

THE LEGAL CHRONICLE- GCLS NEWSLETTER (FEB 12-19)

General News

- **SC Refuses to Monitor CBI Investigation Into Saradha Chit Fund Scam.**

The Supreme Court on Monday refused to monitor the ongoing Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) case into the Saradha chit fund scam in West Bengal.

A two-judge bench comprising Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice Sanjiv Khanna did not allow the application filed by some investors, that despite the apex court's order from 2013, directing the agency to probe the chit fund scam, the investigation has not attained finality.

Read more: <https://thewire.in/law/sc-refuses-to-monitor-cbi-investigation-into-saradha-chit-fund-scam>

- **Supreme Court Seeks Government's Response On 10% Quota Bill**

The Supreme Court on Friday sought response from the government on a fresh plea challenging its decision to grant 10 percent reservation in jobs and admissions to general category poor candidates

Read more at: <https://www.bloombergquint.com/law-and-policy/sc-seeks-response-from-centre-on-fresh-plea-against-10-pc-quota-to-general-category-poor#gs.lS6boM6I>

- **Section 377: Naz Foundation withdraws Curative Petition against 2013 SC verdict.**

NGO *Naz Foundation* today withdrew its curative petition against the 2013 judgment of the Supreme Court which had upheld the validity of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Introduced by the British during the colonial era, Section 377 penalised all sexual activities “*against the order of nature*“. Modeled on the then-existing English Buggery Act (1553), this provision effectively came to be used to criminalise sexual activity between homosexuals persons, regardless of whether it was consensual.

<https://barandbench.com/section-377-naz-foundation-withdraws-curative-petition-2013-verdict/>

PILs in the SC and the Gujarat HC

- **Mirage-2000 crash: Plea in SC on crash of aircraft, choppers of Indian armed forces**

A petition was filed in the Supreme Court Wednesday over the "alarming increase" in crash of aircraft and helicopters of the Indian Armed Forces, seeking direction to the Centre to take steps to ensure that such accidents do not occur in future.

The public interest litigation (PIL) has been filed after a Mirage-2000 trainer aircraft of the Indian Air Force crashed on February 1 at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited Airport here killing both the pilots -- Squadron Leader Samir Abrol and Squadron Leader Siddhartha Negi, both from Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment.

The PIL has sought setting up of a court-monitored committee comprising a retired judge of the apex court and experts from Indian defence services to conduct a thorough enquiry into the Mirage crash.

Read more at: <http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2019/feb/06/mirage-2000-crash-plea-in-sc-on-crash-of-aircraft-choppers-of-indian-armed-forces-1935288.html>

- **PIL for fresh probe into death of ex-Gujarat Home Minister Haren Pandya posted before Justice Arun Mishra**

The Supreme Court on Friday required a petition by NGO Centre for Public Interest Litigation (CPIL) for a fresh, court-monitored investigation into the murder of Haren Pandya, BJP leader and Home Minister in the Gujarat Cabinet, to be placed before the same bench which is hearing the criminal appeal in the matter. The bench of Justices A. K. Sikri and Abdul Nazeer was of the view that the new PIL should be heard by a bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra, which is considering the appeal against the 2011 judgment of the Gujarat High Court acquitting the 12 persons convicted for Pandya's murder by the trial court.

Read more at: <https://www.livelaw.in/top-stories/pil-for-fresh-probe-into-murder-of-haren-pandya-posted-before-bench-headed-by-justice-arun-mishra-142748>

Internship Opportunity

- **Transparency International India**

Internship opportunity at TII is a platform where students can gain experience in the field of research, legal system, good governance, advocacy and grass root initiatives undertaken by TII. The internship would be a learning experience where one would get an in-depth knowledge of the issues involved in promoting transparency, accountability and integrity. It also allows exchange of ideas where interns can share their ideas to make the work of TII effective and fulfil the mission of the organization.

Eligibility: Students enrolled in their Second/third year of undergraduate programme of a college in a recognized institution/university or who have completed their bachelors in any discipline, preferably engineering, social science or legal studies.

Application & Selection Process: Interested students may apply directly or through appropriate authority of the university or institution for internship at TII. The applicant should submit a letter of interest attached with full curriculum vitae along with internship plan.

Reporting, Evaluation & Certificate: One week before the end of the tenure of Internship, the intern will submit a detailed report to the Supervisor narrating and analyzing the outcome of the internship. On the basis of the report and overall evaluation of the Intern's work during the tenure of internship, TII will issue a Certificate to the Intern indicating quality of performance.

Reach Us: To register your interest in internship opportunities with TII please reach us at internship@transparencyindia.org giving an insight of your profile, objectives and skill set.

Scholarships

- **India Global Leaders Scholarship 2019 for UG/PG Students @ University of Queensland [Australia]**

The India Global Leaders Scholarship is an exciting opportunity for high achieving students from India to further their studies at UQ's Faculty of Business, Economics and Law (BEL). Challenge yourself academically and develop the skills to thrive in constantly changing and competitive business environments. The scholarship offers valuable opportunities for internships, mentoring and industry engagement.

Successful Global Leaders scholars will receive:

- \$5,000 – \$20,000 tuition fee scholarship. The final amount awarded to the successful applicants will be at the discretion of the selection committee.
- You will join an elite UQ Global Leaders community of high achievers throughout your studies, and simultaneously develop your employability skills through priority access to exciting programs on offer through our award-winning Student Employability Team. You will also receive exclusive invitations to selected 'Invite only' seminars, presentations, and events throughout your studies.
- Upon graduation, you will join a global network of outstanding Global Leaders scholarship alumni, and build upon your professional networks at home and abroad.

LSCs around the world

- **NEF Law College, Guwahati Assam**

NEF Law College has a Legal Aid Clinic (LAC) which provides free legal services and representation in any court of law, tribunal or body before which a petitioner may be represented by a legal practitioner. The services are being provided for persons who are very needy or for any other reason are unable to obtain the services of private legal practitioners. The cell is being supported by professional, dynamic and dedicated services of a working team of eminent practicing lawyers. The College also organizes Legal aid and Literary Camps at various remote places to educate the poor and ignorant masses about their rights and enforcement of the same. Legal Aid Camp was conducted at Chakradeo Village, Mikirpara recently. It also provides exposure and practical legal training for law students. The LAC helps in educating the senior law students on clinical legal education.

GNLU LSC This week

- **Know your rights campaign**

The Legal Services Committee conducted a 'Know Your Rights' program on 8th February 2019 in the nearby schools at Randesan and Firozpur villages. The activities included teaching students about Fundamental Rights and Duties, Constitution and concepts of IPC. The aim was to spread awareness about their rights and responsibilities. . GCLS student members under the guidance of Abhishek Vyas interacted with the students over there and tried to understand their perspective on topics like education, society, our country etc. Their response was quite encouraging and they did well in the quiz and the role play conducted at the end of the session. The student members also taught them a few things from the centre's KYR curriculum. The sessions went on for one and a half hours. These campaigns prove to be useful in creating legal awareness amongst kids at a young age opening up new study prospects for them.