mr. Sourav firmly answers, “No. It makes no difference to them. Because once you graduate, you are going to work full-time for that law firm. The entire notion of universities situated in urban cities making a difference is not true. It's the student who makes the difference with their internships and work. I, for that matter, am from one of the North-eastern states, studied in Vizag, and now working in Mumbai.”

Mr. Himanshu says, “Every Law Firm has a list of colleges where they would go for PPO but again we have seen lateral hire as well.”

Pre-Placement offer:

Q: How can one pursue the firm for a PPO in IV-year without any "inside source"? (Of course, apart from doing internships and proving your worth)

Mr. Amiya Kumar says, “The best answer to this question is – showcase your skills during your internship. It may be tough to showcase one's skills within a month or two, however, it is important to leave an impression on the seniors one works with.

I got a PPO from Link Legal India Law Services, without any “inside source”.”

According to Mr. Sourav, “Without inside sources or doing internships and proving your worth, it's impossible to get a PPO unless and until you own the law firm! In order to get a PPO, it is important to prove how worthy you are and make them realize the skill-sets you bring as an associate while doing the internship.

As the name suggests—it's a PRE-Placement offer. This doesn't happen when the university's placements or recruitments take place. It's meant to be secured on your own while you are doing the internships. So, without any internship, the pre-placement offer cannot come into the picture.”

“Internship and regular touch base with the Partner/Associate is the key,” says **Mr. Himanshu**.

Application Stage:

Q: How can we get into the law firms?

Mr. Amiya Kumar states, —Through structuring your internships and working efficiently during your stint as an intern in a law firm. Additionally, your resume should be such wherein a law firm would appreciate you having a decent CGPA and other co-curricular activities such as moot courts and publications. Having said that, law firms do appreciate a decent CGPA (say for e.g. >5.5/7.0). However, if a student has a lower CGPA, he/she should have enough reasons in their resume to explain the lower CGPA. Law firms do appreciate an intern/prospective associate having publications to his/her name with reputed journals. It shows that the specific person has a niche for drafting. Moot court related achievements do help law firms analyze whether the specific candidate is good in public speaking / confident enough to face the clients in near future.||

Mr. Sourav shares, “From my practical experience, it's only through the internships that we get into a law firm. The casual question one always asks is, being a DSNLU student, is about how we can secure an internship in top law firms without an inside source. The answer is simple: one needs to curate their CV accordingly.

A dear professor from DSNLU advised me that one needs to build their CV in such a way that impresses and showcases yourself so that they [the recruiters] can understand what is it that you want from your legal experience.

Like I explained before, you need to be sure whether you want a law firm or not by third year—let's say—through an elimination process. From the third year onwards, plan your internships in a way that you are working in all kinds of law firms. When it comes to work, there is nothing like ‘top law firms’ or ‘mid-size law firms’ or ‘small law firms’. Work is work. So, wherever you get an opportunity, it's better to try proving your worth there.”

According to Mr. Himanshu, “You can choose to apply through recurrent agencies (whom you can connect on LinkedIn) or apply yourself. The application process is fairly simple, need to submit your resume along with a cover letter along with regular follow up.”

Q: How to make applications stand out at firms?

Mr. Sourav's answer is —Your CV and cover letter should be in a manner that recruiters are convinced to offer you an internship. CV and cover letter should be top-notch, crisp, clear,

error-free, especially no silly mistakes. One shouldn't ignore the details in order to prevent a wrong impact. The HR will not have the time to look at how beautiful the CV or cover letter is; they will only look at the resume and glance over your cover letter. It should effectively communicate what is it that you wish to learn from the internship experience. This makes your application stand out at firms.”

Mr. Himanshu suggests, —Keep the CV simple, to the point, no grammatical error and no more than 2 pages. Make sure, you spend time on the CV and include specific work information instead of just writing that you have worked on contact act. Keep the Cover Letter precise for the position/area you have worked.”

Q: What is required of/expected from people who apply? Is it extensive previous internship experiences at smaller firms? Or is that a myth?

Mr. Amiya Kumar says, —Internship experiences with smaller firms do make a candidate ready to jump into the larger pool of bigger law firms. The experience one receives in a smaller law firm is immense and it definitely helps a candidate sail through the work pressure one receives in a Tier 1 law firm. Additionally, a decent CGPA, publications, achievements in moot court competitions etc. also works as an add-on.

Mr. Sourav, without any hesitation, answers, Of course, previous internship experience matters. Your CV can't just be the names of top law firms or litigation practitioners. Your CV should be able to reflect or make others understand your journey throughout your internships. So, definitely, extensive internship experiences at law firms will make an impact. But there's no such thing as smaller or bigger law firms. It's about the volume and size of the work that one does, and one should be very sure of the work they are doing. The only myth here is that one can walk away after bluffing about the work and the experiences in their CV, claiming they have gained experience at a law firm without actually doing it.

The expectations are not just limited to internship experiences; it's also the courses you do, co-curricular activities that you have participated in—even if they're not related to the field that you are interested in. It's all-important, including academic activities.

And according to Mr. Himanshu, What sort of work you have done matters. If you have worked for big law firms and you have not done anything substantial then it won't help. Internships with bigger Law Firms help but it doesn't apply very strictly.

What's after all this?

Q: How hectic is life as an entry-level associate?

According to Mr. Amiya Kumar, “Work-life in a law firm is not a cakewalk. Life will be hectic but again an entry-level associate will get way more opportunities to learn. With the onset of work from home, a lot of responsibilities are given to an entry-level associate as well to manage. However, the learning curve has gone upward and this helps an entry-level associate to learn things quickly and efficiently. Further, an entry-level associate is given ample time to understand the culture of the firm, work ethics of the firm, and the responsibilities one has to comply with while in the firm.”

Similarly, Mr. Sourav says, “It’s a shift from university’s life to professional life. So, that transition is difficult—at least for me, personally. It becomes hectic at times while managing your personal space and your workspace. But, once you are used to it, it gets easier to work as an entry-level associate in a law firm.”

As per Mr. Himanshu, “On average you will have 10-12 working hours and sometimes even all-nighters.”

Q: Is there really zero work-life balance at law firms?

Mr. Amiya Kumar says, “It depends on the law firm and the team one gets into. Not universal truth, but work-life balance is tough in a law firm”

Mr. Sourav feels, “There are times when your workspace takes over your personal space. But, at the same time, you do enjoy your personal space. It’s a mix and match of both. I wouldn’t say that it’s zero work-life balance. However, there are times where you wish you had more work-life balance.”

And Mr. Himanshu says, “No, that’s not the case with all the law firms, some firms allow you have that. It all depends on the organization you are working with.”

Q: What kind of work the top law firms will assign?

Mr. Amiya Kumar answers, “Work assigned in a law firm is varied in nature. Starting from basic research to drafting complex transaction documents, a law firm provides an array of legal work one can ever anticipate. For a corporate lawyer, conducting legal due diligence is a must – which an entry-level associate is expected to learn during the initial days of their career.”

Mr. Sourav says, “It varies. As an entry-level associate, they try to ensure that you understand the culture of the firm has, the kind of work product they expect you to deliver, and the level of work you are expected to perform.

There is no training period where you can train yourself or get used to the culture of the law firm.

Once you transition completely, though, the actual contribution takes place. It ranges from drafting of contracts to executing or completing due diligence of target companies, writing opinions, memos, responding to inquiries...quite a few things are involved.”

Mr. Himanshu’s response is, “At the Associate stage, it will be related to research, due diligence, etc.”

Q: What are the roles of various associates at law firms and how do they differ? (E.g associate, managing associate, etc.)

According to Mr. Amiya, “Roles vary as one rise through the ranks of the law firm. An entry-level associate will be expected to assist their immediate seniors while as one rise through the ranks in the law firm, the same candidate will be expected to run a transaction on an end to end basis.”

Explaining in detail, Mr. Sourav shares, “Every law firm has its own internal structure. Typically, there are associates, senior associates, principal associates, and Partners (equity partner or salaried partner, senior partner, etc.)

As an associate, you are expected to deliver the product as per the expectations of your seniors, and clients. So, the grunt work is done by the associate.

The senior associate will take responsibility for complex transactions, mention the inputs that are required, and supervise as well as execute the work done by the associates. For example, if there’s an M&A contract, the drafting will be done jointly by an associate and a senior associate. It depends upon what kind of transaction you are involved in.

The Principal Associate will be there to ensure that the delegated work is done as per the expected norms of the firm and the clients. Partners will not have the time to engage in every transaction that’s been happening. They rely on the work of a principal associate.

For the partner, it is more about bringing in clients and checking the business of the firms. Simply put, the business side of the firm will be taken care of by the partners, and the actual work a firm is supposed to do will be in the hands of associates.”

Q: If one gets a job in a tier 2 firm and then later wants to move upward, how difficult would that be in the course of the future?

Mr. Amiya Kumar thinks, “Technically, it is not tough for a candidate to move upwards. If I can take my example,

I worked in two Tier-2 law firms in a span of 2 years and moved to a Tier-1 law firm. Believe it or not, Tier-2 law firms help you strengthen your foundation in law. This experience will definitely help you get into a tier-1 law firm. At the end of the day, all the law firms do deal with law – just that the threshold of the deals Tier-1 law firms complete is higher than tier-2 law firms.”

Mr. Sourav thinks, “It’s not that difficult; it has been done in the past also. Once you graduate from university, it is your work that decides your career. And so the switch might not be that difficult if your work proves your worth.”

Similarly, Mr. Himanshu says, “It’s not that difficult, you have to be attentive about the openings and apply accordingly.”

Q: Considering how stressful and demanding the job can be, are your contributions acknowledged, and is the job rewarding enough?

Mr. Amiya Kumar agrees and states, “Yes. The job is rewarding. There is financial security and a reputation that precedes you. Additionally, the experience one gets in a law firm is holistic and helps nurture a candidate in varying levels.”

Mr. Sourav says, “The contributions are acknowledged; that’s how an associate will be assessed. That’s how the partners and the team get to know how one is functioning. At the time of promotions or annual increments, the work you do will be rewarding.”

In the same line, **Mr. Himanshu says**, “Mostly yes, but exceptions are always there.”

Q: Do you agree with the common view which says "A corporate job is merely a desk job and mundane where you don't get to learn more about the law?"

“That depends on the thought process of various lawyers. I being a corporate lawyer have been enjoying my work to the core” **opines Mr. Amiya Kumar**

Mr. Sourav says, “Well, if I agree with the common view, then I wouldn’t be working with the law firm! It’s a personal choice. Definitely, most of the time, it’s going to be a desk job until and unless you are going to negotiate contracts or meet with clients to discuss their issues in person.

When it comes to the second half of the questions, I don’t believe in the position because clients are not going to pay law firms when they don’t know the law. And if this happens, law firms will not function. I have learned more about law as a working associate than when I was a student in university. Practical knowledge would always win over textbook learning.”

Mr. Himanshu answers, “It depends as under which Partner you are working with, there are few who will ask you to dive deep for every work

and some won't, but you obviously learn in both cases."

Q: Will an associate represent his client before the court of law? Or will it be only researching and providing the information to the advocate who's actually arguing before the Judge in court?

Mr. Amiya Kumar says, "It depends on the work profile an associate is given and the ability of such associate to handle matters."

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Q: What are your thoughts on diversity in the top law firms? (Please share your experience in the law firm you worked for.)

Mr. Amiya Kumar states, "Diversity in top law firms is being given priority off late. I can state that top law firms are doing their bit on including diversity. As one can see, law firms are elevating women lawyers to partnerships recognizing their talent in the legal field."

Explaining the state of affairs in his office, Mr. Sourav states, "It is diverse in nature. We have people working from all across the country when it comes to the regional side of it. I am from the northeast of India, and I have colleagues who are from Delhi, Bengaluru, etc. If it's about gender, then we have an inclusive policy which ensures the presence of a diverse environment in law firms."

Q: Is aiming for the Role of Partner the only goal after starting a career in a top law firm?

Mr. Amiya Kumar says, "It again depends on the thought process of a lawyer. One may want to move in-house before becoming a partner. One may also want to move into policymaking after a few year's stints in a law firm. As said, this depends on the ultimate goal of the candidate."

Mr. Sourav answers, "One need not just be a partner while working with a law firm. There are people who are not doing law after they become partners, and there are people who opt to continue their journey as in-house counsels (such as joining the legal team of a company, or working as general counsels or senior counsels). It's about what they want to derive from working at a law firm and what they would personally like to achieve in their careers."

Mr. Himanshu says, "Becoming a Partner at a top law firm is a big deal and everyone who joins as an Associate should aim for it but should also aim for increasing the knowledge base and solution providing approach."

About you:

Q: What's that one thing you love about your job?

Mr. Amiya Kumar loves working on various legal aspects and interacting with the best of the legal minds of the world. He also says, "I get to learn a lot on the legal side as well as the business side while representing a client. At the end of the day, while signing off for the day, I realise that I have learnt something throughout the day and there is so much more to learn in the process."

Mr. Sourav says, "The one thing that I love about my job is the diversity and the variety of works that I get to learn, and the broad horizons that I am working with. It's not just limited to infrastructure-related work. I also learn more about corporate theory work, day-to-day dispute activities that are more transactional in nature, and writing opinions etc."

And Mr. Himanshu says, "It's relativity with the actual world."

Q: Do you feel the adrenaline rush to go to work every morning or is it just another day at work kind of thing?

Mr. Amiya Kumar says, "It depends - sometime the work profile is interesting to have the adrenaline rush. And sometime it's just like any other day. Can't expect rainbow out there every single day."

Mr. Sourav also says, "There are days when you do get that kind of rush, and there are days where it's just another day. Fridays, especially, are the days when I get the adrenaline rush, knowing that the weekend is right around the corner. Mondays are the days when I get that just-another-day-kind of vibes."

Mr. Himanshu says, "Most of the days but sometimes I feel like quitting :p"

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

Mr. Amiya Kumar says, "The major underlying reason was to understand the variety of work involved in corporate law. Starting from getting investment in a company to advising a company on various legal issues, it gives me an opportunity to learn about the business of an entity in a much detailed way. Likewise, I am enjoying the work now and have plans to continue in the law firm/corporate legal sector in the longer run."

Mr. Sourav says, "Being a first-generation lawyer, the reason for opting for law firms—or projects and project finances, in specific—was knowing the infrastructure need of the country and the general shift towards a renewable space wherein more and more construction activities will be taking place. Understanding this, I sensed that there will be more growth in the field when I start working on it."

I think when I joined, I had a limited view. But now that I think of it, I am learning more about the broader perspectives that are involved within. I still continue to learn."

Mr. Himanshu answers, "The interest in corporate work got me here and this continues today as well."

Q: In your words, how does life after joining top law firms look like? Has that life reached your expectations?

Mr. Amiya Kumar says, "Top law firms give you a wider perspective in terms of work. Life becomes hectic but one does enjoy the quality of work one gets. I do enjoy my work and the quality of life a law firm does bring to you."

Mr. Sourav explains, "Joining a law firm and working with one, I always knew that life was going to be hectic. And I think I am enjoying the kind of work I do. At the same time, I realize that learning is a never-ending process. We always learn as we go along the way. That's how I am keeping realistic expectations of learning, as much as I can, on a day-to-day basis."

In the words of Mr. Himanshu, "It's work always and a bit stability."

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

Mr. Himanshu says, "The journey has been great, lots of learning and looking forward to more work."

Sourav Naug:

"I did my primary schooling in Shillong. For 12 years, I was studying in Kendriya Vidyalaya. I was a science student. While everyone was struggling with their life choice—whether to become a doctor or an engineer—I kind of understood that these careers are not meant for me. That's how I decided to choose law as a career. And, as life happened, I joined DSNLU. Five years down the line, making career decisions primarily depended on my internships. Internships were the guiding course for me.

My first internships were focused on NGOs and chambers. I ensured that I rightfully eliminated the choices and decided what I want. It was around my third year when I decided to continue with law firms. As an intern, I used to work 12-13 hours per day, as good as an associate, to prove myself and learn more about the field.

I have interned with multiple law firms. HSA Advocates was one of the law firms where I learnt a lot. Thereafter, I started working with other law firms like Trilegal at their Energy and Infrastructure Department.

Before I graduated, there was an opening in the Projects and Project Finances department of ShardulAmarchand Mangaldas, where I applied. They took my interview and they liked it. And here I am today—two-and-a-half years later—working with them."

Mr. Amiya Kumar:

"I was an engineering student before I appeared for CLAT and joined DSNLU Vizag. DSNLU did give me the launchpad to become what I am today. It was tough to transition out from being a half baked engineer to a full fledged lawyer, but the whole journey was a roller coaster ride. In those 5 years of law school, I tried to lay my hands on everything that came my way. I participated in moots, wrote papers, published them, went for seminars, did some MUN's and made some real good friends during the journey.

For a first generation lawyer without any 'inside source', it was equally tough for me to secure an internship during my college days. The number of rejection applications I used to receive from law firms were more than the random ad related emails one receives in their inbox.

But luckily with god's grace, I secured internships with smaller firms and tried going upwards to bigger law firms.

I started my career with Capgemini as an inhouse lawyer and moved upwards to working with law firms in their corporate team. Believe me, it was not an easy cakewalk for me to learn the work culture and imbibe with the culture of the law firm. However, I was fortunate enough to have met some amazing lawyers and wonderful people who helped me sail through the last 4 years and

helped me achieve whatever little I have today. I will always remain grateful to those wonderful souls out there who helped me grow into becoming the person I am today!

A piece of advice to the upcoming lawyers – always keep yourself open to avenues that come your way. It may be tough and you may not know the answer to it, but do say yes and then learn how to do it!"

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Queer kids don't just wake up one day and decide to be queer. Months—maybe years of questioning; the fear embedded into them by the world around them; surely it is no cakewalk. The world started acknowledging our existence but to what extent? We are acknowledged but not accepted. We need safe spaces to grow and to heal.

DSQA (Short for DSNLU Queer Alliance) is just one such attempt to create a safer environment for the LGBTQ+ Community. All my life, I wanted to talk to people who could understand me and people who could relate to me. DSQA was born out of a selfish desire to be understood. It might not be big enough to solve all the issues in our campus when it's just an informal group on instagram but it has to start somewhere.

I want DSQA to be something you can lean on when you're tired of going against the world, and just to be you. I want DSQA to help you be the most authentic you. A place you can call home. A place where you can let your guard down. Even if everything I talk of is a utopian dream, I believe we can come closer with our little steps.

It's about time we stop hiding in the shadows while people talk about us and over us. Let's make DSNLU a safer place. I finally saw the light outside of the closet I pushed myself into. There's no going back now. Together, we can—no we WILL make our university a safe and supportive place when you finally want to be freed from the fears holding you back. **So, everyone reading this, will you stand with our cause?**

G. Arthi, 3rd year.

OPINION COLUMN

1. A. THE AFGHANISTAN CRISIS HAS CREATED COUNTLESS REFUGEES IN A MATTER OF DAYS. HOW FAR WILL THE ENACTMENT OF THE CITIZENSHIP (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2019 AFFECT AFGHAN REFUGEES NOT BELONGING TO SPECIFIED RELIGIONS UNDER THE ACT?

TALIBAN OR NOT, THE PATHWAY THROUGH CAA IS SHUT! SAYS UMAR.

Opinion of Shaik Md Umar Abdullah, 5th year



With the shift of Afghanistan's control in the hands of the Taliban, the number of refugees is alarmingly rising. In view of this crisis, a significant discussion on Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 (hereinafter called CAA) has resurfaced in India again. Where few significant figures of society justified CAA and claimed that it would help the refugees from Afghanistan, I respectfully submit that CAA would be of NO help to refugees/migrants of Afghanistan irrespective of the religion to which they belong.

In light of the Afghan crisis, refugees or migrants irrespective of the religious group that they belong to, form a homogenous group with regards to the discussion on the application of this Act.

The CAA amends the Principal Act of 1955, specifically with regard to persons from specified religions who arrived in India before 31 December 2014. By virtue of the amended provisions, the aforementioned people are no longer considered "illegal migrants" even if they entered India without a valid passport or travel documents and provided an expedited pathway to naturalized Indian citizenship.

The significant aspect for consideration is that the CAA applies ONLY to the persons who arrived in India before 31 December 2014, & **"without a valid passport or travel documents or if the validity of their documents has expired"**. Thus any person who arrives in India after the cut-off date shall not fall within the domain of this act and has to apply for citizenship in accordance with the provisions in the principal Act which contains the stringent condition of residence of 12 years.

Even if it is considered that the legislature amends the aforementioned provisions, it creates a significant lacuna. If the cut-off date is revised so as to include the persons who are entering India in recent times, yet the clause - "without a valid passport or travel documents or if the validity of their documents has expired" comes as a bar. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has recently issued a mandate to obtain e-visa by all Afghan Nationals for entering India in view of security concerns. Therefore, if at all, the Government of India decides to grant any respite, the above said clause has to be removed entirely.

However, such a decision, if taken, shall put other communities at such risk unequally erstwhile reducing the risk of refoulement for certain communities. In its totality, it would be inconsistent with international human rights instruments.

Thus in view of the concerns mentioned above, CAA with its existing provisions is of no help to the refugees from Afghanistan irrespective of religion and has to acquire citizenship only in accordance with the principal Act of 1955. While India always stands for the protection of human rights, Government of India should come up with a legislation/policy which can potentially benefit thousands of migrants/refugees in this irregular situation without any consideration of religion and status.

CAA CAN NEVER BE THE REFUGEE POLICY IN INDIA! SAYS HAMSA

Opinion of K. Sri Hamsa, 2018041, 4th year.



Winston Churchill, who is the former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, sagaciously stated that **"Healthy citizens are the greatest asset any country can have."** That being said, it is a harsh reality for all of us to observe today that the Afghan crisis has created countless refugees in a matter of days. However, the Indian Government has started to issue e-visas in a very proactive manner to the increasing number of refugees from Afghanistan.

When we look at the status of the citizenship of the refugees concerned, it is pertinent to keep in mind the fact that the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (hereinafter CAA) allows all the Hindu, Muslim, Jain, Parsis, or Christians who came to India on or before December 31st, 2014 to be eligible for citizenship. So, considering that the Act itself mentioned certain religions who faced religious persecution are allowed for citizenship, it can really impact the refugees who are of the religion not specified in CAA and who are coming to the country as a consequence of the major shift of power witnessed recently.

However, the Afghanistan War has been a really long one and many refugees have started coming for help and aid in India since the 1980s. Therefore, the CAA also affects the citizenship of the refugees who are not from the abovementioned religions but also to only those who came before 2014. The core of this issue would be the absence of a proper refugee policy framework as citizenship of the refugees till date which is further validated and approved on an Ad Hoc basis.

Also, **I believe that CAA would not be perfect legislation because it failed at its very execution.** The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) called CAA "Fundamentally Discriminatory" and also encouraged international goals by suggesting India execute it in a non-discriminatory manner by building a **"robust national asylum system."** Moreover, we can also think of a permanent refugee policy framework where every individual is accounted for.

CAA is not a refugee policy framework, instead, it is a legislation for fast-tracking the grant of citizenship for individuals who are already residing in India before December 30th, 2014. The Afghan Crisis has given many lessons to many nations yet to be learned from the controversial incident of General Stanley A. McChrystal to the present Afghanistan Crisis, where our country is time and again reminded of the real necessity of a Permanent Refugee Policy Framework.

B. DO WOMEN JUDGES BRING BETTER GENDER SENSITIZATION THAN MALE JUDGES?

GENDER PLAYS NO ROLE! SAYS KATYAYANI. #UNBIASEDINTERPRETATION

Opinion of Katyayani Shukla, 1st year

The existence of gender stereotypes in our society is undeniable. Law enforcement agencies being a part of the same society stand no exception. Comments like "Tie Rakhi and get the bail." and "Marry the victim and we will see what we can do about it" made by the apex court of the nation, let aside the district courts, indicate how deep down has this mindset has percolated.

No doubt, better female and even transgender representation and their active participation in judiciary will facilitate it to become a more inclusive and progressive institution and might as well even sensitize jurists, to some extent.

But we cannot expect every female victim case to be adjudged by a judge of the same gender and vice versa. If it goes this way, we might as well expect someone questioning the laws made for the prevention of crime against women by the male jurists in a future not far. **Justice requires an unbiased interpretation of the law and its implementation.** Thus, no specific gender can bring a better gender sensitization unless all of us look into it from an overall perspective.

The first step to the cure of this disease is its diagnosis. Thus what comes to the save is introspection, active discourses regarding the entrenched stereotypes, and Educative Sensitization Sessions for all the jurists. And to multiply this effect, the judiciary has to strongly uphold its voice against any form of discrimination and suppression so that it sends a strong message in the society. It's high time we recognize that the era of women to rock the cradle and men to swing the swords is long gone.



IT'S TIME WE UPROOT SEXISM AND PATRIARCHY IN JUDICIARY! SAYS RISHITHA.

Opinion of Sai Rishitha Dasari, 3rd year.

Many people must be laboring under a delusion that the gender of judges hardly falls into relevance to cast an impact on the outcome of legal decisions. Though judges in India did dispense several stirring judgments opportuning affirmative upliftment of women in the country, few of them also acted as purveyors of sexist notions at times. There were many instances to showcase the judge's sheer insensitivity, inconsideration towards women victims. The statement from Karnataka high court judge, Justice Krishna Dixit "It is unbecoming of an Indian woman to sleep after she is ravished" because "that is not how our women react" to justify anticipatory bail to a rape accused is beyond ludicrous because not all women are going to react the same way after sexual abuse. Judges probing to such preposterous reasons to set free rape accused is truly bothersome (Sri Rakesh B vs the State of Karnataka). In 2012, the Mumbai high court bench consisting of Justice PB Majmudar and Justice Anoop Mohta while entertaining a divorce petition once commented, "A wife should be like Goddess Sita who followed her husband, Lord Ram, into the forest and stayed there for 14 years" when the petitioner's wife was unwilling to shift to Port Blair with him. **Such dismayed statements indeed reflect the prejudiced perspective of judges inspired by persisted patriarchal codes and hackneyed stereotypes about women.**

Sexism in the Indian Judiciary runs so deep that judges at such a high post are able to casually pass such callous statements against women. **The only best way to foster gender sensitivity in courtrooms is to bring more female judges into the play.** Even Attorney general of India, KK Venugopal, emphasized the immediate need for more female judges in the judiciary to bring gender sensitization while observing the controversy sparked in the case of Vikram Bagri vs the state of Madhya Pradesh. Many empirical studies also established that with the presence of female judges on the bench, there is more tendency of male judges to support women victims in gender-coded cases. The study analysis done by NLU Delhi delineated that there is an almost 80% decline in sexist comments after the presence of female judges on the bench. Moreover, having more female judges in the judiciary would overall ensure women step up and approach institutions to report violence and crimes that they are subjected to. Therefore, female judges do matter, now more than ever, to bring gender- sensitization.



C. Does creating a southern bench of the Supreme Court of India bridge the gap between northern and southern parts of India? If yes, will there be a need for an eastern bench too?

ONE NATION, ONE SC! SAYS VAISHNAVI

Opinion of Naga Vaishnavi Dogiparthi, 2nd year.

They cannot be two suns in the same sky is an old saying.

I believe if there are more than one Supreme Court in a single country it will divide the country into different parts and this country already has language barriers to deal with.

For instance, many people don't include the far-off eastern states as part of India and similarly, people of eastern states also feel detached from the collective nation of India. There are way too many Indians who feel that they are not part of India in their everyday lives. The only time when India rises together as a nation is around the Olympics where the hype is felt by the far-off eastern states that they are only considered as a part of India when they bring medals. So in case there is a separate Supreme Court for eastern states the feeling of exclusion may become more and in the end would divide the country and no one wants it. The only connection those far-off states have with the central part may be cut off and there is a chance of them becoming more closed off to the other parts of India.

When we say the eastern West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar are included too but I don't think this change will affect them. Perhaps, it will even benefit them into becoming even more important landscapes because if an SC is going to be established it will definitely be among these states rather than the seven sisters. I wonder while writing this if there is a chance that even the slightest chance of this benefitting the people of the far east is like bringing them into the main play but if it doesn't work it will cost India greatly.

And even if this all is just a foolish belief among foolish people the simple reason may increase the chances of becoming a more divided nation and closing off themselves from other parts. I only focused much on the eastern side but the same goes for the South too.

And **if they establish regional supreme courts, what will be the point of a singular apex court for the whole country and without an apex court** it will be like different countries and the regional SC will be the apex to that region. And what if there is the same case and different judgments in different regions, there can't be different rules for the same country. So again we have to establish an apex and the cycle repeats itself.



My Crazy people - A small story of Ms. Asha Priya!



It was around 11:30 am on 24th October 2018. Six of us are in Section-A, and the rest five are in Section-B. I guess Jurisprudence was going on for us. My friends from the other section were waiting for us in the corridor outside our classroom. We were all planning to skip the next two classes to go to a One Day International cricket match between India and West Indies. We have among us three kinds of cricket fans. One - those who could list every venue where Virat Kohli had made a century...Two - those normal cricket fans...Three - those who could only say how many balls there are in an over and the spelling of cricket. So the first kind had spent most of the evening suggesting Virat Kohli as to which bowler he has to bring in next. The second kind was counting the runs and overs because we were not used to seeing scores on the display screen. And then the third category trying to figure out the difference between a six and a four and shouting whenever the ball hits a boundary....even when India was bowling...

This crazy bunch of people is the one that comes first to my mind whenever I think of DSNLU and I relate to them in more ways than just Cricket.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DSNLU?

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND? -VIRTUAL OR PHYSICAL?



The SNL Committee asked all the students to express their views on the conundrum of re-opening the university for students with the pandemic still upon us. The majority of the student body wants the administration to open the gates of college by the end of September/October 2021. The voice of the body calls out for opening "as soon as possible", granted certain measures are taken. The administration should take note of complete revamped sanitation stations located all over the campus; mandatory (minimum) first dose of vaccine; vaccination drives for the local workers/employees; isolation wards/areas in case of an emergency; negative RT-PCR reports before entering the campus, etc.

Few students have also mentioned that there should be a phased re-opening which allows a trickle-down effect by initially allowing only the V year students to re-join, and then gradually move on to the junior batches. They have also proposed a hybrid system, where the students would be allowed to attend classes online as well as in an offline mode.

After experiencing the virtual world of DSNLU, the new admissions (lol, it's been more than a year for half of them) want to explore the physical dimensions of the university and get a vibe of the campus ecosystem. Most of them are eager to explore the city, academic buildings, library and hostels (Spoiler alert: it is gorgeous). The physical re-opening would also allow them to connect with their peers and get to hang out with their friends. Let's face it, nobody likes these forced long-distance friendships!

The new-admissions are immensely excited for the freshers' party and the outgoing batch is burdened with the bitter-sweet thought of their farewell parties. Third-year onward batches are missing their second home with all their hearts. They miss the debates over a plate of hot maggi at Raju Anna's, the appetizing anda-bhurji of Sudheer Dhaba, the tempting biryani of Balaji and even the grumpy uncle of our in-campus amenities shop. The nostalgia of celebrating festivals, running around trying to find matching heels to go with the girls' outfits, screaming at the top of our lungs when the hostel lights go out at midnight, can never be forgotten.

On the other end of the spectrum, some of us, however, have gotten accustomed to our 'comfort homes'. Some of the students feel they would miss the cool air of AC, warm showers, their beloved family/furry pets, luxury of ordering in food from Zomato/Swiggy and of course the medical facilities which are taken care of by the family. A few of us are already tired of thinking of going back to their disciplined regime of waking up early and going to sit in class for hours on end and write exams to pass! It definitely would be a tough bet to overcome our lethargy.

At the end of it all, it seems that the majority of us do want to come back to the university and experience the once-in-a-lifetime experience ASAP! Yes, it would be a little cumbersome and problematic in the beginning and there would be a need to figure out the logistics and fix the SoP/protocol for everyone; but as one of the Bollywood inspired students mentioned: 'Umeed pe duniya kayam hai' (the world stands on hope).

COMMITTEE UPDATES

MOOT AND ADVOCACY SOCIETY (MAS)

- This year the 9th Intra Moot Court Competition will be held on 25th and 26th September 2021.
- For the competition students begin by researching and preparing arguments for both sides of the dispute, drafting and editing written pleadings, called "memorials," and practising oral presentations. Each team prepares two written memorials and an oral presentation for one of the parties to the dispute in the preliminary rounds. Then they will be selected to Final rounds.
- For more info, please visit <https://dsnl.ac.in/moot-court-debates/>

CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL LAW (CBCL)

- Recent activities include Webinar on Serious Fraud Investigation Office: A 360-degree Overview in association with ALGO Legal, Bangalore organized on 28 August 2021 and Masterclass on Recovery of Debts by Banks and Financial Institutions - A Journey from RDDB Act to IBC on 19 August 2021.
- The upcoming event includes launching a Corporate Law Newsletter to cover interesting commercial topics from the business world.
- For more info about the committee, visit <https://dsnl.ac.in/cbcl/>

SOCIETY FOR LITERATURE AND DEBATING (SOLID)

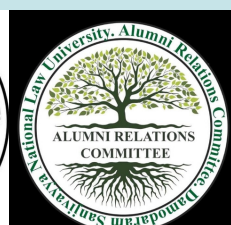
- The Society takes immense pride in having organised two successful editions of the Dr. N.R. Madhava Menon National Parliamentary Debate which saw enthusiastic participation from across various universities in the country.
- Besides this, the society has also conducted in-house events such as VAKTA, an Intra-University Parliamentary Debate, Battle of Adjudicators, Debating Premium League and the Literature Week.

INTERNSHIP CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE (ICC):

- The Committee has sent over 200 mails to various firms and practitioners requesting slots for internships.
- We have been able to place 7 students with Phoenix Legal, Touchstone Partners, ANG Partners, KSK, BMR Legal, and Supreme Court Advocate Anuj Tiwari.
- We have also been able to secure a positive response from the following firms for future collaborations: ALMT Legal, Lexygen Partners, Anant Merathia and Associates, S.B Jain and Associates, Tatva Legal, Algo Legal, APJ - SLG Law Offices, J, Sagar Associates, Vaakya Legal, Singh and Associates, Edge Law Partners, Advocates & Consultants, Vardharma Chambers, Puthran and Associates, Finsec Advisors, BSK Legal, S&R Associates, Hammurabi and Soloman, Lexport, Lodha Group, Khurana & Khurana and DMD Advocates
- All members of the committee are equipped with answers for any internship related queries so that our peers don't have to approach the faculty with concerns.

ALUMNI RELATIONS COMMITTEE [NEW]

- In view of its commitment to strengthening unbreakable relationship bonds and connections with our alumni; and to foster lifelong relationships between the University and its graduates, DSNLU has established the new Alumni Relations Committee.
- The goals include a strong alumni network, promoting engagement between all the students and alumni, and more participation of alumni in university's events, etc.
- The Committee has been established in the month of August 2021 and has recruited 10 student members to bridge the gap between Alumni and their alma mater.
- The Committee has hosted its inaugural event on 23rd September 2021 and plans a handful of interesting events.



STUDENT NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE (SNL)

- Upcoming activities include starting a blog in the official DSNLU website for the publication of Opinions and Legal Write-ups, not only from the DSNLU students but also from the students outside the University. The Committee intends to take the help of other committees in updating the Legal Updates column in SNL Blog.
- The Committee plans to recruit first years in the SNL team.
- Letter to your future-self event: The first years and second years will be encouraged to write letters to their future self. These letters will be preserved in the university and will be returned to the students at the time of their graduation in hopes to remind every student of the dreams they dreamed in their nascent years of this law course.

CENTRE FOR ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (CADR) (**NEW**)

- The DSNLU Centre for Alternative Dispute Resolution (CADR) was established to provide an appropriate new platform for academic deliberations and research studies on the methods, practices, and procedures of ADR techniques.
- The Committee's focus is on training the next generation of ADR practitioners whether they are lawyers, HR managers, engineers, finance professionals, doctors, or belonging to any other field.
- The Committee has recruited its members in the month of September 2021.
- For more information about the committee, please visit <https://dsnlu.ac.in/cadr/>

DSNLU NEWS



- **National Webinar on Water Management Laws: Life, Livelihood, And Environment:** National Water Laws Seminar was organized by DSNLU on 4 and 5 September 2021 and was sponsored by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, Southern Regional Centre (ICSSR – SRC). Ms. K Sudha & Mr. Bayola Kiran were convenors of the National Webinar. The seminar was held with an objective to enlighten upon and discuss the issues such as prioritization and allocation of water, inter and intra states water disputes, conservation of water, and water pollution and its legal ramifications. Various prominent persons like Mr. Rajendra Singh (Waterman of India), Prof. V. Usha Kiran, Dr. EAS Sarma, etc addressed the webinar. The webinar had six technical sessions and had over forty paper presentations. The participants of the webinar had insightful discussions with the guests, chairs, and moderators about various issues on Water Laws.
- **Admission of the Batch of 2021-22** with 133 students as of 31.08.2021
- **Central Sector Scholarship Scheme of Top Class Education for SC Students**, with an aim to support meritorious SC students for a bright and aspiring future. The closing date is November 30th, 2021. Eligibility: Family income shouldn't exceed 8 lakh pa. For more info. Visit <https://scholarships.gov.in>
- **Third National IPR Online National Quiz Competition, 2021 on 23rd October, 2021**. Last Date for Registration: 12th October, 2021. The event is conducted on the eve of Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam's Birth Anniversary by Centre for IPR & Technology, DSNLU.
- Two-day online workshop on **Forensic Science and It's Evidentiary Value** organized by Legal Incubation Centre, DSNLU on 25th and 26th September, 2021.

OUR FOUNDING TEAM



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PROF. DR. P. SREE SUDHA
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
TEJASWI MARRIPUDI
5TH YEAR



ASSOCIATE EDITOR
SANJANA DADMI
5TH YEAR



ASSOCIATE EDITOR
NEHAL GUPTA
4TH YEAR



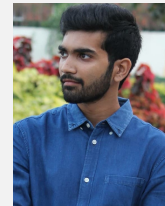
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(WRITER)
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ASSISTANT EDITOR
SOUMYA TIWARI,
(WRITER)
2ND YEAR



ASSISTANT EDITOR
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(DESIGNER)
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(RESEARCHER)
4TH YEAR



ASSISTANT EDITOR
MEGHNA SRINIVAS,
(RESEARCHER)
3RD YEAR

