

WHATS APP LOCALISED

Ref: Mint, Thursday, 01.11.2018



What's App has incorporated a local entity for curbing fake news that continues to be a challenge in the Indian societal setup. There have been more than a dozen killings in India this year in mob lynching as a result of false rumours circulating on What's App. The outcome of the meeting that took place between the concerned officials stressed on tracing and identifying the location of sender than decrypting messages.

HARASSMENT IN SCHOOL

Ref: Sunday Times, 04.11.2018



Amidst growing consciousness and awareness in the capital city about consequences of sexual harassment by the perpetrators, forty-three girl students of a Delhi government school in Outer district have filed a complaint against a teacher stating that he looks at them inappropriately and asks obscene questions. The complaint was received by the school authorities on October 31 and the complainants have specifically stated that the step has been taken to safeguard the interests and for protection of those who will come after them.

FIRST BLOCKCHAIN REMITTANCE TO RIL

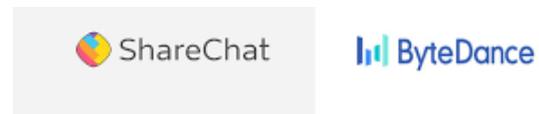
Ref: Mint, Monday, 05.11.2018

HSBC, RIL execute blockchain trade finance transaction

India saw its first block chain enabled Letter of Credit transaction. The transaction involving export by Reliance Industries to US based importer Tricon Energy allowed a digital transfer of the title of goods from the seller to the buyer. The letter of credit was issued by ING Bank for Tricon Energy USA (importer) with HSBC India as the advising and negotiating bank for RIL which was successful.

BYTE DANCE EVOLVES NEW DESIGN

Ref: The Economic Times, Monday, 05.11.2018



On October 30, the Delhi High court ordered the Chinese content giant Byte-Dance to refrain from placing bids on "Share Chat" as a keyword on Google's ad words platform in order to get a higher ranking. Byte Dance wisely introduced changes in Hello and took this as an opportunity to move forward with a fresh outlook with product name to 'Share, follow & Chat' on the Google Play store from 'Share & Chat'. This move is a precedent for domain name and IP infringement matters in the ecommerce space.

HUMAN CENTRIC MODEL BY IIT

Ref: The Economic Times, Tuesday, 06.11.2018



Make in India Mission has been further enhanced by the novel and innovative human-centric business excellence model called Suzhal Management System developed by IIT Madras. This innovation has been used extensively to not only enhance processes but also bring about disruptive and innovative products. The model integrates human factors, lean tools and job rotation to address various interface issues such as man-machine, machine-method and man-method. After getting them in control, SMS helps provide a framework for facilitating work on materials.

COMPANIES LAW ORDINANCE

Ref: The Economic Times, Wednesday, 07.11.2018



Government after promulgating an ordinance to amend the Companies Act, 2013, plans to make additional amendments to the Companies Law. This ordinance resorts to decriminalizing many offences, reduce burden on courts, and incorporate provisions to improve compliance and corporate governance. Under additional proposed amendments, certain class of profitable companies are required to shell out at least 2% of their three-year annual average net profit towards social welfare activities. In case of failure to spend the requisite amount, the concerned entity has to provide reasons for the same. Further, any amount remaining under CSR provisions should be transferred by the company within 30 days from the end of the financial year to "a special account to be opened by the company in that behalf for that financial year in any scheduled bank".

LAWYERS CRASH COURSE

Ref: The Times of India, Wednesday, 07.11.2018



With increasing pendency of cases with every passing day, the Government's move to stepping up the process of setting up Case Management System and training all officials and lawyers is being welcomed fairly well by the judicial strata. The deadline of three months given to both Delhi and Bombay High Courts in the wake of lower ranking given by the World Bank to India on insolvency process and enforcement of contracts leaves enough room for the concerned officials and system to reflect on the callous attitude of all stakeholders. Lack of awareness and training among people who have been specially chosen to deal with these things certainly reflects towards the paradoxical situation in Indian society where skill and knowledge are only secondary to considering anyone suitable for a job.

LACK OF ENFORCEMENT OF MATERNITY BENEFITS

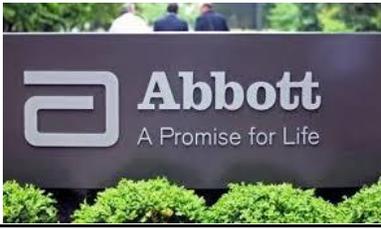
Ref: The Economic Times, Monday, 12.11.2018



The amendments in the Maternity Benefit Act about an organization with 50 or more employees having a crèche or day care centre have sparked a debate which has led to increasing number of complaints. Complaints that were earlier focused on denial of mandatory maternity leave of 6 months have expanded to include complaints regarding lack of day care facilities. As per the statistics collected, maximum complaints pertain to sudden termination of employment after reporting of pregnancy which is violative of fundamental as well as basic human rights.

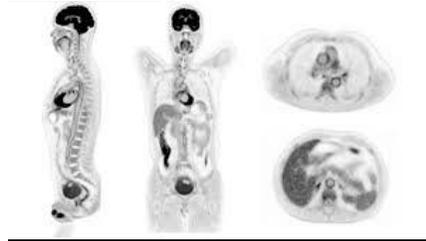
ABBOTT AND CCI

Ref: The Economic Times, Tuesday, 20.11.2018



An anonymous letter to the Competition Commission of India (CCI) in the year 2017 leveled allegations against US drug maker Abbott controlling the price of the drug Vildagliptin along with Novartis, Emcure and USV. This led to Abbott filing a petition against CCI move stating that complaint and report is forged and has no concrete basis for implication. The Delhi High Court has recently quashed this petition on the grounds that there was no merit in the plea.

3D TECHNOLOGY FOR SCANS
Ref: The Times of India, Wednesday, 21.11.2018



The world's first medical imaging scanner called EXPLORER, combines positron emission tomography (PET) and x-ray computed tomography (CT) to capture a 3 D picture of entire human body within a matter of just 20-30 seconds. The machine has successfully produced its first scans and the technology can be utilized for improving diagnostics to track disease progression and research new drug therapies.

MILK QC BY PHONE
Ref: The Times of India, Wednesday, 21.11.2018



Researchers based out in Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad have developed a sensor chip based method for measuring ph of milk. In this tech savvy world, this innovation where your smart phone can detect the extent of adulteration in your milk is a welcome step. Researchers have used a new process termed as 'electro-spinning' to produce paper-like material made of nanosized (10-9 m diameter) fibres of nylon, loaded with a combination of three dyes. The paper is "halo-chromic", that is, it changes in acidity. Further with different colour combinations the user can analyse the quality and contamination if any.

CRYSTAL CROP BRAND ACQUISITION
Ref: Mint, Wednesday, 21.11.2018



Crystal Crop Protection Ltd, a specialty chemicals company, is acquiring three brands-Proclaim, Tilt and Blue Copper of Syngenta India Ltd, one of the leading agrochemical company in the world. Crystal produces crop protection products such as insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, plant growth regulators and bio-stimulants. This acquisition will support the Indian R&D- based crop protection manufacturing and marketing company to strengthen its crop protection portfolio. This trend brings to light how important it is to invest in crop protection chemicals in order to achieve higher yields. Simultaneously, it will also be critical to use them judiciously to maximize benefits and minimize the impact on non- targeted species.

R & D SECTOR PRIVATISED
Ref: Mint, Monday, 26.11.2018



Though there may be many tax and economic policies to stimulate home grown innovation but one policy that has been rapidly gaining popularity is "Patent Box". All patent boxes have one common feature they offer concessional tax rates for income accruing to patents. Because of this tax cost advantage, the relative cost of local R&D production is lowered. There are two intentions behind a patents box. The first is that it will lead to more home-grown research and development (R&D) and thus local innovation. Second, it will reduce erosion of the income tax base. This gives enough room to that companies to expand their R&D and patent generation activity, meeting the first intention. Likewise, corporate groups are dis-incentivized from shifting intellectual property (IP) ownership aboard – and perhaps incentivized to transfer ownership of foreign IP- sourced income is tilted in favour of the home country. This meets the second intention. Under such an arrangement, IP income collects in the foreign jurisdiction, while the RD cost is incurred in the home jurisdiction.

SUN ACQUIRES POLA
Ref: Mint, Tuesday, 27.11.2018



Pola Pharma, a leading Japanese dermatology company has been acquired by India's Sun Pharmaceutical Industries. Pola Pharma is majorly engaged in the research and development, manufacture, sale and distribution of branded and generic products, primarily in dermatology. This move will be helpful in strengthening presence in the Japanese market. Collaboration between Indian Patent office and Japanese Patent office over Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) and arrangement like these between pharma companies in the wake of expansion of Intellectual Property industry will certainly boost the Indian economy.

EU ATTACKS GOOGLE
Ref: The Times of India, Wednesday, 28.11.2018



Google has been slapped with seven consumer complaints for the offence of tracking user's movements in violation of EU regulation on data protection. According to the reports, Google acquires personal data through manipulative techniques. All google accounts have an in built software to track location and other activities of the user and this information can be misused and attacks the privacy of individuals.

GLUTEN LABELLING MANDATORY SOON
Ref: Mint, Wednesday, 28.11.2018



Gluten, a composite of proteins present in wheat, barley and rye, can trigger the production of antibodies that damage the lining of the small intestine when consumed by people with celiac disease. Considering the sensitive nature of people suffering from this disease, drug makers might be asked to declare on their packing whether a medication contains gluten. This kind of labeling will also enable medical practitioners to be more confident about which medicines will react adversely to the patients and which will be more suitable. This recommendation was made by the department of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). Apart from the declaration on the packing, experts at AIIMS

have suggested changes in the law to force drug makers to avoid gluten-containing agents.

DRUG DATABASE IN INDIA

Ref: The Economic Times, Thursday, 29.11.2018



Government as a precautionary measure is considering a databank for all medicine brands to prevent pharmaceutical companies from using the same or similar looking and sounding brand names for drugs, especially those used to treat different conditions. This trend to use one brand to advertise and sell different kinds of medicines for different purposes can prove fatal. Patients might get confused and end up consuming the medicine that can aggravate the situation and bring along side effects. Drugs Technical Advisory Board shall facilitate setting up of this mechanism. According to reports, there are many medicines in circulation that are neither controlled by licensing authority or trademark office.

PILOT OF INDO-JAPANESE PATENT PROSECUTION HIGHWAY COMMENCES

Ref: Ministry of Trade, Economy & Industry / JPO, 30.10.2018



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At 2nd JPO- DIPP Review Meeting in August 2018, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Government of India and Japan Patent Office (JPO), announced an agreement to start India's first ever bilateral Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) program with Japan Patent Office to facilitate early grant of patents to Japanese applicants. The same was ratified and acted upon by the

Patent office as well. The Japan-India pilot program, which will target only certain fields of inventions, will allow Japanese applicants to request expedited examinations through the Indian Patent Office, and vice-versa. Under the program, Japanese companies can request expedited examinations in India, through simplified procedures, based on their applications whose claims have been determined to be patentable in Japan and therefore, can acquire patents swiftly and expand their business smoothly in India. With this, the number of IP offices that Japan has set up in the PPH program will reach 43.



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