

7th August, 2021

7th National Handloom Day

Textile Ministry will celebrate the 7th National Handloom Day today. The handloom weaving community will be honoured for its contribution in the socio-economic development of this country. It is a sector that directly addresses women's empowerment with over 70 percent of all weavers and allied workers being female. Three Handloom Craft Villages at Kovalam in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, Mohpara Village, District Golaghat in Assam and Kanihama, Budgam in Srinagar are being set up by the Ministry in collaboration with the State governments. The aim behind setting up the craft villages is to provide additional attraction for domestic and international tourists and promote the well-known Handloom and Handicraft Products of the region. In the 75th year of independence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged the people to buy Indian Handloom products and showcase their grandeur.

Marital rape a good ground to claim divorce, says Kerala HC

Marital rape is a good ground to claim divorce, the Kerala High Court has said, adding that the law not recognising marital rape under penal law does not inhibit the court from recognising the same as a form of cruelty to grant divorce.

Rejecting the appeal of a husband against divorce, a division bench of the Kerala High Court said that treating a wife's body as something that is owed to the husband and committing sexual acts against her will is nothing but marital rape. "Right to respect for his or her physical and mental integrity encompass bodily integrity, any disrespect or violation of bodily integrity is a violation of individual autonomy," said the bench in its order dated July 30, a copy of which was uploaded on 6th August, 2021.

The court also observed that the need of the hour is that marriage and divorce must come under secular law. A bench of Justices A Muhamed Mustaque and Dr Kauser Edappagath said there cannot be any difficulty in having a common code of law for all communities at least for marriage and divorce.

Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill passed in Lok Sabha

The Lok Sabha today passed the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021 amid din with voice vote. The Bill provides that no tax demand will be raised in future on the basis of the retrospective amendment for any indirect transfer of Indian assets if the transaction was undertaken before 28th May, 2012. It is further proposed to provide that the demand raised for indirect transfer of Indian assets made before the date will be nullified on fulfilment of specified conditions.

The Bill also proposes to refund the amount paid in these cases without any interest thereon. The bill seeks to amend the Income Tax Act of 1961 and the Finance Act of 2012.

Central Universities (Amendment) Bill passed in Lok Sabha

The Lok Sabha today also passed the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2021 amid din without any discussion. The Bill intended to establish a new Central University in Ladakh to ensure an increase in accessibility and quality of higher education and research for the people of the Union territory. At present, there is no Central University in Ladakh and the new University will be named as Sindhu Central University.

Khel Ratna Award renamed as Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

The Khel Ratna Award has been named as Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the decision was taken following a number of requests from citizens across the country to rename it.

In a series of tweets today, Mr Modi said, Major Dhyan Chand was among India's foremost sportspersons who brought honour and pride for India. He said, it is befitting that the nation's highest sporting honour will be named after Major Dhyan Chand.

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