



# The LexGaze Weekly

NEWSLETTER BROUGHT TO YOU BY LEXGAZE

SIGNIFICANCE OF FREE AND  
FAIR ELECTIONS IN RECENT  
TIMES

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PEOPLE'S CUSTODIAN OF  
DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES  
- JACINDA ARDERN

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A Tale of Two Democracies:  
How do the Indians and their  
American Counterparts Vote?

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Trump v. Biden: What does a  
Biden presidency have in  
store for problematic  
regions?

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Sasha Matar and  
Arijit Sanyal

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# SIGNIFICANCE OF FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS IN RECENT TIMES

Ms Anwesha Pathak, Senior Editor, LexGaze



Ms Anwesha Pathak,  
Senior Editor,  
LexGaze

In a constitutional democracy, elections provide an opportunity to ascertain the popular will regarding the governance of the country. Elections are the act of choosing an individual usually for holding public office through the free will of the people in a representative democracy.

There are a small number of states in the world that have very similar electoral or voting systems but continue to have dissimilar amounts of political parties. These similarities and differences are best illustrated when comparing the United States and France. Despite similar electoral systems, France has numerous political parties while the United States has two major parties. It would be anticipated that France and the United States would contain a resemblance in its electoral system based upon the information that the original French charter was inspired by the U.S. Constitution. Essentially, both states use the first past the post, winner takes all style of electing their Presidents. The United States also uses a unique system called the Electoral College to elect a President from available nominees.

Free and fair elections and functioning electoral systems are the quintessence of democracy. Elections are used to “ensure popular support and legitimacy for those who make governmental decisions.” An electoral system is the set of processes that determine how political candidates are elected to office. These procedures include the ballot structure, how citizens cast their votes, how those votes are tallied, and how the winners are determined. Electoral systems are important in several ways. First, they have significant political consequences. Electoral systems shape the nature of parties and party systems, and they affect the behaviour of politicians and the strategies of voters. Free and fair elections are important because every vote comes with a voice. When citizens cannot speak freely or are banned from elections, whole groups of people become disenfranchised, and their rights and interests are ignored. When the opposition is suppressed and unions cannot be formed, citizens cannot elect leaders that will work to assuage their grievances.



Although elections can be held without democracy, “one cannot have democracy without legitimate, transparent, free and fair elections,” and it is noted that elections in a democratic society provide a unique opportunity for the electorate to indicate their priorities, interests and concerns. Public trust can be gained through assurances of an independent, well-mandated and equipped electoral office or commission; timely execution of election activities from the start of the process through the end; clear deadlines for defined activities; thoroughly trained electoral workers; an ongoing process of public education and public outreach; a credible voters’ list; and a secure environment for voters.

The organization and management of elections are critical so that losing candidates can accept that they have lost fairly, according to the will of the people. It should be understood that for reasons of democratic governability, no country should be held hostage by the unwillingness of politicians and political parties to accept the outcome of elections.

Concept of free and fair election includes even preliminary stages to election such as with delimitation of constituencies, preparation, revision or amendment of electoral rolls and many others. Concept of free and fair election mainly relates to political liberty and equality. In matters of an election, it implies that no one, under the electoral process, is in the bondage with another, having their rights, social and political liberty, free-hinking and choice subjected to a legal discipline. While exercising their right to vote, one is not under the undue influence of party discipline, religion, caste, creed, sex, language and also one is not under the strain of corrupt practices and so on. Thus, free and fair elections are the foundations of a democratic form of government.

“one cannot have democracy without legitimate, transparent, free and fair elections”



# Trump v. Biden: What does a Biden presidency have in store for problematic regions?

Ms Sasha Matar and Mr Arijit Sanyal

*“America has no permanent friend or enemies, only interests”  
-Henry Kissinger*

## ABOUT

**Ms Sasha Matar, Legal Practitioner and Certified Conflict Resolution Coach, Lebanon**



Sasha holds a bachelor degree in Law and is currently pursuing her master's degree at the Lebanese University, Lebanon. A legal practitioner in Lebanon, she has completed her training in international law and international criminal law, accompanied by a study-visit to the International tribunals at The Hague. She has participated in several international moot courts and helped in organizing some as well. She is a certified conflict-resolution coach and she established a chapter of the Mediate Guru organization, a platform that contributes to the social awareness for showcasing mediation as the future of ADR, in her country Lebanon. Her aim is to contribute into creating effective and peaceful conflict-resolution solutions and spreading the necessary awareness on how to manage a conflict, in a region ruled with conflicts.

**Mr Arijit Sanyal, Undergraduate Law Student, India**

Arijit is a third year undergraduate law student and has been working as a contributing editor with LexGaze over the last couple of months. Arijit is strongly inclined towards international commercial law and global policy making.

It appears that the Democrats have denied President Trump a second term, but what does it entail for Middle-East and Indo-Pacific? This election was never about supporting a particular political party but was more of a revolution to bring down the Trump administration. As it was equally important for the Americans alike to get rid of the “tyranny” and “suffering” they had to undergo due to the Trump administration, they might have ignored how their mandate could affect global politics. Though the blue wave across the US brings respite for them, little do they know what a change in the oval office's ideology possibly has in store for the Middle-East and Indo-Pacific in particular.

Moments after the press association called the elections, the US elections were already making headlines across the world, with countries across Middle-East and Asia already frowning upon the possible policy changes under the Biden administration, which could be deduced from their policy papers. Though the election has been





engulfed with a lot of uncertainties and nothing can be deduced unless Biden assumes charge of the oval office, a lot of countries do believe that the next administration will follow the path laid down under the Obama administration. In other words, Joe Biden is expected to follow the steps of his former companion, by adopting a soft-approach towards Islamic Republic of Iran by re-entering the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), aka the Iran nuclear deal, which can cause a series of concerns for neighbours such as Saudi-Arabia, Lebanon, Israel etc. The Trump administration had withdrawn the US from this deal back in 2018 and showered the regime with economic sanctions leading to a remarkable decrease in the value of their national currency thus, limiting Iran's financial support to their proxies in the Middle East, The Hezbollah Party of God in Lebanon, Hamas in Gaza and the Popular Mobilization Forces (PMF) in Iraq.

Narrowing down to the Hezbollah, primarily spread across Lebanon, which has been supporting the Syrian Ba'ath movement in resurrecting a civil war against Syrian Nationalist, which has disrupted peace in Lebanon, apart from causing socio-economic imbalances. While the Trump administration sanctioned Lebanese politicians who were affiliated with the militant body in some capacity, the Biden administration is most likely to withdraw these sanctions from Iran and affiliates of Hezbollah which would have two immediate implications viz, strengthen Iran's economic power, thereby increasing its capacity to fund its proxies across the region and make Lebanon a safe haven for *Hezbollah*, which was, though not eradicated but, significantly weakened by sanctions on Lebanese politicians. Moreover, this is likely to affect the peace process initiated between the Gulf countries and Israel, which made people optimistic of economic development in the region, which would amount to putting a wet blanket on the crucial role played by a member of Trump's family as well as his administration, Jared Kushner. As a result of

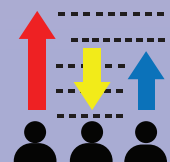


which many think-tanks have already opined that the peace process is likely to move backwards under the Biden administration.

However, Middle-East is not expected to be the only region affected by a transition in the oval office and another region expected to be revisited by previous disputes is the Indo-Pacific. The democrat's inclination for the region is rather evident from the fact that it continued to provide aid worth hundreds of millions to Pakistan, which had driven those funds towards fanning militant movements across its neighbouring borders, rather than cracking down hard on militancy on its soil. Trump administration's policies which favoured India, Japan, Taiwan not just as a counter to Iran, Pakistan

and China but because it believed in these nation's potency to maintain the balance of power is again expected to be undone by the Biden administration's soft stance on Pakistan and China. Furthermore, a democrat-controlled Congress is expected to jeopardise the future of the QUAD by making it toothless, which was a much-needed organisation to counter the Chinese misadventures in the Indian Ocean Region and the South China Sea. Though the defence deals are expected to move forward smoothly, the recently concluded BARC agreement between India and the US is likely to be reviewed which is bound to disappoint New-Delhi apart from possibly leaving it on its own against the Pakistani and Chinese misadventures into the Indian territory

Having said that, one cannot undermine the American doctrine of "Deep-State" which is allegedly responsible for a lot of policy decisions. Allegedly a conspiracy, revisiting President Obama's reservations regarding weapons sale to Israel and a sudden turnaround leading to Prime Minister Netanyahu's visit to the US suggest that the "deep-state" might not be a conspiracy theory after all and plays a significant role in shaping the US's foreign policy. However, being aware of what a Biden presidency might have in store for these regions, it allows them a chance to introspect, reframe their own policy considering US's interests in the region and prepare for significant uncertainties which are bound to surface within the next four years.



# How the US elects its President: A short guide

Mr Prakhar Srivastava, Managing Editor, LexGaze

Joseph Robinette Biden Jr or Joe Biden as he is popularly known is USA's President-elect and Kamala Harris is ready to be its first-ever female Vice President, after Donald Trump and the Republicans wiped the floor in a hotly contested, nail-biting election. But like many of us, were you also scratching your heads as it all unfolded, wondering- what's happening? What is this bewildering process the US employs to choose its leader? Well, don't worry! We have got you covered. In this week's Decipher, we decode for you how the US elects its President in as simple a way as possible. Read on.

The US Presidential elections can be split into five parts:

- Primaries and Caucuses
- National Convention
- General Election
- Electoral College
- Inauguration

The process starts right in the month of February/March, with voting in November and the inauguration in January.

## Primaries and Caucuses

There are two political parties in the US- Democrats (Liberals) and Republicans (Conservatives). Both these parties nominate a leader for the President's post. To do so, they first hold primaries and caucuses in different states to pick 'delegates' who will then go on to support the Presidential nominee. While some States have a secret ballot (Primaries) to elect their delegates, others choose their delegates by a show of hands in an open meeting (caucuses).

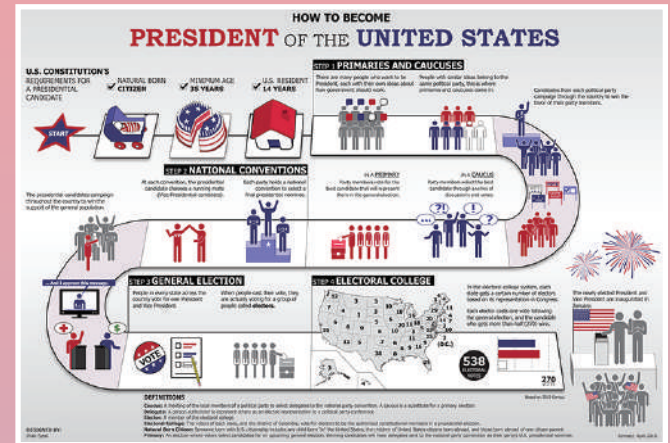
## National Convention

The National Convention is a large gathering, usually held at a stadium or a large open space, of all the delegates chosen by the states during the Primaries and Caucuses. At this gathering, delegates vote and parties announce who is going to run for President and Vice President (also called a Running mate). Democrats and Republicans hold their National Conventions separately, and once the Presidential and Vice Presidential nominees are announced, campaigning, rallies and televised debates begin.

## General Election

The Presidential voting takes place in two-steps.

First, voters in each state cast ballots on Election Day. In nearly every state, the candidate who receives the most votes wins the "electoral votes" for that particular state, and gets that number of voters (or "electors") in the "Electoral College." Second, the "electors" from each of these 50 states gather in December and vote for the President. The person who receives a majority of votes from the "Electoral College" wins. The electors are local leaders who collectively form the Electoral College and every party releases a list of electors ahead of the election day.



## Electoral College

Under the Electoral College system, each state is assigned a certain number of "votes". There are a total of 538 electoral votes and the number of electoral votes each state gets depends on the size of its population. The formula for determining the number of votes for each state is simple: each state gets two votes for its two US Senators, and an additional vote for each member it has in the House of Representatives. For example, California has the highest number of 55 electoral votes (2 senators and 53 members of the House of Representatives).

These electors vote in December and have to vote twice: for President and Vice President. The candidate needs a simple majority of 270 in the electoral college to win the Presidential election. Things get tricky during the Electoral College because despite a party winning maximum states on Voting Day, they might lose in the Electoral College.

## Inauguration

The new president is officially sworn into office on 20 January in a ceremony known as the inauguration, which is held on the steps of the Capitol building in Washington DC.

## STALWARTS

# PEOPLE'S CUSTODIAN OF DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES - JACINDA ARDERN

Ms Yamika Khanna, Associate Editor, LexGaze



Ms Jacinda Ardern

Prime Minister of New Zealand

The recent, contemporary developments in the political circles across the world have shattered the shackles of patriarchal thought and misogynist approach by portraying an exemplary reflection of political women leadership. One such woman who has defied the odds and doubts thrown at her, making her mark on history as well as the hearts of progressive global citizens is Jacinda Ardern, the Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Jacinda Ardern is undoubtedly one of the most popular and publicly loved political leaders of this decade. The world has always been in awe of her remarkable leadership and inclusive approach towards issues surrounding both New Zealand and the world.

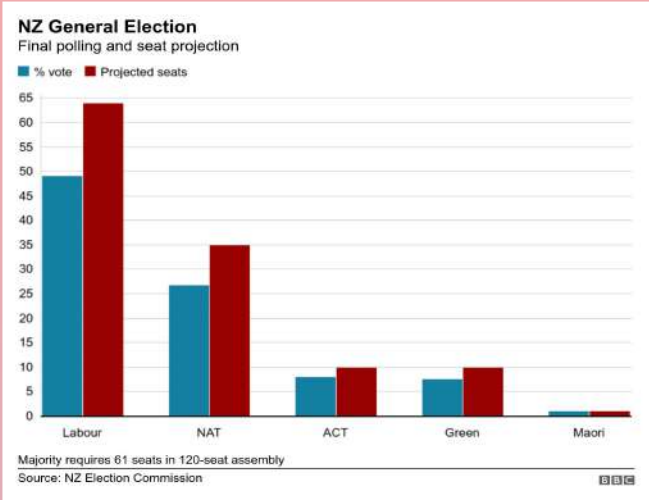
She has been a pioneer of equality and religious inclusivity and during the times when Muslims in the country were facing a strong backlash

for Islamic extremism, she asserted that "We will be here whenever you need, in the coming days, the coming weeks and the coming months. New Zealand is a place that we cherish equally, for its inclusiveness, for its diversity and I will consider it my personal mission as Prime Minister to defend that so long as I have the privilege of holding this office."



Furthermore, she is one of the few political leaders who have openly spoken for the rights of the LGBTQ+ community and through her progressive approach she has tried to sensitise the general public on the rights of LGBTQ+ community.

She has emerged as one of the true democratic leaders who don't possess lust for power but love for the country and is continuing to pave the way for women in circles that are still believed to be male-dominated, further strengthening the horizons of democracy and equality.



## LEXGAZE HOPE

The longed for future is now...

Mr Aishwary Jaiswal, Technical Editor, LexGaze



**Ms Kamala Harris**  
Vice President of the United States

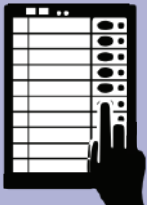
Kamala Harris- a name echoing all across the world is something all of America should take pride in. Born to an Indian woman –who migrated to the States in 1910– and a Jamaican man , Kamala did not have a leg-up in her career, yet here we are witnessing her grab her rightfully-earned seat as Vice President of the United States of America!

Following Joe Biden’s election for the United States President in the 2020 Presidential election, Harris will assume office on January 20, 2021, as the first ever female vice president, as well as the first person of colour to hold this post since Charles Curtis, a native American.

In 1990, Harris became a deputy district attorney in Alameda County, California, and in 1994, she was appointed to the State Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board and later to the California Medical Assistance

Commission. In California, where Harris was elected as the State’s top prosecutor, she was the first woman and first black woman to hold that office, too. These achievements are just the tip of the iceberg, as in 2016, she became the first black American to represent California in the Senate.

From reforming the criminal justice system of the state of California, which became the National model of work to empower women worldwide, with the incomparable feat of pledging as Vice President of the United States, Kamala has always been full of surprises! With powerful, prodigious, and high-spirited women like Kamala in our arsenal, the world is assured that it is bound to soar to much greater heights!







The Allahabad High Court rules that the payee need not wait for the 15-day period to end to file a complaint under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 if the intention of the drawer of a cheque to not make payment is clear.



The National Green Tribunal bans the use of firecrackers in Delhi-NCR from November 9 to December 1.



The Delhi High Court, while hearing the suit filed by several Bollywood production houses, asks news channels to ensure that no defamatory content is displayed or uploaded on social media



The Gujarat High Court quashes a sedition FIR against journalist Dhaval Patel for stating that Chief Minister Vijay Rupani was likely to be replaced owing to his failure in dealing with Covid-19 in Gujarat.



# A Tale of Two Democracies: How do the Indians and their American Counterparts Vote?

Mr Arijit Sanyal, Contributing Editor, LexGaze

*“Democracy is based upon the conviction, that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary people”*

*-Harry Emerson*

Within a short span, two of the world's most looked upon democracies viz, India and the United States of America (US) have gone to polls with voters having diverse expectations from the next elected government. While a victory for the Democrats in the US has refused President Trump a second term, rekindling a fresh ray of hope for the Americans and prospective immigrants regarding jobs, better response to the pandemic and healing the American society, Indians have reposed their faith in the BJP led government under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi by re-electing them, with the hope of profiting from the leadership's plan of making India a manufacturing hub [ET], which might be the solution to India's rising unemployment. Though the United States happens to be a relatively mature democracy, both India and the US have continued to grow in different ways, and the former, irrespective of being a third of the latter's age has given stiff competition to the US in a lot of avenues such as defence modernisation, institutional reforms and representation of women in governance. However, the primary determinants which decide elections in the two democracies will be discerned in the following paragraphs.

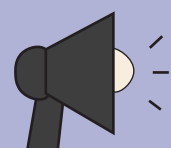
Starting with the economy, which was one of the fundamental factors for both the elections, the recently concluded US elections showed an inclination towards the Democrats as opposed to Republicans. Though the immediate results have indicated President-elect Biden received a little over 50% of the total votes, a survey concluded just before the elections stated 79% of Americans believed the economy was in a bad shape and that the current administration wasn't taking necessary steps to put it back on track [Pew].

Discerning the data obtained further, 88% of the Republican supporters viewed the economy as an important issue as compared to Gun control, abortion and BLM, which is considerably higher than those who voted for democrats,



who placed economy below BLM, Gun control & abortions at 65% [Pew]. When we look at similar trends in India, voters during the 2019 general elections stressed more on jobs, which is only a small part of what the economy constitutes. A survey found that 47% of the total voters stressed on the importance of employment generation [The Hindu]. Though the national average depicted is lower from the standards of a developing economy, the trend shows the importance of jobs for voters was significantly higher in the northern and north-eastern regions of India.

Though the US boasts of being a mature and undoubtedly is the oldest democracy, social issues diverse in nature have troubled the residents from time to time, most significant among them being discrimination towards people of colour, which has recently caused the Black Lives Matters (BLM) protests



across the US. Out of the 60% voters who consider the BLM to be a significant development towards bringing out racial equality, 76% sided with the Democrats during the current elections [PEW]. On the other hand, India being a diverse society and often called as a “cradle of races” has found it difficult to bring about equality among castes, irrespective of numerous constitutional provisions. A major survey concluded after every national election in India suggests caste has been a driving factor for voting trends, though there might be other issues like health care, domestic violence, public transport and potable drinking water amongst others . [Rohini Pande, Harvard]. This research further suggested how the said factor reduces the ability of the voters to consider important factors which plays a direct role in weakening the elected body. A further dangerous trend which has not seen a downward curve yet is the profiling of candidates under the veil of casteism to hide their criminal records.

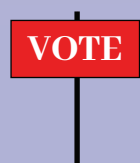
strengthen the elected body while doing the same [Public Interest Foundation v. UOI (2019) 3 SCC 244]. Despite large-scale awareness drives being far from reality, even regarding rights and social issues, similar exercises have been carried out in the North-East, Uttar-Pradesh, Rajasthan etc. which not only allowed voters to arrive at a well-thought decision, but significantly increased the voter turnout in the subsequent assembly and national elections. While considering a US like outcome would be outrageous, to say the least, the same cannot remain an excuse for not initiating such exercises, if India wishes to get the title of a “Matured Democracy” apart from being the largest one.

*“Small differences in a system of great power can have enormous consequences”*

*-Noam Chomsky*



While there might be stark differences between the two societies, information campaigns have played a crucial role in the US elections since decades which hasn't been in the Indian election scenario, even remotely. Though people across India might not be in a position to appreciate the importance of information regarding candidates, the Supreme Court has recently observed that voting being a form of expression, which is a constitutional right, must be supplemented with information about a candidate's criminal records. This would allow them to make a well-thought decision and





## ARBITRATION & CONCILIATION

[1] Notification – Min. Law & Jus. – Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 notified – unconditional stay on awards prima facie induced by fraud allowed.

Notification  
**CG-DL-E-04112020-222941**,  
[Click Here](#)

## CIVIL LAW

[2] Entitlement of homebuyer starts from date of agreement and not RERA registration.

Supreme Court, **Imperia Structures Ltd. v. Anil Patni**, Civil Appeal No. 3581 of 2020

[3] Affidavit of Disclosure of Assets and Liabilities shall be filed by both parties in all maintenance proceedings, including pending proceedings.

Supreme Court, **Rajnesh v. Neha**, Criminal Appeal No. 730 of 2020

[4] Powers of review u/s 114 CPC cannot be exercised as an inherent or appellate power.

Supreme Court, **Shri Ram Sahu v. Vinod Kumar Rawat**, C.A. No. 3601 of 2020

[5] Complaint before Consumer Fora by allottees against builders is not barred by the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016.

Supreme Court, **Imperia Structures Ltd. v. Anil Patni**, Civil Appeal No. 3581 of 2020

[6] For writ against stoppage of pension – part of cause of action arises where pensioner is getting pension.

Supreme Court, **Shanti Devi v. Union of India & Ors.**, Civil Appeal No. 3630 of 2020

[7] Maintenance awarded must be reasonable AND realistic – objective of alimony is not to punish the other spouse.

Supreme Court, **Rajnesh v. Neha**, Criminal Appeal No. 730 of 2020

[8] Power to transfer the petition under Section 21A of the Hindu Marriage Act can be invoked only when the subsequent petition is either a petition seeking judicial separation or divorce.

Supreme Court, **Shruti Kaushal Bisht v. Kaushal R. Bisht**, Transfer Petition (Civil) No. 1264 of 2020

[9] Lack of jurisdiction of a court may be a ground to seek dismissal/return of proceedings, rather than seeking transfer.

Supreme Court, **Indian Olympic Association v. Kerala Olympic Association**, Transfer Petition (Civil) No. 975 of 2020

[10] Court cannot take cognizance of a private complaint against notary public for his/her official acts.

Ker. HC, **V.P. Jyolsna v. State of Kerala**, Crl.M.C.No.4518 of 2014

## COMMERCIAL LAW

[11] Circular – SEBI – Flexi cap funds introduced as a new category under Equity Schemes.

Circular No.  
**SEBI/HO/IMD/DF/CIR/P/2020/228**,  
[Click Here](#)

[12] Time limit stipulation for district magistrates to deliver possession of secured asset not mandatory.

Supreme Court, **C. Bright v. The District Collector**, C.A. No. 3441 of 2020

[13] Interim order in writ petition challenging SARFAESI proceedings should generally not be passed without hearing secured creditors.

Supreme Court, **C. Bright v. The District Collector**, C.A. No. 3441 of 2020

[14] Magistrate while handing over possession u/s 14 SARFAESI Act not required to seek permission from Company Court.

Supreme Court, **M/S Asset Reconstruction Co. (India) Ltd. v. Sagi Narayana Raju**, C.A. No. 3644 of 2020

[15] Contravention of obligations cast upon promoters under RERA Act – authority fully empowered to award interest u/s 38(1).

All. HC, **Paramount Prop Build Pvt. Ltd. v. State of UP & Ors.**, WRIT – C – No. 12573 of 2020

[16] Once intention of drawer to not make payment is clear – drawee need not wait for 15 days to file complaint.





All. HC, **Ravi Dixit v. State of U.P.**, Appl. u/s 482 No. 14068 of 2020

## CRIMINAL LAW

[17] Finding of guilt cannot be based purely on refusal to undergo identification parade.

Supreme Court, **Rajesh @ Sarkari v. State of Haryana**, Criminal Appeal 1648 of 2019

[18] Default bail cannot be denied to accused just because he filed application u/s 439 instead of 167(2) CrPC.

Del. HC, **Subhash Bahadur @ Upender v. The State (NCT of Delhi)**, Bail Appln. 3141/2020

[19] Guidelines on payment of maintenance in matrimonial matters issued.

Supreme Court, **Rajnesh v. Neha**, Criminal Appeal No. 730 of 2020

[20] Minor's consent for sexual intercourse relevant for deciding bail application of rape accused.

H.P. HC, **Rohit Sharma v. State of Himachal Pradesh**, Cr.MP(M) No. 2001 of 2020

[21] Constitutional validity of Sections 29 and 30 of the POCSO Act which creates a reverse burden of proof on the accused upheld.

Ker. HC, **Justin @ Renjith v. Union of India**, W.P. (C) No. 15564 of 2017

[22] Bail cannot be refused on

ground that it will encourage vigilantism or send wrong message to society.

Ker. HC, **Bhagyalakshmi v. State of Kerala**, Bail Appl.No.6686 of 2020

## INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

[23] Notification – DPIIT - Patents (2nd Amendment) Rules, 2020 notified –patent rules simplified.

Notification **G.S.R. 689(E)**, [Click Here](#)

## PUBLIC POLICY

[24] Notification –Cab. Sec. – Govt. of India (Allocation of Business) Three Hundred and Fifty Seventh Amendment Rules, 2020 notified –Govt. to regulate Over the Top (OTT) platforms.

Notification **S.O. 4040(E)**, [Click Here](#)

[25] Notification –Min. of Comm. - Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Amendment) Rules, 2020 notified –order suspending telecom/interent services shall not be in operation for more than 15 days.

Notification **G.S.R. 694(E)**, [Click Here](#)

[26] Delay in delivery of reasoned judgments violates fundamental right to life.

Supreme Court, **Balaji Baliram Mupade v. State of Maharashtra**, C.A. 3564/2020

[27] Insulting or abusing SC-ST person within four walls of a house is not an offence under SC-ST Act.

Supreme Court, **Hitesh Verma v. State of Uttarakhand**, Criminal Appeal No. 707 of 2020

[28] No unnecessary adjournments should be granted in criminal cases pending against legislators across the country.

Supreme Court, **Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay v. Union of India**, W.P. (Civil) No. 699/2016

[29] Leading peaceful, non-violent procession a fundamental right – criminal proceedings quashed.

Ker. HC, **Dominic Presentation v. State of Kerala**, CrI.MC. No.7029 of 2018

[30] Citizens entitled to breathe fresh air –sale/use of firecrackers in Delhi/NCR banned.

NGT, **Tribunal on its own motion v. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change & Ors.**, Original Application No. 249/2020



1429

Henry VI was crowned King of England at age eight. He acceded to the throne at the age of nine months following the death of Charles VI.

The Treaty of the Pyrenees was signed, ending the Franco-Spanish war of 1648-59.

1659

1860

Abraham Lincoln was elected as the 16th U.S. President and the first Republican.

Russian Bolsheviks overthrew the provisional government of Alexander Kerensky in Petrograd.

1917

1967

Carl Stokes became the first African American mayor in the U.S., elected mayor of Cleveland, Ohio.

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