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PIB SUMMARY

PIB Magazine Summarized in Easy To Understand Form



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Proposed Amendments to Indecent Representation of Women Act, 1986

Based on the observations made by Parliamentary Standing Committee and recommendation made by the National Commission for Women on the basis of consultation with civil society groups and likeminded individuals, WCD has proposed amendments in IRWA keeping in mind the recent technological advancement in the field of communications such as social media platforms, over the top services etc.

Proposed Amendments -

The reformulated Bill proposes following amendments in the parent Act:

- Amendment in definition of term **advertisement** to include **digital form or electronic form or hoardings, or through SMS, MMS etc.**
- Amendment in definition of distribution to include publication, license or uploading using computer resource, or communication device or in
- Insertion of a new definition to define the term **publish**
- Amendment in section 4 to include that No person shall **publish or distribute or cause to be published or cause to be distributed by any means any material** which contains indecent representation of women in any form:
- Penalty similar to that provided under the Information Technology Act, 2000
- Creation of a Centralised Authority under the aegis of National Commission of Women (NCW). This Authority will be headed by Member Secretary, NCW, having representatives from Advertising Standards Council of India, Press Council of India, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and one member having experience of working on women issues.
- This Centralised Authority will be authorized to receive complaints or grievances regarding any programme or advertisement broadcasted or publication and investigate/ examine all matters relating to the indecent representation of women.

Background -

The Government of India has enacted the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act (IRWA), 1986 to prohibit indecent representation of women through advertisements, publications, writings, paintings, figures or in any other manner. Since the enactment of the Act, technological revolution has resulted in the development of new forms of communication, such as internet, multi-media messaging,

cable television, over-the-top (OTT) services and applications e.g. Skype, Viber, WhatsApp, Chat On, Snapchat, Instagram etc.

Operation Nistar

A rescue operation carried out by Indian Navy in Gulf of Aden to rescue stranded 38 Indian nationals from Yemeni island of **Socotra** in the aftermath of **Cyclone Mekenu**.

Janaushadhi Suidha

The government has launched the 'JANAUSHADHI SUVIDHA', the Oxo-biodegradable Sanitary Napkin, under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP). The affordable sanitary napkins will now become available at over 3600 Janaushadhi Kendras functional in 33 States/UTs across India.

About Janaushadhi Suidha -

Jan Aushadhi Suidha comes with a special additive, which makes Sanitary napkin biodegradable when it comes in contact with oxygen after being discarded. This would ensure 'Swachhta, Swasthya and Suidha' for the underprivileged Women of India and go a long way in the achievement of vision of Affordable and Quality Healthcare for All.

RAIL MADAD

Minister of Railways & Coal today launched a new App "Rail Madad" – An App to expedite & streamline passenger grievance redressal. **RPGRAMS** (Railway Passenger Grievance Redressal and Management System), which has been developed by Northern Railway (Delhi Division) and comprises many novel features including 'Rail Madad' – a mobile App to register complaints by passengers through mobile phone/web. It relays real time feedback to passengers on the status of redressal of their complaints-

the passenger gets an instant ID through SMS on registration of complaint followed by a customized SMS communicating the action taken thereon by Railway. RPROGRAMS integrates all the passenger complaints received from multiple modes (14 offline/online modes currently) on a single platform, analyzes them holistically and generates various types of management reports which enable the top management to continuously monitor the pace of grievance redressal as well as evaluate the performance of field units/ trains/ stations on various parameters viz cleanliness, catering, amenities etc. It also identifies weak/deficient areas and laggard trains/stations for undertaking focussed corrective actions.

Salient features -

- Rail **MADAD (Mobile Application for Desired Assistance During travel)** registers a complaint with minimum inputs from passenger(option of photo also available), issues unique ID instantly and relays the complaint online to relevant field officials for immediate action. The action taken on complaint is also forwarded to passenger through SMS, thus fast tracking the entire process of redressal of complaints through digitisation.
- Rail **MADAD** also displays various helpline numbers (e.g., Security, Child helpline etc) and provides direct calling facility for immediate assistance in one easy step.
- All modes of filing complaints including offline and online modes are being integrated on a single platform, therefore the resultant management reports present a holistic picture of weak/deficient areas and enable focused corrective action by officials concerned.
- The data analysis would also generate trends on various performance parameters of a selected train/station like cleanliness, amenities etc thus making managerial decision more precise and effective.
- Hierarchy based dashboard/reports will be available for management at Division /Zonal/Railway board level and sent through auto email to every concerned officer weekly.

3000 Van Dhan Kendras to be setup

The Government proposes to set up 3000 Van Dhan Kendras involving 30,000 SHGs across the country under the Van Dhan Scheme of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. In a new game changing initiative, the

Prime Minister launched the Van Dhan Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs and TRIFED on 14th April, 2018 during the celebrations of Ambedkar Jayanti at Bijapur Chhattisgarh.

Details -

Under Van Dhan Scheme, 10 Self Help Groups of 30 Tribal gatherers each have been constituted at Bijapur, Chhattisgarh. They are then trained and provided with working capital to add value to the products, which they collect from the Jungle. Working under the leadership of Collector, these groups can then market their products not only within the States but also outside the States. Training and technical support is provided by TRIFED.

About Van Dhan Mission -

- Van Dhan Mission is an initiative for targeting livelihood generation for tribals by harnessing non-timber forest produces, the true wealth of forest i.e. Van Dhan with an estimated value: Rs.2 Lakh Cr. per year.
- It shall promote and leverage the collective strength of tribals (through SHGs) to achieve scale.
- It also aims at build upon the traditional knowledge & skill sets of tribals by adding technology & IT for value addition.
- Further it is to set-up tribal community owned Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (the Kendra) in predominantly forested tribal districts.
- A Kendra shall constitute of 10 tribal SHGs, each comprising of upto 30 tribal NTFP gatherers or artisans i.e. about 300 beneficiaries per Kendra.

India discovers a new planet

A Team of scientists and engineers led by Prof. Abhijit Chakraborty of Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad, discovered a sub-Saturn or super-neptune size planet (mass of about 27 Earth Mass and size of 6 Earth Radii) around a Sun-like star. The planet will be known as EPIC 211945201b or K2-236b.

Details -

- The discovery was made by measuring the mass of the planet using the indigenously designed “PRL Advance Radial-velocity Abu-sky Search” (PARAS) spectrograph integrated with 1.2m Telescope at PRL's Gurushikhar Observatory in Mount Abu, India.
- With this discovery, India has joined a handful of countries, which have discovered planets around stars beyond our solar system. Further, PARAS is the first of its kind spectrograph in Asia, which can measure the mass of a planet going around a star. Very few spectrographs exist around the world that can do such precise measurements.

Dam Safety Bill, 2018

The Union Cabinet, in its meeting chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the proposal for introduction of **Dam Safety Bill, 2018** in the Parliament. The objective of this Bill is to help develop uniform, countrywide procedures for ensuring the safety of dams.

Details -

- The provisions of the Dam Safety Bill 2018 will empower the dam safety institutional set-ups in both the Centre and States and will also help in standardizing and improving dam safety practices across the country.
- The Dam Safety Bill, 2018 addresses all issues concerning dam safety including regular inspection of dams, Emergency Action Plan, comprehensive dam safety review, adequate repair and maintenance funds for dam safety, Instrumentation and Safety Manuals.
- It lays the onus of dam safety on the dam owner and provides for penal provisions for commission and omission of certain acts.

NDSA -

The Bill provides for establishment of **National Dam Safety Authority** as a regulatory body which shall discharge functions to implement the policy, guidelines and standards for dam safety in the country.

NCDS -

The Bill provides for constitution of a **National Committee on Dam Safety** which shall evolve dam safety policies and recommend necessary regulations as may be required for the purpose. On similar lines, a **State Committee on Dam Safety** will also be established.

