KNOWLEDGEATETM- November 2020

IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE ON LATEST CORPORATE LEGAL AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY MATTERS

RERA ACT DOES NOT BAR REMEDIES UNDER CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT Ref: barandbench.com, Monday, 02.11.2020



The Apex Court in a significant judgment has ruled that RERA does not preclude the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission or the Consumer Forum from entertaining any complaint under Consumer Protection Act. This is a welcome step considering the chaos that is prevailing in the real estate sector with respect to stalled housing projects and callous attitude of builders and developers towards consumers.

AMAZON ENVISIONS TOXIC GAMERS Ref: businessinsider.in, Monday, 02.11.2020



In the realm of virtual world, especially with respect to video games, unfortunate behavior of cheaters is often referred to as "toxic". A newly published Amazon patent lays down a mechanism for dealing with such toxic players by isolating them into a separate player pool. The system that has been worked out functions in a way that it puts same category of all toxic players in one pool. For instance, a player who swears a lot is matched with other players who swear a lot.

TIKTOK ACQUIRES THE COPYRIGHT Ref: gizchina.com, Tuesday, 03.11.2020



Sony Music Entertainment and Tik Tok have signed a new agreement and thus has access to songs from thousands of artists across the world. This agreement ensures that Tik Tok customers will continue to be able to use Sony Record's songs including Columbia Records and Radio American Records. Further in exchange, the app will have to carry out extensive marketing of Sony label's artists. This app has become one of the most significant platforms for promotion in music industry. There have been increasing number of copyright issues amongst various recording companies, artists, writers and many others associated with this field and in a scenario like this it becomes even more pertinent to spread awareness about intellectual property and associated rights for benefit and protection of a large number of people who are exposed as well as part and parcel of the industry.

FACEBOOK V/S FACEBAKE Ref: livelaw.in, Tuesday, 17.11,2020



In a trademark infringement suit filed by Facebook, the Delhi High Court has restrained the bakery from using the mark "FACEBAKE".

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It was observed that refusal to grant interim relief shall impact legal rights and business of the world renowned brand. This bakery had been running a website and observed selling cakes and articles like watches with the mark "FACEBAKE".

"JHUND" MOVIE STAYED BY APEX COURT

Ref: livelaw.in, Wednesday, 18.11.2020



The release of the film based on the life of founder of NGO Slum Soccer on Amazon Prime Video has been further delayed on account of the Apex Court's refusal to lift the stay imposed on the movie's release. The movie's screening had been stalled by Telangana High Court order in a suit for copyright infringement. Appeal against this order of High Court has been dismissed by Supreme Court as well. A Hyderabad based short film maker Nandi Chinni Kumar filed an infringement suit claiming that he had purchased the right to make a film on Akhilesh Paul who was the captain of Indian Slum Soccer Team coached by Vijay Barse. The filmmakers of Jhund have however refuted these claims thereby resulting into ongoing copyright row between two parties.

COMPETITION LAWS & IPR ENCOURAGE INNOVATION Ref: moneycontrol.com, Saturday, 21.11.2020





Former Governor of RBI D Subbarao has recently acknowledged contribution of Competition Laws and Intellectual Property Rights to human progress at a virtual book launch event. The fact of the matter however is now out in the open and not unknown to many. There has been tension between competition laws and IPR but both of them have a common objective i.e. to encourage acquisition and spread of knowledge.

EMAMI KEEPS FAIR AND HANDSOME WITH A TWEAK

Ref: business-standard.com, Monday, 23.11.2020



The well renowned brand Emami has relaunched "Fair and Handsome" by changing its proposition from "fairness" to "radiance". This change comes in the backdrop of global movement

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"BlackLivesMatter". This relaunch comes after Emami locked horns with FMCG Giant, Hindustan Liver over the use of "Glow and Handsome" brand name for the men's skincare range. Since the brand evokes a strong goodwill among both users as well as non users, any kind of shift in the brand name or tagline is sure to influence the target consumers and the market. Whether the response is positive or negative will depend on the manner in which the change is presented and that's where legal advice from IP lawyers will play a crucial role in any industry.

WHITEHAT JR V/S MALPANI Ref: economictimes.indiatimes.com, Tuesday, 24.11.2020

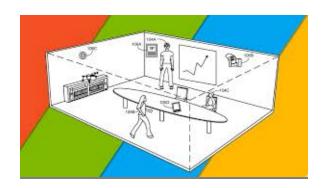




The Delhi High Court has recently granted an injunction in WhiteHat Jr's defamation lawsuit against angel investor Aniruddha Malpani. The court has passed an order directing Aniruddha to restrain from posting, publishing or sharing any content that defames or deprecates the educational technology startup or its course content, management or employees. He has also been directed to take down defamatory tweets. A similar order was passed against a Software Engineer Pradeep Poonia who was indulging into defaming the start up.

MICROSOFT PATENT ON BODY LANGUAGE

Ref: bbc.com, Monday, 30.11.2020



Technology giant Microsoft has recently filed a patent for a system to monitor employees' body language and facial expressions during work meetings and give the events a "quality score". The same could be deployed in real-world meetings or online virtual get-togethers. Sensors function in a way such that participants can be monitored. Managers can keep a track of individual worker's use of Microsoft's Office 365 software-including Outlook email and the Teams meeting and Excel spreadsheet apps. This technology can also be used to identify problems that make meetings ineffectual. A lot of privacy campaigners are however labeling this system as invasive and an attack on worker's rights.



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