



# Current Affairs

**MODULE**

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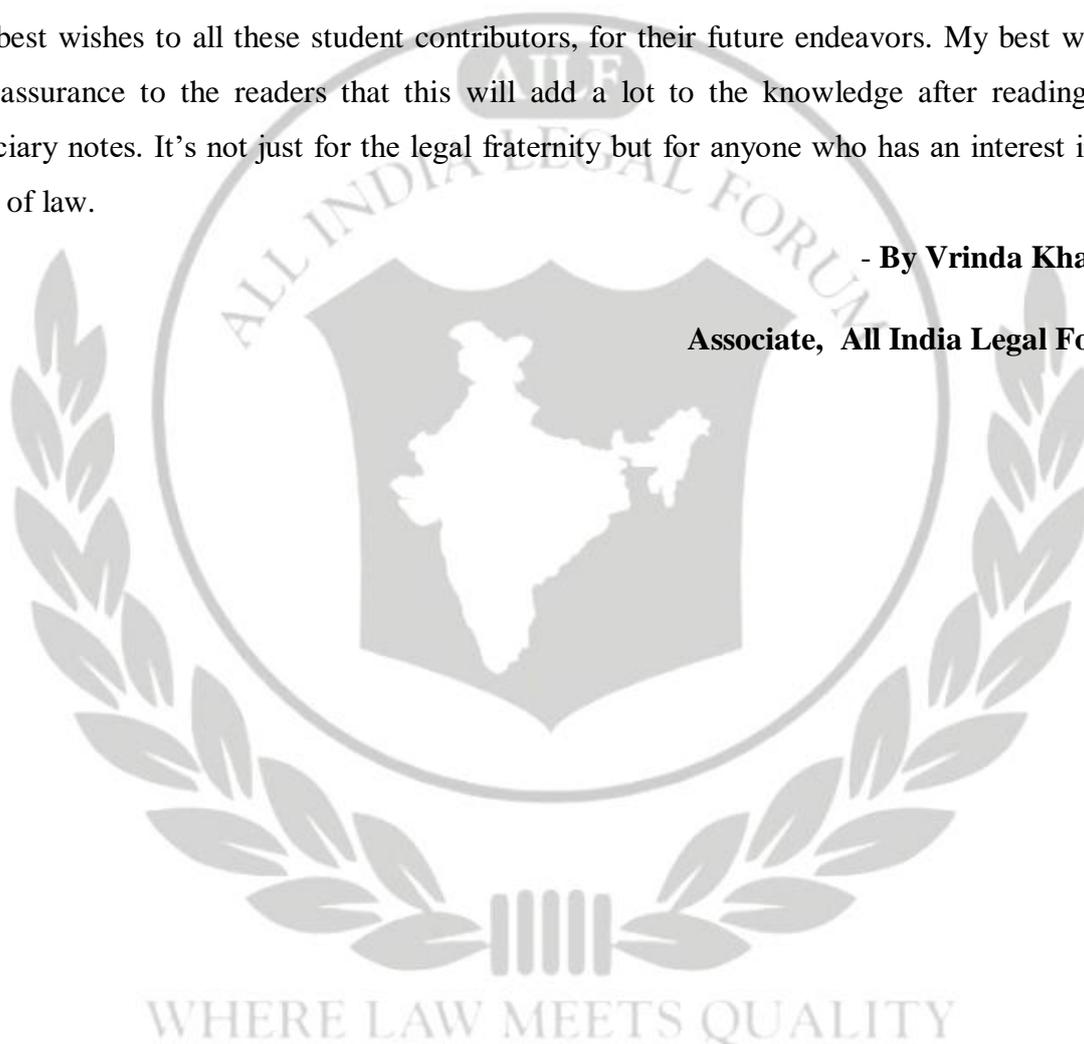
## **FOREWORD**

More has been said about the writing of lawyers and judges than of any other group, except, of course, poets and novelists. The difference is that while the latter has usually been admired for their writing, the public has almost always damned lawyers and judges for theirs. If this state of affairs has changed in recent times, it is only in that many lawyers and judges have now joined the rest of the world in complaining about the quality of legal prose. My best wishes to all these student contributors, for their future endeavors.

My best wishes to all these student contributors, for their future endeavors. My best wishes and assurance to the readers that this will add a lot to the knowledge after reading this Judiciary notes. It's not just for the legal fraternity but for anyone who has an interest in the field of law.

**- By Vrinda Khanna,**

**Associate, All India Legal Forum**



## **PREFACE**

May there be Peace in Heaven, May there be Peace in the Sky, May there be Peace in the Earth, May there be Peace in the Water, May there be Peace in the Plants, May there be Peace in the Trees, May there be Peace in the Gods in the various Worlds, May there be Peace in all the human beings, May there be Peace in All.

### **PEACE, PEACE, PEACE.**

Our age-old culture prays for peace and happiness for one and all. Family is the first and oldest social group. It has played an important role in the stability and prosperity of the civilization. Almost everything of lasting value in humanity has its roots in the family. Peace and harmony in the family are important for the all-round development of children. This Compilation of Judiciary notes by All India Legal Forum is aimed at bringing about desired sensitivity in all duty holders. We're glad to be a part of the All India Forum. Here's an introduction to my team:

**Patron- in-Chief:** Aayush Akar

**Editor-in-Chief:** Shubhank Suman

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. Turkey withdraws from convention aiming to protect women against violence has withdrawn from the Istanbul Convention on women's rights, which aims to protect women against violence.

The decision by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan was published in the country's official gazette on Saturday morning, reports dpa news agency.

Established in 2011, the Istanbul Convention, a treaty developed by the non-EU organisation Council of Europe, aims to create a legal framework to prevent and fight against violence against women and domestic violence.

Turkey withdraws from convention aiming to protect women against violence

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Established in 2011, the Istanbul Convention, a treaty developed by the non-EU organisation Council of Europe, aims to create a legal framework to prevent and fight against violence against women and domestic violence.

Erdogan had personally signed the convention in Istanbul when he was Prime Minister.

It was later ratified in Turkey, but according to the country's 'We Will Stop Femicide Platform', it was never applied.

The organisation seeks to stop femicide and ensure that women are protected from violence.

Following the decision to withdraw from the convention, 'We Will Stop Femicide's' leader took to Twitter to call for protests.

The organisation's general secretary, Fidan Ataselim, said the government is endangering the lives of millions of women by leaving.

### **2. People of Myanmar want UN sanctions, peacekeepers, says UN official**

People of Myanmar have huge expectations from the United Nations and the international community following the February 1 coup, with many calling for sanctions and some urging the UN to send peacekeepers to stop the killings of

peaceful protesters seeking a return to democracy, the top U.N. official in the country said Friday.

Acting resident and humanitarian coordinator Andrew Kirkwood said in a video briefing to U.N. reporters from Myanmar's largest city Yangon that Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and other U.N. officials have been very consistent about what's really needed: collective member state actions in the Security Council.

Guterres echoed that message again on Friday, saying a firm, unified international response is urgently needed to stop the violence by security forces and return Myanmar to the path of democracy, UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

### **3. Top US lawmakers welcome Defence Secretary Austin's maiden visit to India**

American lawmakers have welcomed Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin's first visit to the US' "strategic partner" India, as they highlighted the importance of the bilateral ties which are critical for the security and stability in the Indo-Pacific amidst Chinese aggression.

Austin is on a three-nation first overseas tour. He visited Japan and South Korea before visiting India.

"Congratulations to Secretary Defence Austin on a successful visit to India", tweeted Congressman Filemon Vela, who is Vice Chair of the Democratic Party appointed by President Joe Biden.

### **4. US, China clash at United Nations meet on human rights violations, racism**

United States accused China on Friday of committing genocide and crimes against humanity against Uighur Muslims and other minorities, and China accused the US of discrimination, hatred and even savage murder of people of African and Asian descent.

The clash came at the UN General Assembly's commemoration of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and was sparked by one line in the speech by US Ambassador Linda Thomas Greenfield, who talked about being a descendent of slaves, growing up in the segregated South, and surviving racism including being called an N-word.

It came after the top US and Chinese diplomats wrapped up two days of contentious talks in Alaska, the first high-level face-to-face meeting since President Joe Biden took office.

## **5. Energy cooperation a cornerstone in Indo-US ties: US Chamber of Commerce**

Cooperation is a cornerstone in the India-US relationship, according to a top official from the US Chamber of Commerce as New Delhi embarks on a strong multi-decade energy transformation journey.

Energy cooperation is a cornerstone in the US-India relationship and of increasing strategic importance to both countries, said Nisha Desai Biswal, senior vice president for international strategy at the US Chamber of Commerce and also president of the US India Business Council.

Biswal said this after the conclusion of the Destination India: Energy and Infrastructure Executive Mission to India with industry leaders from multiple sectors and key stakeholders from Government of India (GOI), US administration and the states of Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.



## NATIONAL NEWS

### **INDIA EXPOSED OUR WEAKNESS IN HANDLING SLOW CONDITIONS, SAYS EOIN MORGAN**

- The English skipper, however, said playing in such tough conditions ahead of the ICC World T20 later this year in India, will only help them.
- India have exposed England's "weakness" in handling slow conditions but competing here will only prepare them well for the Twenty20 World Cup, feels skipper Eoin Morgan.
- India drubbed England by seven wickets in the second T20 to level the five-match series 1-1 on Sunday night. Morgan admitted they struggled to get used to the slow surface used for the second match.
- "I suppose the difference was in the wicket we played and how we adapted. It was different wicket from the one we batted in the first game. The pitch was slow and low and one thing that does is expose our weakness on these surfaces a little bit," said Morgan at the post-match virtual media interaction on Sunday night.
- "We don't play a lot on slow, low wickets and the more that we can do that, the better. You only become better in these conditions by playing in them and making mistakes."
- The English skipper, however, said playing in such tough conditions ahead of the ICC World T20 later this year in India, will only help them.
- Huge IPL bucks doesn't mean, the ball suddenly swings more, says Cummins
- With KKR failing to qualify for the playoffs, Cummins ended the previous edition with 12 wickets from 14 games at an economy rate of 7.86.
- Australian pace spearhead Pat Cummins feels being sold for big bucks in the IPL auction puts a different kind pressure on the players since a good performance can never be guaranteed.
- The 27-year-old is one of the most expensive foreign players in the popular league. Kolkata Knight Riders had shelled out a whopping Rs 15.50 crore for him in the 2019 IPL players' auction.
- Chris Morris became the costliest foreign buy ever at this year's auction when Rajasthan Royals bought the South African all-rounder for Rs 16.25 crore.
- Cummins said a player is always under pressure to perform in professional cricket.

## **FOOTBALL NEEDS TO BE FAR LESS A STATE INSTRUMENT IN CHINA, MORE A SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTION'**

**Men team sports comes in the way of China being recognised as a sporting powerhouse, despite its deluge of medals in individual disciplines at Olympics. Simon Chadwick has observed the trends of change sweeping team sports in China, mostly football, and explains the curious dichotomy through an anthropological lens.**

China's team sports in men are floundering despite years of effort and money put into basketball, football and volleyball, the three that the country covets global success in.

It comes in the way of China being recognised as a sporting powerhouse, despite its deluge of medals in individual disciplines at Olympics.

We talk to a close China watcher and expert on the subject, Simon Chadwick, who is Director of Eurasian Sport at Em Lyon Business School. Chadwick has observed the trends of change sweeping team sports in China, mostly football, and explains the curious dichotomy through an anthropological lens.

**As a relatively young sporting nation (they only emerged internationally in 1980s), is China struggling to put together world-beating teams in (big-ball) team sport, rather than individual disciplines?**

Football, basketball, volleyball... Why do Chinese men fail at team sports?

While women's teams buck the trend, the failure of men's teams to make a mark internationally might have deeper roots. What could be the sociological reasons for this?

The Chinese called it their "big-ball bump." In a space of five hours on the same day in January 2020, the country's men's football and volleyball national teams lost out in qualifiers for the Tokyo Olympics, sending fans into paroxysms of grief.

Alongwith basketball, where the Chinese men were pipped by Iran, failing to secure the direct Olympic spot for Asia from the FIBA World Cup which China hosted in 2019, the triple whammy of big bawling team disappointments was complete.

## NATIONAL SPORTS NEWS

### **Sathiyam, Sutirtha book Tokyo berths; Sharath and Manika also through**

- Both Manika and Sharath will be on the plane to Tokyo but the ITTF will only confirm that in April, when all qualification events around the world are over. Indian paddler G Sathiyam has qualified for his maiden Summer Games with a comfortable 4-0 win over Pakistan's Muhammad Rameez in the Asian Olympic Games Qualification Tournament here.
- Sathiyam, ranked 38th, had defeated compatriot and world number 32 Sharath Kamal in his opening match on Thursday. On the basis of his world ranking and his win over Pakistan's Rameez, Sharath too has made the cut. World number 62 Manika Batra, too, is also set to qualify despite her 2-4 loss to compatriot Sutirtha Mukherjee 2-4 in the women's singles event on Thursday evening.
- Sutirtha sealed her Tokyo berth with the win and Manika is likely to join her on the basis of her ranking.
- Both Manika and Sharath will be on the plane to Tokyo but the ITTF will only confirm that in April, when all qualification events around the world are over.
- "It's a priceless moment and I am really speechless to express how I feel right now. It's been a childhood dream of mine to take part in the Olympics and it is surely one of the best moments of my life! "Now that I've qualified, I'm looking forward to putting in a strong performance at Tokyo and making my mark there," said Sathiyam, who recently won his maiden national title.
- Sathiyam defeated Rameez 11-5, 11-8, 11-9, 11-2 to win the South Asia category quota slot. Taking on Sutirtha in the South Asia women's final, Manika began well but failed to build upon the initial lead as Mukherjee emerged the surprise winner across six games 7-11, 11-7, 11-4, 4-11, 11-5, 11-4. In the fourth game, the 2018 Commonwealth Games gold medal came back strongly to level the score. But Manika was never in the right frame and failed to strike rhythm. So much so, she managed only five points in the next to help Sutirtha go 3-2 up.
- In the sixth, the former national champion took seven points on the trot to emerge a deserving winner in less than 35 minutes. Sharath and Manika, who play their mixed doubles semi-finals on Friday evening, take on Pang Yew En Koen and Lin Ye from

Singapore. If they qualify the Asian Games bronze winning pairing will be India's shot for a maiden table tennis medal at the Olympics.

- Players from East Asia, Middle Asia, South Asia, and Southeast Asia are contesting in the Asian Singles Qualification, being held at Doha, for a place each in the men's singles and women's singles, apart from the lone mixed doubles spot. Except for South Asia, players from the other three regions will play in two stages, including the knockout round. West Asia held its qualification event at Amman (Jordan) last year. Saudi Arabia's Ali Alkhadrawi in men's singles and 11-year-old Syrian, Zaza Hend, had booked their Tokyo berths. Zaza was the youngest, at that time, to qualify for the Games.

### **Kamalpreet Kaur lights up final day with record-breaking discus throw**

- Kamalpreet Kaur qualified for the Tokyo Olympics in women's discus throw with a national record attempt of 65.06m during the ongoing Athletics Federation Cup in Patiala on Friday.
- On the final day of the Federation Cup, all eyes were on the women's discus throw with Seema Punia competing in India after over two years. The 37-year-old 2014 Asian Games gold medallist was the favourite on Friday until Punjab's Kamalpreet Kaur turned the tables with her first and only legal throw.
- The 25-year-old took everyone by surprise, hurling the discus 65.06m, comfortably breaching the Olympic qualification mark of 63.50m and shattering the previous national record of 64.76 set by Krishna Poonia in 2012.
- Seema finished second (62.64m) ahead of Delhi's Sonal Goyal (51.11m). Kamalpreet, a clerk with the Indian Railways, could not control her excitement. She hadn't slept properly for the last three nights due to the adrenaline rush.
- "It was my strategy to go all out in the first throw itself and it worked for me. I cannot convey in words how happy I am feeling now. I couldn't sleep for the last three nights because of the nervous excitement. I am really glad that I have broken her record (Seema's meet record)," she said.
- Kamalpreet considers Seema one of her idols and it only made her day even better when the senior athlete was the first to congratulate her. "She said I was doing well and that she knew I would break the record," Kamalpreet said.

- Seema 'didi', gracious in defeat, also handed over the gold to her during the medal ceremony saying: "Gudiya (Little girl), here's your medal. Come let's take a picture now."
- Kamalpreet took up athletics in 2012 reluctantly after her school coach kept nudging her. She unwillingly took part in a state meet once and finished fourth. That's when she had a change of heart and started believing that she could become an elite athlete one day.
- "I was really bad at studies. There was a state meet and my coach took me there. I think I finished fourth there and everyone told me I had a good physique. Then I thought 'let's give sports a try as I am not that great at studies.' My coach was a discus coach so I took the sport," she said.

#### **'Flower pots as dumbbells'**

- Kamalpreet feels she was able to deliver a huge throw on Friday because of innovative training methods employed during the lockdown. Since all training facilities and gyms were shut, she used household items as gym equipment.
- "I used the double bed at home as weights. The bed is filled with clothes so I used it for my deadlift exercises. I used the flower pots at home as dumbbells. I did all the exercises I could at home and ran in the fields," she said.
- Her coach Baljeet Singh feels Kamalpreet has the potential to cross 68m provided some flaws are ironed out. Baljeet's biggest concern is the number of foul throws as only one out of her four attempts was legal.
- "She keeps her legs too straight. She needs to bend her knees a little which will give her extra grip and reduce foul throws," he explained.

#### **Meet record rewritten in 24 hours**

- The 200m women's final saw stiff competition between Dhanalakshmi, who has emerged as one of the most promising sprinters in recent times, and seasoned Hima Das. Hima (23.21s) managed to take home the title staving off Dhanalakshmi (23.39s). Hima's effort also earned her the meet record, set by Dhanalakshmi on Thursday in the heats where she beat the Assamese runner.
- "In the heats, I took it easy and today I am glad I won the gold. The season has just started. My performance will improve," Hima said.

## **India's Sports Minister Shri Kiren Rijiju bats for Kabaddi's inclusion at the Olympics**

- *The Sports Minister of India recognises the opportunity to introduce Kabaddi in the Olympic games.*
- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) successfully concluded 'Scorecard 2021' on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 where leaders from the global sporting landscape shared their views on how sports have tackled the challenges during the pandemic times. In the inaugural session of CII's virtual conference, Shri Kiren Rijiju - Honourable Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, emphasized the need for Kabaddi's inclusion as part of the Olympic Games.
- "Apart from global sports, we are also coming forward with the development of the indigenous sports like Kabaddi. Kabaddi is, of course, an Asian Games sport, but in future, we hope someday Kabaddi will be in the Olympics. We will aggressively push for it." he said.
- The 1990 Asian Games saw the introduction of Kabaddi as an Asian Games event and since then Indian National Men's and Women's Kabaddi Teams have largely dominated by claiming the gold medals for the most part until their shock defeats against Iran at the 2018 Asian Games with the Indian's Men's team claiming Bronze and the women's team Silver.
- In his plea for inclusion, Hon. MYAS Shri Kiren Rijiju urged the UK Sports Minister Mr. Nigel Huddleston MP along with other commonwealth nations to support Kabaddi's bid. "My colleague, Mr. Nigel, the sports minister of the UK, I will urge you to support Kabaddi to be part of the Olympics, and we would like to push it very strongly. India must have one of the rich indigenous sports in the Olympics. So hopefully, we will push for it. India, UK and all the commonwealth nations must come together for various purposes. So, taking this advantage I would like to urge my colleague that when we talk about Kabaddi to be put into the Olympics, I urge entire commonwealth nations to come together and say that yes Kabaddi has to be there in the Olympics." he said.
- Hon. MYAS Shri Kiren Rijiju also hailed the Pro Kabaddi League for bringing India's own indigenous sport into the limelight. Since the inception of PKL, the game of Kabaddi has grabbed eyeballs from all around the world. The rising fandom and

viewership in India were possible because of the model PKL was built upon. He pointed out that the sustainable revenue model of PKL is second to none, and in the years to come, Pro Kabaddi will emerge as one of the most successful leagues in India.

- "We all know the success of sports depends on two things, the investments and the revenue generated from the sports because without a sustainable revenue model any sports cannot succeed, it cannot sustain. That is why I'm telling sports federations in India to look out for a better model for a successful league. For example, Pro Kabaddi League which Mr. Anupam Goswami is driving. It is successful because it has a very superb model and we've got very good viewership."
- "40 Olympic sports and that is where I see some of the sports like Kabaddi, though it is not an Olympic sport, it's already successful here because of the Pro Kabaddi League. My concentration now is to have successful leagues other than cricket. Pro Kabaddi is already there but I want to see a Pro Kabaddi type in other sporting disciplines," concluded Hon. MYAS Shri Kiren Rijju.
- Day 2 of the CII Scorecard 2021 virtual conference also featured a special message from Indian Kabaddi Athletes who pledged to 'bring back the Gold' at the 2022 Asian Games.

### **Bamboo sticks in Chennai to Olympics fencing — birth of a new Indian sports star Bhavani Devi**

- Mother Ramani is pleased that Bhavani reached the top of her sport, never compromised on education, and proved her late father was right to have faith in her.
- **Chennai:** Searching for the house of India's newest Olympic hopeful C.A. Bhavani Devi in Chennai's Old Washermanpet area is no easy task. The location indicated is Maharani Theatre, but it's difficult to find the house near that landmark. Passersby ask the street name or house number to be able to give directions, but the search is fruitless till one asks if anyone knows where Bhavani Devi lives.
- "You should have said that earlier. Everyone knows her house. She has just qualified for the Olympics," the local coconut seller R. Mukaiya reproaches this reporter, albeit with pride.
- Bhavani, 27, made history Sunday by being the first Indian fencer to qualify for the Olympics, securing a slot through the Asia/Oceania Zone of the official rankings after Hungary lost to South Korea in the quarter-finals of the Sabre Fencing World Cup.

- However, this is far from her first achievement in the sport modelled after sword fighting. In 2017, she became India's first international gold medallist in fencing at the Women's World Cup satellite tournament in Iceland.

### **How Bhavani took up fencing**

- Fencing made its debut at the inaugural modern Olympics in Athens in 1896, but the women's event only began in 1924. Fencing is fought with three different kinds of blades — foil, épée and sabre. Bhavani competes in the sabre discipline, known for quick movements.
- Bhavani took to fencing almost by chance. Her mother C.A. Ramani explained that when Bhavani was 11 years old, the 'Sports in Schools' programme started by then-chief minister J. Jayalalithaa offered swimming, squash, fencing and boxing. Of these, Bhavani picked up squash and fencing, but had to choose when both sports ended up holding competitions on the same day.
- "I suggested she take up fencing since it was a new game, with different equipment and gear, unlike squash, which was a racquet sport," Ramani said.
- Bhavani, the youngest of five siblings, never looked back. She won her first gold medal in 2004 at the sub-junior national championship, at the age of 11. By this time, she had moved to Bangalore to train, having practiced at Chennai's Nehru Stadium with no real coaching.
- "She would have senior players guiding her and no coach, but even then, she was extremely determined and disciplined," said Ramani, unable to contain her excitement and pride in her daughter's achievements.

### **Powering through struggles**

- Her mother worries that she gets many scars and is hurt a lot, but, she says, for Bhavani, these are "small casualties". Bhavani's own Twitter bio reads "the harder the battle, the sweeter the victory".
- And the battle certainly has been hard. The family faced many financial constraints to ensure she got proper training. First, she practiced with bamboo sticks, but later, had to get proper fencing gear for training. "The weapon costs Rs 6,000 and is very brittle and can break easily," Ramani explained.
- Bhavani's father Anandha Sundharam was a priest in the nearby temple and her mother a homemaker. Her grandfather, as well as an older brother and sister are advocates.

- Although initially, the family was able to fund her training, as she started competing more and more, they began feeling the pinch. It has been reported that Ramani pawned jewellery to ensure Bhavani's training continued. When asked about this, she simply said: "I don't want to talk about it."
- Bhavani's father never worried about the money spent on her training. "He used to say 'the money spent here will never go waste'. He always believed in her," Ramani recalled.
- This faith was also shown in Bhavani by both major political leaders of her home state Tamil Nadu — while then-CM M. Karunanidhi gave her Rs 1 lakh in government aid in 2007, Jayalalithaa gave her Rs 1 lakh the next year in her personal capacity.
- "I still remember Jayalalithaa telling Bhavani that she was proud of her after she won a tournament in Venezuela in 2011," said Ramani.
- Between 2016 and 2020, she was granted Rs 25 lakh annually by the Tamil Nadu government.
- Bhavani became part of the GoSports Foundation in 2015, and currently trains under an athlete mentorship programme named after Indian cricket legend Rahul Dravid. An athlete manager at GoSports who did not wish to be named said: "No matter what, Bhavani is always focussed. She can deal with all sorts of pressure."
- While Bhavani is the only one in the family to take up a sport, her mother is quick to assert that her daughter's studies never took a back seat — she has completed her MBA from Anna University.
- P. Ponni, the sports secretary at her school — Muruga Dhanushkodi Girls' Higher Secondary School — said Bhavani was always a brilliant student and sportsperson. "She was the epitome of discipline and hard work," she said.

WHERE LAW MEETS QUALITY

### **Team India qualifies for International Tent Pegging Federation World Cup**

- GREATER NOIDA: The Indian tent pegging team has secured a place in ITPF (International Tent Pegging Federation) World Cup after a stupendous show at the qualifiers.  
Out of seven competitions held at qualifiers, India claimed six gold medals and one bronze.

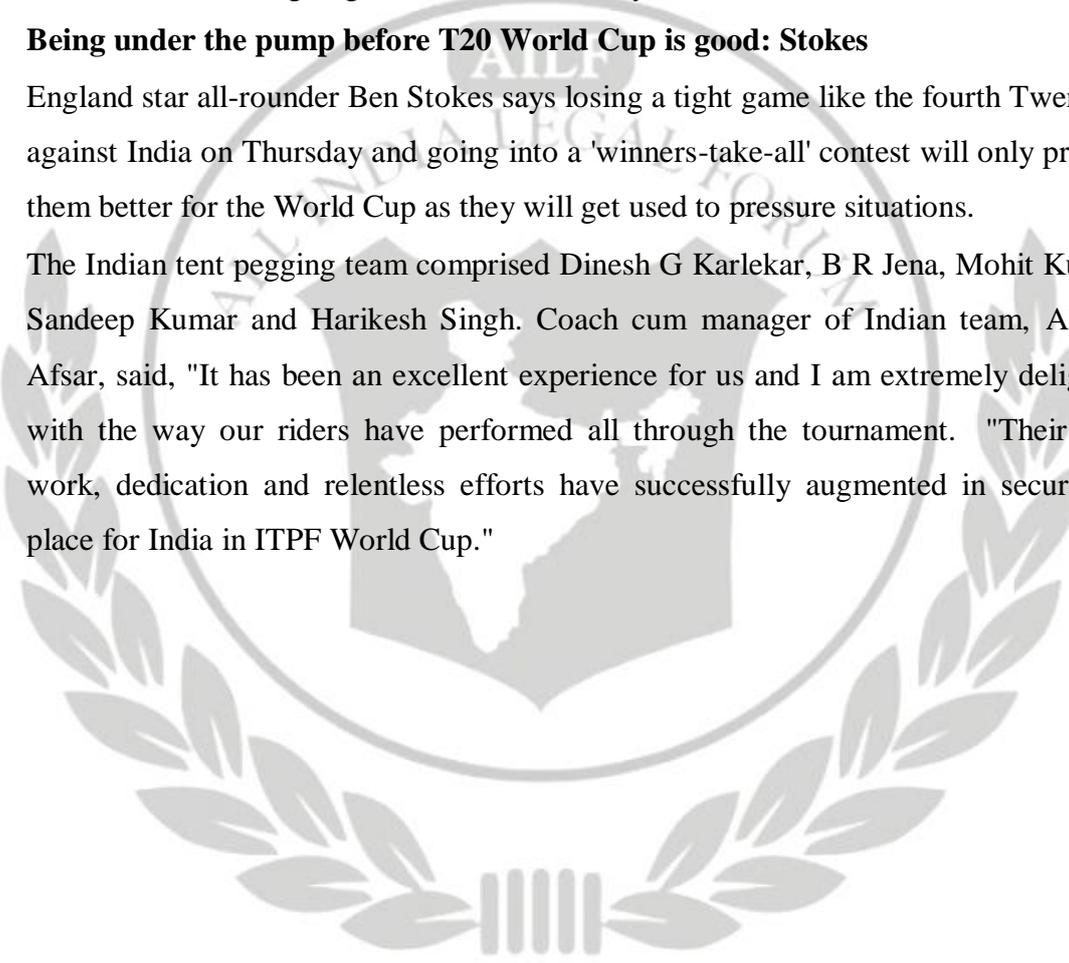
- India finished first in the tournament with a total of 515 points. Pakistan came second with 482.5 points and were followed by Nepal at third place with 457.5 points. Belarus and the USA finished with 220.5 and 183.5 points respectively.

**Need quality competition in run-up to the Olympics: Sreeshankar**

- He stood there, almost in disbelief, with 'has it happened?' writ large on his face. The measuring tape kept stretching until it reached 8.26m. It was a new national record for men's long jump, and beyond the Olympic qualifying mark of 8.22m. Murali Sreeshankar will be going to the Games in Tokyo.

**Being under the pump before T20 World Cup is good: Stokes**

- England star all-rounder Ben Stokes says losing a tight game like the fourth Twenty20 against India on Thursday and going into a 'winners-take-all' contest will only prepare them better for the World Cup as they will get used to pressure situations.
- The Indian tent pegging team comprised Dinesh G Karlekar, B R Jena, Mohit Kumar, Sandeep Kumar and Harikesh Singh. Coach cum manager of Indian team, Ahmad Afsar, said, "It has been an excellent experience for us and I am extremely delighted with the way our riders have performed all through the tournament. "Their hard work, dedication and relentless efforts have successfully augmented in securing a place for India in ITPF World Cup."



WHERE LAW MEETS QUALITY

## **NATIONAL POLITICS NEWS**

### **Juvenile justice Amendment Bill 2021 introduced in Lok Sabha**

- WCD Minister Smriti Irani has introduced Juvenile justice (care and protection of children) amendment bill 2021 has been introduced in Lok Sabha
- It seeks to amend Juvenile justice (care, protection of Children) Act 2015

### **Others Bills**

- Marine Aids to Navigation Bill 2021.
- National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill 2021.
- Mines and Minerals Amendment Bill 2021.
- National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill 2021.

### **Election Commission of India appoints observers in Puducherry**

- Election Commission of India appoints observers in Puducherry
- Expenditure observers: monitored election expenditure of contesting candidates and to verify day to day expenses, etc.
- Expenditure observers Chandra Prakash Meena, Aditya Shukla, Aparajitha Sharma, Deepti Chadola, Devesh Gupta, among others participate in the meeting.

### **President Ramnath Kovind to take part in Jagran Forum programme**

- President Ramesh Kovind will take part in 3-day visit to Uttar Pradesh programme Jagran Forum at Varanasi organized by media House
- He inaugurated the newly constructed building of Seva Kunj Ashram and will inaugurate a program on 'Ganga, Environment and Indian Culture' by Jagran Forum
- It will highlight the different development works carried out by the Yogi Adityanath-led BJP Govt.
- There will be 5 sessions in the programme. He will also be present.

### **Government Appoints GP Samanta as new Chief Statistician of in**

- Center has appointed GP Samanta as the new chief statistician of Indian(CSI) for a period of 2 years.
- Prior to this, he was serving as adviser Bank of india's (RBI) Department of statistics and information management
- He will succeed kshatrapati Shivaji, who was holding additional charge of the post since September 2020.

### **Labour minister launches convergence of ESI scheme with ABPM –Jay**

- Union Minister for Labour has launched Convergence of ESI Scheme with Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPM-Jay) un 113 districts of chhatisgarh, Karnataka, MP and Maharashtra.
- It will ensure that 1.35 crore ESI beneficiaries can avail cashless medical services through Empanelled hospital of ABPM-Jay.
- ESIC E-pehchan/health Passbook and Aadhar Card Will be needed.
- PM -Jay Beneficiaries can also avail cashless treatment at 15 understand ESIC hospital

WHERE LAW MEETS QUALITY

## **MISCELLANEOUS NEWS**

### **1. Elon Musk lost the crown of being the richest man**

Billionaire Elon Musk again lost the title of being the richest person of the planet after Tesla stocks slid 6.9% to \$653.16 on 18/03/2021 wiping \$11 billion from his net worth.

On the Bloomberg Billionaires Index of the world's 500 richest people, Musk ranks the second position with a net worth of \$169 billion after falling down from \$182 on 15/03/2021.

Technology companies' stocks suffered a huge jerk on 18/03/2021 because selloff in the government bond market. Companies like Apple, Netflix and Amazon also tumbled at least 3%.

### **2. GPS-based toll collection is to be started within one year with the removal of physical toll booths**

On 18/03/2021, Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said that India will implement complete GPS-based toll collection within one year.

Currently, 93% of the vehicles pay toll using FASTag, but the remaining 7% have still not taken it despite paying a double toll price. He has instructed police inquiry for those vehicles which do not pay toll using FASTags.

Gadkari said that new vehicles have FASTags fitted in them, while the government will give free FASTags for old vehicles.

### **3. Punjab teacher forcibly marries a minor to overcome Manglik Dosha**

In an incident of superstitious beliefs and practices, a tuition teacher married her 13-year-old student to overcome 'Manglik Dosha' in her 'kundli' in Jalandhar's Basti Bawa Khel area.

Her family was worried as she was not getting married due to a 'Manglik Dosha' and the family priest suggested that she will have to perform a symbolic marriage with a minor boy to get rid of the 'dosha'.

According to the police complaint, the boy alleged that the teacher's family forcibly performed rituals including a haldi-mehndi ceremony and 'suhagraat'. She was later declared a widow by breaking her bangles and the family even organised a

condolence meeting. The complaint was withdrawn after a compromise between the two parties.

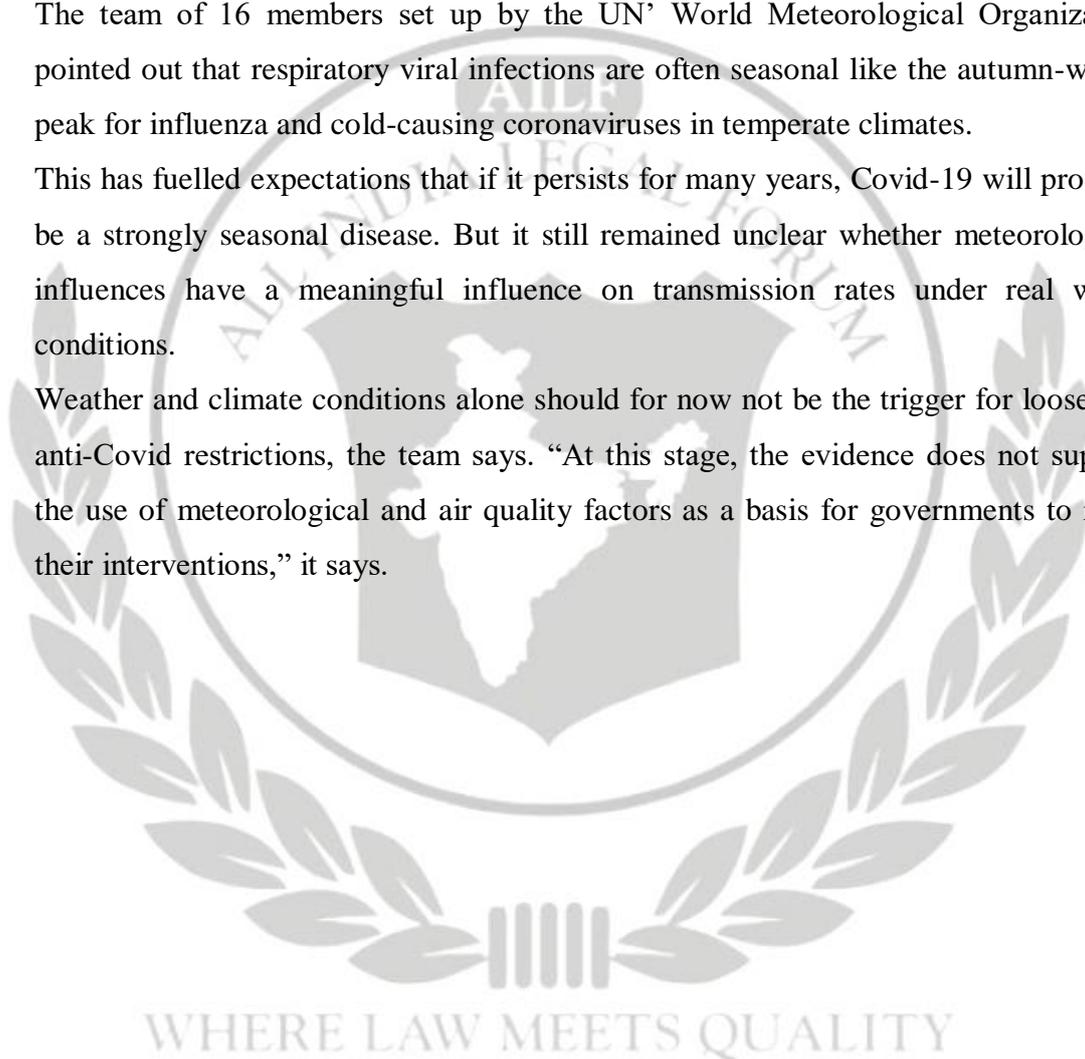
#### **4. Covid might turn into a seasonal disease**

Covid-19 appears likely to develop into a seasonal disease, as per the UN, cautioning though against relaxing pandemic related measures simply based on meteorological factors.

The team of 16 members set up by the UN' World Meteorological Organization pointed out that respiratory viral infections are often seasonal like the autumn-winter peak for influenza and cold-causing coronaviruses in temperate climates.

This has fuelled expectations that if it persists for many years, Covid-19 will prove to be a strongly seasonal disease. But it still remained unclear whether meteorological influences have a meaningful influence on transmission rates under real world conditions.

Weather and climate conditions alone should for now not be the trigger for loosening anti-Covid restrictions, the team says. "At this stage, the evidence does not support the use of meteorological and air quality factors as a basis for governments to relax their interventions," it says.



# ABOUT ALL INDIA LEGAL FORUM

All India Legal Forum (AILF), the brainchild of several legal luminaries and eminent personalities across the country and the globe, is a dream online platform which aims at proliferating legal knowledge and providing an ingenious understanding and cognizance of various fields of law, simultaneously aiming to generate diverse social, political, legal and constitutional discourse on law-related topics, making sure that legal knowledge penetrates to every nook and corner of the ever-growing legal fraternity. AILF also houses a blog that addresses contemporary issues in any field of law. We at AILF don't just publish blogs but we also guide the authors when their research paper is not up to the mark.

## AIM OF AILF

Legal Education is regarded central in providing access to justice by ensuring equality before the law, the right to counsel and the right to a fair trial. All India legal Forum aims to bring out a platform to provide resourceful insight on law-related topics for the ever-growing legal fraternity. Through ambitious and studious legal brains across the country, AILF aims at providing valuable contributions on developments in the legal field and contemporary assessment of issues, putting forward quality legal content for the masses. We provide constant legal updates and make quality law notes available for law students across the country.

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The biggest asset of AILF is our team of more than 400 law students across the country to tackle basic problems which a legal researcher encounters in day to day life. Putting forward the basic tools and ideas needed for researching and drafting, AILF seeks to help and encourage people to write research papers efficiently and effectively. AILF is not just a blog but a platform to make legal research effortless and undemanding. We at AILF consider dedication and determination as ultimate requisition to be a good researcher and we thrive to instill these values.



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