

### **DRONE FOR TRANSPLANT**

**Ref: The Times of India, Wednesday  
01.05.2019**



In a historical feat marking a major milestone for organ transplants, coordinated by AiRXOS and the University of Maryland, a kidney has been delivered by a drone for the first time. This landmark moment in medical and aviation history has opened the doors for faster and more efficient deliveries.

### **EGALITARIAN POTATO ISSUE OF PEPSICO V/S FARMERS**

**Ref: The Times of India, Friday,  
03.05.2019**



Overpriced wedges to the plates of the poor, the humble potato is so omnipresent that any controversy surrounding it evokes sharp reactions. PepsiCo India sued four farmers from Gujarat for using its proprietary FC5 variety of potato – which goes into making Lay’s chips – without the company’s consent. This case is in the limelight for as for the first time, farmers have been sued for cultivating potato. The Protection of Plant varieties and Farmers’ Rights Act, 2001, under which PepsiCo’s potato variety was registered in 2016, allows farmers to plant, grow, exchange and sell patent-protected crops, including seeds, and only bars them from selling it as

“branded seed”. PepsiCo had valid concerns regarding its competitors using the protected varieties of potato, but it made a blunder of targeting the small farmer and by seeking damages of over 1 crore from each even of them. All the lawsuits filed against farmers in Gujarat for infringement of patent have been withdrawn in the face of mounting political pressure and hopefully peace shall be restored soon.

### **HCS RESULTS MOCKERY**

**Ref: The Times of India, Saturday,  
04.05.2019**



14231 candidates appear for the Haryana Judicial exams and only 9 are selected for more than 100 posts, is it a mockery or the system of examination was flawed. Supreme Court has reportedly taken notice of the extremely rigorous standards and sought a response from the Punjab and Haryana High Court and has requested former Chief Justice A K Sikri to randomly check answer sheets. On one instance we need more judges to expedite the clearance of pendency and on the other the tax payer money is wasted by the mocking process of selection and exams in this manner. Not only the candidates but also the burden is shared by the tax paying citizens of our country.

### **CIG BUTTS REFURBISHED**

**Ref:Mint, Tuesday 7 May2019**



Code Effort, a startup has ventured to processes everything that is left after a cigarette has been smoked to make a range of products from cushions and soft toys to organic compost. Cigarette filters

being made of a polymer, cellulose acetate's properties are similar to plastic. The startup issues specific contracts to suppliers across the country. Tobacco manufacturers, Corporates and commercial scale enterprises joyfully engage themselves in this environment friendly endeavour day after day. This is a precedent for effective reusability of trash.

**SUITCASE FOR BLIND**

**Ref: The Times of India, Wednesday 08.05.2019**



Smart Suitcase BBEEP has been developed which warns impending collisions with help of a navigation mobile application NavCog. The blind users can be well assisted while navigating in airports independently and safely.

**E REGISTRATION OF INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS**

**Ref: Times of India, Wednesday, 08.05.2019**

**TIGHTENING NORMS**

- The ministry of corporate affairs is keen to tighten the norms for independent directors as it believes that they enjoy all the perks of the job without exercising adequate oversight.
- This often results in irregularities being detected after the company is on the verge of collapse.
- And, to avoid disqualification and action,

the directors often resign when the company is in trouble, as is seen in several cases, including Jet Airways in recent weeks

As a part of new initiative by the ministry of corporate affairs (MCA), all independent directors may have to mandatorily registered through electronic modules being prepared by Indian Institute for Corporate Affairs. These new initiatives also plan to introduce online training modules on various issues. The registration process will be in addition to the Directors Identification Number, where a KYC

process was recently undertaken. The identification and registration shall collate and protect the public in case of any defaults.

**OOHO EDIBLE WATER SACHET**

**Ref: Mint, Saturday, 11.05.2019**



Water edible sachets could be a big move towards environment friendly alternate to bottled water. The sachets could be swallowed also. These edible sachets can biodegrade in four-six weeks, while a plastic water bottle takes approximately 450 years to biodegrade completely. The innovative company Notpla has developed this with the unique combination of brown seaweed and plants. This product will certainly deduce the use of plastic and our planet needs more of such initiatives.

**HC WAIVES COOLING-OFF PERIOD**

**Ref: The Economic Times, Monday, 13.05.2019**



Delhi high Court has recently permitted a woman to end her marriage with her estranged husband and remarry by waiver of the stipulated period of divorce. Apex Court had stated that the six-month "cooling-off" period under Section 13B(2) of the Hindu Marriage Act can be waived off by courts in cases of divorce through mutual consent.

**AI SUED?**

**Ref: Mint, Monday, 13.05.2019**



Hong Kong tycoon Samathur Li Kin-kan has started a battle by suing the man who sold him on a stock investment Artificial Intelligence program that cost Li a lot of money. In 2017, Li met Raffaele Costa, who told him about an AI-powered hedge fund his company Tyndaris Investments was setting up. A supercomputer, K1, would search real-time news and social media to gauge investor sentiment and predict US stock futures, then instruct a broker to execute trades. The computer using AI intelligence was making decisions which led to loss. Li is suing Tyndaris for allegedly exaggerating what the supercomputer could do. An AI program is given a massive database, some basic rules and a certain goal. As more information keeps coming in, the program keeps learning how better to achieve its goal, and continuously updates its problem-solving methods. This is “deep leaning”, the greatest triumph of which is supposed to have been when, in 2017, Google DeepMind’s AI program, AlphaGo, beat world champion Ke Jie at Go, the most complex strategy game known to mankind. However, in the legal parlance is a super computer an entity which can be sued??

### **MEN TO BE SAFEGUARDED**

**Ref: Latestlaws.com, Tuesday, 14.05.2019**



NGO named Purush Ayog has raised its voice by demonstrations at India Gate on demanding justice for men facing unsubstantiated accusations of sexual assault, claiming that 51% of the suicides among men accused of sexual assault were due to false allegations being levelled against them. A review of the Indian Penal Code and Protection of Children from

Sexual Offences Act was demanded to ensure that the name of the accused would not be revealed until the case was concluded either way.

### **OLD BRAND NAME BARRED**

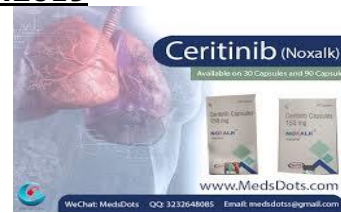
**Ref: The Times of India, Friday, 17.05.2019**

<b>NO MORE SALES?</b>	
<b>Old name</b>	<b>New name</b>
Corex	Corex DX
Zifi AZ	Zifi OZ
Panderm Plus	Panderm NM

Government has recently ordered state drug controllers not to allow companies to market drug formulations in which the composition has been tweaked, while retaining the old brand name. The companies often argue investing a huge amount of energy and time in building a brand in the market but at the same time, retaining the brand name in a new formulation where an ingredient has been tweaked is misleading and harmful for patients resulting into undesirable pharmaceutical effects.

### **HC RESTRAINS NATCO**

**Ref: Thehindu.com, Friday, 17.05.2019**



Novartis has been recently granted the patent for the compound called “Ceritinib” that’s used in life saving drugs for treatment of small cell lung cancer. This has led to the Delhi High Court passing the orders restraining Hyderabad based Natco pharma from manufacturing fresh stock of drugs that comprise this compound. This injunction came in suit filed by Novartis after they had a close brush with the capsules launched by Natco under the mark NOXALK at a conference in Kolkata. Keeping in mind the interests of the patients, however on humanitarian

grounds, the sale of existing stock of drugs has been permitted. Discussing the issue of post grant opposition that was filed by Natco and its pendency, in the light of Section 48 of the Patents Act, the court clarified that the rights of the patentee subsist even during pendency of post grant opposition proceedings and until the opposition is actually decided.

**CHUR CHUR NAN – CLAIMED BRAND**  
**Ref: [indiatoday.in](http://indiatoday.in), Saturday, 18.05.2019**



Delving upon the issue of trademarks, Delhi High Court has ruled out the possibility of any monopoly over the term 'Chur Chur Naan' and 'Amritsari Chur Chur Naan' as they are completely generic terms. The court elaborated on the issue by saying the word "chur chur" means crushed and "Chur chur naan" means crushed naan. Since this term is used in normal conversational language, there cannot be any monopoly over such a generic expression. This plea for infringement of trademark was filed by an owner of a food outlet who had registration over "Chur chur naan" against use of similar expression by defendants. The court at the end finally granted 30 days period to the defendants to change over to new names for their outlets in order to prevent any confusion.

**WAYFAIR UNDER SCANNER**  
**Ref: [The Economic Times](http://The Economic Times), Monday 20.05.2019**



Wayfair, a US based e-retailer is facing scorn for selling bath mats depicting Lord Ganesha and Lord Shiva. The mats which are sold on the website are described as

"Yoga Asian Lord with Third Eye Bath Rug by East Urban Home" and "Asian Face of Elephant Lord Bath Rug". An online petition has been launched for defamatory products disparaging the religious sentiments of people. Like Amazon, this company should also remove the products and be cautious in future.

**\$2.1M A DOSE**  
**Ref: [Sunday Times of India](http://Sunday Times of India), 26.05.2019**



The US Food and Drug Administration has recently approved a gene therapy for spinal muscular atrophy, that kills many babies before they turn 2. Spinal muscular atrophy affects the motor nerve cells in the spinal cord. The price will be \$2.1 million per dose, believed to be highest ever set for a one-time treatment. The therapy, to be sold as Zolgensma alters the underlying genetic cause of spinal muscular atrophy and may permanently stop the disease. It is among the first of gene therapies that promise a cure for deadly inherited conditions.

 **KNOWLEDGENTIA CONSULTANTS**  
Corp Legal & Intellectual Property Rights Firm  
W - 19, L.G.F, GREATER KAILASH II,  
NEW DELHI – 110048  
Telephone No:  
**Delhi-011 - 49122916, 29213024**  
**Chandigarh-0172-2544552**  
**Email: [info@knowledgentia.com](mailto:info@knowledgentia.com)**  
**Website: [www.knowledgentia.com](http://www.knowledgentia.com)**  
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