

PATRIKA

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First

English

UK Supreme Court Upholds Judicial Review on Post-Brexit Immigration Rules

Britain's top court has ruled that certain post-Brexit visa eligibility criteria must be reconsidered for procedural fairness.

The United Kingdom Supreme Court delivered a judgment clarifying the scope of judicial review applicable to post-Brexit immigration rules issued by the Home Office. The court held that while the government retained broad discretion in setting visa policy, procedural fairness requirements remained binding.

The decision addresses concerns raised by immigration advocates regarding the implementation of the new points-based system. The ruling does not overturn policy but mandates fresh consideration of certain eligibility determinations where procedural safeguards were allegedly breached.

INSIDE BACK

Supreme Court Issues Guidelines on Digital Evidence Admissibility

The apex court has clarified procedural standards for authenticating electronic records in criminal proceedings.

The Supreme Court of India has issued comprehensive guidelines governing the admissibility of digital evidence in criminal trials, addressing lacunae in the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. The judgment emphasizes the necessity of establishing an unbroken chain of custody for electronic materials and requires courts to examine metadata and forensic integrity before relying on such evidence.

The ruling stipulates that experts must provide detailed affidavits on the collection, storage, and retrieval methodology of digital records. Courts have been directed to exercise heightened scrutiny when digital evidence forms the cornerstone of prosecution cases, particularly in cybercrime matters.

Legal practitioners have welcomed the clarification, noting that standardized protocols will reduce litigation over evidence admissibility. The guidelines apply to all digital materials, including audio recordings, digital photographs, and computer-generated documents.

EU Court of Justice Rules on Digital Services Act Compliance Timeline

European judges clarify deadlines and enforcement mechanisms for technology platforms under new digital regulation.

The Court of Justice of the European Union has issued guidance on the implementation timeline and compliance obligations imposed by the Digital Services Act on online platforms. The judgment addresses

interpretive questions raised by member states regarding the scope of obligations for designated very large online platforms.

The ruling establishes that platforms must implement risk mitigation measures within specified periods and maintain transparent record-keeping. The court also clarified the burden of proof in enforcement proceedings brought by national regulators, requiring proportionality assessments before imposing penalties.

Delhi High Court Recognizes Limited Contractual Rights of Live-in Partners

A bench has ruled that unmarried cohabitants may enforce certain contractual obligations despite lack of statutory recognition.

The Delhi High Court has delivered a judgment acknowledging that individuals in long-term cohabitation relationships can seek redressal for breach of consensual agreements governing property, finances, and household arrangements. The court distinguished between statutory matrimonial rights and contractual entitlements arising from express or implied agreements.

The bench held that courts should not decline jurisdiction merely because parties lack formal marital status, provided the dispute concerns breach of contract or unjust enrichment. The ruling applies neutral contract law principles rather than importing concepts from family law statutes.

The decision addresses a significant gap in jurisprudence, permitting live-in partners to approach courts for specific performance or damages without requiring recognition of cohabitation as equivalent to marriage.

Singapore High Court Recognises New Tort: Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress

Singapore's courts expand tort law by recognising a standalone claim for deliberate psychological harm without physical injury.

The Singapore High Court has recognised intentional infliction of emotional distress as a distinct tort, moving beyond traditional common law categories. The decision establishes that a claimant may recover damages for severe psychological injury caused by deliberately outrageous conduct, even absent physical harm or established torts.

The court set a stringent threshold, requiring conduct that falls outside the bounds of civilised conduct and causes severe emotional distress. The judgment signals alignment with evolving jurisprudence in Commonwealth jurisdictions while maintaining judicial restraint to prevent frivolous claims.

Ministry of Corporate Affairs Amends Rules on Director Disqualification

New rules clarify grounds and procedures for declaring corporate directors ineligible from office.

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs has notified amendments to the Companies (Disqualification of Directors) Rules, establishing clearer parameters for imposing lifetime and temporary disqualifications. The revised rules strengthen provisions against directors convicted of fraud, financial misconduct, or violations of environmental and labour statutes.

Under the amended framework, disqualification proceedings must be concluded within twelve months, and appellate remedies have been streamlined. The rules introduce a rehabilitation mechanism permitting directors disqualified for five years or more to petition for reinstatement based on demonstrated compliance and reformed conduct.

Practitioners note that the amendments align Indian corporate governance with international best practices whilst providing procedural fairness to affected directors through transparent criteria and defined timelines.

France Enacts Law Restricting Environmental Litigation Standing

French parliament passes legislation tightening requirements for NGOs and citizens to challenge environmental permits.

France has enacted legislation that modifies standing requirements for environmental litigation under the Aarhus Convention framework. The law introduces stricter tests for non-governmental organisations seeking to challenge administrative decisions affecting environmental matters, requiring demonstrated direct interest and exhaustion of administrative remedies.

Environmental advocates have expressed concern that the legislation may reduce public participation in environmental governance. The law takes effect within six months and applies to pending and future cases. The government justified the measure as necessary to prevent abuse of procedural mechanisms.

COVER STORY

Reserve Bank Tightens Regulations on Unregistered Fintech Lending Platforms

The central bank has issued revised directions imposing stricter licensing and consumer protection norms on digital lending entities.

The Reserve Bank of India has issued updated regulatory directions requiring all entities engaged in

lending through digital platforms to obtain explicit registration or licensing. The norms mandate fintech lenders to maintain prescribed capital adequacy ratios, implement robust cybersecurity protocols, and maintain transparent pricing disclosures.

The revised framework mandates mandatory grievance redressal mechanisms within forty-eight hours and prohibits predatory lending practices including excessive interest rates and coercive collection methods. Platforms must conduct credit assessments before advancing loans and maintain detailed records of customer interactions.

Consumer advocates have praised the regulations for addressing gaps in oversight of the burgeoning digital lending sector, particularly in protection of retail borrowers. Implementation timelines extend to regulated entities with phase-wise compliance schedules.

Canada Supreme Court Clarifies Duty to Consult Indigenous Peoples on Land-Use Decisions

Canadian apex court refines procedural and substantive obligations when government approves resource projects on traditional territories.

The Supreme Court of Canada has issued guidance on the Crown's duty to consult and accommodate Indigenous nations before approving development on their traditional territories. The decision clarifies that consultation must be meaningful and occur early in decision-making, not merely as formal notification.

The court held that inadequate consultation does not automatically invalidate decisions but may require judicial review if the Crown failed to genuinely consider Indigenous concerns. The ruling emphasises that the scope and depth of consultation must match the significance of the decision and its potential impact on Indigenous rights and interests.

Bombay High Court Upholds Right to Conscience Objection in Medical Treatment

The court recognizes healthcare professionals' qualified right to decline participation in procedures conflicting with deeply held ethical beliefs.

The Bombay High Court has ruled that registered medical practitioners possess a limited right to conscientious objection concerning procedures fundamentally contrary to their ethical convictions, provided patient safety and access to treatment remain uncompromised. The judgment establishes a three-part test: the belief must be sincere and substantial, non-emergency status, and availability of alternative treatment avenues.

The court mandated that healthcare institutions maintain sufficient non-objecting personnel to ensure uninterrupted patient access to lawful procedures. Objecting practitioners must provide timely notice and

facilitate referrals without discriminatory intent.

The decision balances physician autonomy against patient rights, establishing that conscience objection does not override statutory obligations in emergencies or entitle practitioners to discriminate based on patient characteristics.

Germany Constitutional Court Invalidates Carbon Reduction Budget Allocation

Karlsruhe court finds that deferring climate targets to future budgets violates fundamental rights of young people.

Germany's Federal Constitutional Court has struck down provisions of the climate protection legislation that allowed the government to defer substantial carbon reduction obligations beyond 2030. The court reasoned that shifting burdens to future generations violated the constitutional rights of young citizens under climate change scenarios.

The judgment establishes that climate policy must distribute reduction targets fairly across generations and cannot rely on unspecified future measures. The ruling has prompted the government to accelerate emissions-reduction timelines and revise its climate strategy to comply with constitutional requirements.

Patent Office Issues Guidelines on AI-Generated Invention Patentability

The Indian Patent Office has clarified standards for examining applications involving artificial intelligence systems as inventive sources.

The Controller of Patents has issued clarificatory guidelines addressing the patentability of inventions generated, designed, or optimized by artificial intelligence systems. The guidelines maintain the requirement of a natural person as applicant or co-applicant whilst permitting AI involvement in the inventive process itself.

Examiners have been directed to evaluate the technical contribution independently of the origin of ideation and to assess enablement and non-obviousness without prejudice toward AI-assisted innovations. The guidelines prohibit registration of AI systems themselves as inventors but permit disclosure of AI involvement in specification documents.

Industry observers note the pragmatic approach recognizes technological reality whilst respecting the statutory framework requiring human inventors, establishing India's position on an evolving global issue.

Australia Federal Court Orders Tech Firm to Remove Non-Consensual Intimate Images

Australian court issues first civil injunction requiring immediate removal of image-sharing content posted without consent.

The Federal Court of Australia has granted a civil injunction requiring an online platform to remove and prevent re-uploading of non-consensual intimate images. The decision represents an expansion of tort remedies available to victims under Australian common law and the Crimes Act.

The court found that the platform operator had sufficient notice and control over content to incur liability. The injunction includes mechanisms for expedited removal and penalties for non-compliance. The ruling provides a civil-law pathway for victims seeking swift remedies without pursuing criminal prosecution.

Supreme Court Directs States to Establish Specialized Tribunals for Environmental Disputes

The apex court has mandated creation of state-level environmental tribunals to expedite resolution of pollution and conservation matters.

The Supreme Court has issued directions requiring all state governments to establish dedicated environmental dispute tribunals within eighteen months, addressing the backlog of pollution-related litigation clogging regular civil courts. The tribunals shall comprise judicial officers and environmental experts, functioning with expedited procedures.

The directive applies to disputes concerning industrial pollution, wetland encroachment, mining violations, air quality breaches, and unauthorized construction in protected areas. Tribunals are empowered to grant interim reliefs, impose interim directions, and award compensation for environmental damage.

Environmental advocates have lauded the step as essential infrastructure for sustainable governance, whilst industry representatives have sought clarity on tribunal composition and appeals procedures to ensure balanced adjudication.

BACK COVER

Japan Enacts Law Strengthening Whistleblower Protections and Internal Reporting Mechanisms

Japanese legislation expands protections for employees reporting corporate misconduct and mandates internal compliance channels.

Japan has enacted comprehensive whistleblower protection legislation aimed at preventing corporate and governmental misconduct. The law prohibits retaliation against employees reporting violations of law,

regulations, or internal policies, extending protections to both internal and external reporting channels. The legislation establishes minimum standards for internal whistleblower systems and requires organisations to maintain confidentiality and independence in handling reports. Covered organisations face penalties for retaliation. The law takes effect over a phased implementation schedule and aligns Japanese standards with OECD recommendations on anti-corruption governance.

Companies Act Amendment Expands Audit Committee Independence Requirements

Parliament has amended provisions mandating stricter independence criteria for corporate audit committee membership.

Recent amendments to the Companies Act, 2013 have strengthened independence requirements for audit committee members, prohibiting representation by employee directors, promoter relatives, or parties with material transactions with the company. The revised definition of independence aligns Indian standards more closely with global corporate governance frameworks.

The amendments mandate that at least one audit committee member possess accounting or finance qualifications, reinforcing technical expertise requirements. Tenure restrictions have been introduced, limiting consecutive service to prevent entrenchment within audit oversight.

Listed companies have been granted transitional periods to restructure committees accordingly. Compliance is scheduled for enforcement within six months, with the Stock Exchange of India issuing procedural circulars to facilitate orderly implementation.

European Court of Human Rights Restricts Facial Recognition in Policing

Strasbourg court finds that mass facial recognition surveillance violates privacy rights without strict legal safeguards.

The European Court of Human Rights has held that mass facial recognition used by law enforcement without specific legislative safeguards constitutes an unjustified interference with Article 8 privacy rights. The court emphasised that automated biometric systems require explicit statutory authority, defined scope, and oversight mechanisms.

The judgment does not prohibit facial recognition technology but mandates that any deployment must be proportionate, transparent, and subject to judicial or independent review. The ruling is expected to influence policing practices across European jurisdictions and prompt legislative reform in countries lacking specific facial recognition regulation.

Kerala High Court Recognizes Inheritance Rights of Adopted Children in Muslim Law

The court has ruled that adopted children possess succession rights comparable to biological heirs under reformed interpretation of Islamic jurisprudence.

The Kerala High Court has delivered a landmark judgment extending full inheritance rights to adopted children under Muslim personal law, departing from classical interpretations restricting succession of adoptees. The bench held that contemporary principles of equality and justice warrant reinterpretation of historical jurisprudence concerning adoption and succession.

The court applied the doctrine of necessity and reasonableness to conclude that denying inheritance to legally adopted children violates constitutional principles of non-discrimination. The ruling permits adoptees to inherit from adoptive parents' estates equivalent to biological heirs.

The decision remains subject to ongoing debate within religious communities, with some scholars contending that personal law adjudication on such matters lies beyond judicial authority. Practitioners anticipate appeals and potential legislative clarification.

New Zealand Court of Appeal Finds Climate Inaction Justiciable

Kiwi court holds that failure to meet emissions reduction targets is subject to judicial review under administrative law.

New Zealand's Court of Appeal has determined that decisions or inaction by the government regarding climate emissions reduction targets constitute justiciable matters amenable to judicial review. The court rejected arguments that climate policy fell outside judicial cognisance as a purely political question. The decision permits environmental claimants to seek review of the Crown's failure to implement promised emissions reductions or to adopt adequate climate strategies. The ruling may prompt similar findings in other common law jurisdictions and clarifies the relationship between judicial review and executive climate action.

Central Board of Indirect Taxes Issues Clarification on GST on Digital Services

The tax authority has clarified applicability and valuation of goods and services tax on emerging digital service categories.

The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs has released detailed guidance on GST classification and valuation of digital services including software-as-a-service, digital content delivery, cybersecurity services, and data analytics. The clarification addresses the distinction between taxable services and

non-taxable supplies, with emphasis on location of recipient and supply place determination. The authority has specified that imported digital services supplied to Indian residents attract eighteen percent GST, irrespective of vendor location, with input tax credit availability restricted to registered businesses. Hybrid models combining physical and digital elements require disaggregation for accurate tax treatment.

Taxpayers have appreciated the guidance reducing disputes on valuation, though complexities regarding cross-border transactions and cryptocurrency-denominated payments remain subject to ongoing administrative interpretation.

Mexico Supreme Court Tightens Standards for Pretrial Detention in Drug Cases

Mexico's apex court mandates stricter proof of flight risk and community danger before ordering detention without trial.

Mexico's Supreme Court of Justice has issued binding guidance tightening evidentiary standards for pretrial detention in drug-trafficking prosecutions. The court held that mere allegations of narcotics offences are insufficient; prosecutors must present concrete evidence of flight risk or danger to the community.

The ruling addresses concerns about prolonged detention without conviction and responds to international criticism regarding judicial independence. The decision does not preclude detention but requires individualised risk assessments based on specific evidence rather than categorical presumptions linked to offence severity.

National Green Tribunal Establishes Precedent on Corporate Environmental Liability

The tribunal has held corporations liable for remediation costs of legacy pollution despite statutory immunity provisions.

The National Green Tribunal has delivered a significant ruling establishing that corporations cannot invoke statutory immunities or statutory authority defences to escape environmental remediation obligations for historical contamination. The bench distinguished between operational immunity under pollution statutes and substantive liability for environmental damage.

The tribunal mandated that corporations bearing responsibility for polluted sites must undertake comprehensive remediation, including soil testing, groundwater treatment, and community health monitoring, irrespective of permit history or regulatory compliance during the contamination period. The decision represents a shift toward strict environmental liability, establishing precedent that evolving environmental consciousness and scientific understanding may override historical regulatory permissions.

Implementation has prompted industrial associations to seek clarity on cost allocation methodologies and remediation timelines.

South Africa Constitutional Court Expands Definition of Discrimination

Johannesburg court recognises indirect discrimination arising from facially neutral policies with disparate impact on protected groups.

South Africa's Constitutional Court has expanded discrimination doctrine to encompass indirect discrimination, where apparently neutral rules or practices disproportionately disadvantage persons with protected characteristics. The judgment establishes that discriminatory effect, regardless of discriminatory intent, may constitute unlawful discrimination.

The ruling requires employers, service providers, and state actors to assess policies for disparate impact and justify continued application if alternatives exist. The decision is expected to prompt organisational audits of hiring, promotion, and service-delivery practices across both public and private sectors.

Ministry of Consumer Affairs Strengthens Rules Against Unfair Contract Terms

New regulations expand prohibited unfair terms in consumer contracts and enhance enforcement mechanisms.

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs has amended the Consumer Protection (Unfair Contract Terms) Rules, significantly broadening the definition of prohibited unfair terms in consumer agreements. The revised rules explicitly prohibit clauses exempting suppliers from liability, imposing unilateral variation rights, and shifting dispute resolution burdens entirely onto consumers.

The amendments mandate that standard-form contracts be presented in clear, intelligible language and establish a rebuttable presumption that terms contradicting statutory consumer rights are unfair. State consumer commissions have been empowered to issue interim directions restraining unfair contractual practices without awaiting formal complaints.

E-commerce platforms and service providers have been directed to implement systems enabling consumers to identify and contest unfair terms prior to transaction completion. Non-compliance invites penalties and reputational action through consumer commission publicity orders.

UK Government Introduces Online Safety Bill: Regulating Digital Content Liability

Britain's parliament passes legislation establishing duty of care for social media platforms and online service providers.

The United Kingdom has enacted the Online Safety Bill, introducing a statutory duty of care requiring digital platforms and service providers to mitigate harms to users. The legislation establishes Ofcom as the primary regulator, empowered to issue codes of conduct and impose penalties for non-compliance. The law addresses child safety, prevention of illegal content, and protection of free expression online. Platforms must implement systems for user reporting, content moderation transparency, and age verification where appropriate. The regime balances platform accountability with concerns regarding regulatory overreach and free speech implications.

Madras High Court Rules on Procedural Rights of Informal Sector Workers

The court has extended statutory procedural protections to unregistered workers in informal enterprises.

The Madras High Court has delivered a judgment extending procedural rights enumerated in the Code of Civil Procedure and statutes governing formal sector workers to informal sector labourers engaged in unregistered enterprises. The bench held that statutory silence regarding informal workers does not permit their exclusion from foundational procedural protections.

The ruling mandates that labour boards provide dispute resolution mechanisms for wage claims, unfair dismissal grievances, and occupational injury compensation applicable to informal workers, with simplified procedures accounting for literacy and resource constraints. Employment documentation, whilst desirable, is not a prerequisite for asserting statutory claims.

Trade unions have welcomed the judgment as recognition of informal sector dignity and access to justice, whilst informal enterprise associations have sought clarification on compliance obligations and remediation scope.

Belgium Court Upholds Ban on Cryptocurrency Mining Near Residential Areas

Brussels court affirms local zoning restrictions on energy-intensive digital asset operations citing environmental and health concerns.

A Belgian court has upheld municipal zoning ordinances prohibiting cryptocurrency mining operations within proximity to residential neighbourhoods. The court found that energy consumption and associated

environmental impacts constitute legitimate grounds for land-use restrictions.

The judgment addresses claims that the ban constituted unlawful interference with business rights. The court emphasised that proportionality testing supported the restriction, given alternatives available to operators and substantive public interests in environmental protection and utility management.

Securities and Exchange Board Notifies Rules on Proxy Voting Mechanisms for Shareholders

The market regulator has mandated enhanced remote voting and proxy participation facilities in listed company proceedings.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India has notified comprehensive rules establishing mandatory remote e-voting mechanisms and streamlined proxy voting procedures for listed company shareholder meetings. The rules require companies to engage independent service providers for vote administration and tabulation, enhancing transparency and mitigating manipulation risks.

Shareholders have been granted extended voting windows, minimum fifteen days' notice, and simplified proxy authorization processes accessible through multiple electronic channels. Institutional investors and proxy advisors have been permitted to issue voting recommendations subject to disclosure requirements and conflict-of-interest protocols.

The regulations aim to increase retail shareholder participation in corporate governance, particularly among geographically dispersed and digitally-enabled investors. Compliance timelines apply progressively, with priority implementation for megacap and large-cap listed entities.

Malaysia High Court Rules on Mandatory Disclosure of Religious Conversion Records

Malaysian court finds that civil authorities must provide certified records of religious status changes upon formal request.

Malaysia's High Court has ruled that state religious authorities must issue certified records documenting religious conversions when formally requested by individuals or their authorised representatives. The decision addresses gaps in administrative documentation and civil registry procedures.

The judgment clarifies that religious conversion is a matter of public record in Malaysia, though specific information access remains subject to privacy and religious law principles. The ruling is expected to facilitate civil administration and reduce disputes regarding personal status in contract and family law matters.

Supreme Court Clarifies Scope of Mediation Confidentiality in Civil Disputes

The apex court has established principles balancing mediation confidentiality against judicial accountability and fraud prevention.

The Supreme Court has clarified the scope and limits of mediation confidentiality in civil disputes, ruling that communications during settlement discussions ordinarily remain confidential but may be disclosed where substantive fraud, judicial misconduct, or threats to public safety are implicated. The judgment establishes a qualified privilege framework distinguishing between settlement negotiations and factual admissions.

The court held that mediators' statements concerning party cooperation or settlement proximity remain protected, but factual assertions concerning pre-existing events may be compellable if material to disputed liability. Parties may waive confidentiality by written consent or through disclosed reliance upon mediation communications.

Legal practitioners have noted the ruling provides necessary guardrails permitting mediation efficacy whilst preventing abuse of confidentiality to shield fraud. Mediation centres have issued protocols ensuring consistent application.

Norway Court Orders Mandatory Gender Recognition Without Medical Procedures

Norwegian court finds that requiring medical intervention for legal gender recognition violates human rights principles.

A Norwegian court has held that legislation requiring transgender persons to undergo medical treatment or psychiatric assessment as a condition of legal gender recognition violates international human rights standards and domestic constitutional protections. The decision aligns with recent European jurisprudence on gender recognition.

The court ordered the government to amend procedures permitting administrative gender recognition based solely on self-identification and declaration. The ruling is expected to prompt legislative reform across Scandinavian countries and influences discussion regarding alignment between medical and legal frameworks for gender identity.

Income Tax Department Issues Guidance on Taxation of Virtual Currency Transactions

The tax authority has clarified reporting obligations and tax treatment applicable to cryptocurrency transactions by individuals.

The Central Board of Direct Taxes has issued detailed guidance classifying virtual currency holdings and transactions for income tax purposes, treating cryptocurrency as an intangible asset attracting capital gains taxation. Individuals acquiring cryptocurrencies through purchase, mining, or airdrops must report fair market value at acquisition as cost basis, with gains calculated upon disposal or conversion. Taxpayers are required to separately disclose virtual currency holdings, transaction particulars, and gains in annual returns, with income tax authorities empowered to crosscheck against exchange transaction records. Loss realisation is permitted within annual income, with specific identification methods required for fungible holdings.

The guidance clarifies that income derived from cryptocurrency staking constitutes taxable income, whilst loss carry-forward remains restricted to eight assessment years. Compliance deadlines align with standard return filing schedules.

Chile Constitutional Court Recognises Right to Environmental Reparation

Santiago court affirms that persons affected by environmental damage have enforceable rights to restoration and compensation.

Chile's Constitutional Court has recognised an independent right to environmental reparation, permitting affected persons and communities to seek restoration of damaged ecosystems and compensation for losses. The judgment interprets Chile's constitutional environmental protections expansively.

The decision requires courts to assess both ecological damage and economic harms suffered by claimants, including diminution in property value and loss of livelihood. The ruling is expected to facilitate environmental litigation and increase liability exposure for corporations and state actors whose activities cause environmental degradation.

Karnataka High Court Recognizes Limited Succession Rights of Same-Sex Partners

The court has granted posthumous succession and inheritance recognition to surviving same-sex cohabitants under specific circumstances.

The Karnataka High Court has delivered a judgment acknowledging that surviving partners in long-term same-sex relationships may assert limited succession rights over inherited property and succession entitlements comparable to heterosexual cohabitants. The bench applied principles of non-discrimination and unjust enrichment rather than relying upon statutory family law frameworks.

The court held that where cohabitants have publicly cohabited, maintained joint finances, and demonstrated mutual dependence comparable to married couples, surviving partners may petition for succession rights and claim provident fund benefits. However, statutory entitlements mandating marital

status remain unavailable absent legislative amendment.

The ruling acknowledges the legal position of same-sex partnerships pending legislative clarification, enabling courts to intervene on equitable grounds where relationships establish characteristics of matrimonial association despite statutory non-recognition.

Israel Supreme Court Limits Administrative Detentions in Security Operations

Jerusalem court requires individualized security justification and judicial oversight for prolonged preventive detention decisions.

Israel's Supreme Court has issued a judgment restricting the government's authority to impose administrative detention orders without security justifications grounded in individualised assessments. The court held that blanket categorisations based on membership or residence are insufficient to sustain detention orders.

The ruling mandates periodic judicial review of detention orders and requires authorities to disclose material facts underlying security determinations, subject to classified information protections. The decision reflects tension between security concerns and administrative law principles of proportionality and due process.

Food Safety and Standards Authority Issues Norms on Ultra-Processed Food Labelling

The regulatory body has mandated enhanced labelling and warning systems for highly processed food products.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has notified revised labelling standards requiring manufacturers of ultra-processed foods to prominently display nutrient warning symbols indicating excessive sodium, sugar, or saturated fat content. The front-of-package warning system utilizes standardized symbols enabling rapid consumer identification of nutritional concerns.

Manufacturers must reformulate or relabel products exceeding stipulated thresholds within specified timelines, with phased compliance extending to different product categories. The regulations apply to packaged foods marketed to the general population, with exemptions for specific medical nutritional products and traditional foods.

Public health advocates have welcomed the transparency measures addressing obesity and diet-related disease prevalence, whilst food industry associations have sought technical support for formulation adjustments. Implementation involves coordination with state food authorities and retail compliance monitoring.

Greece Legislation Reforms Property Rights in Bankruptcy Proceedings

Greek parliament enacts law expanding creditor protections and establishing priority mechanisms for various claim categories.

Greece has enacted comprehensive bankruptcy reform legislation restructuring priority schemes and creditor protections in insolvency proceedings. The law establishes distinct categories for secured creditors, unsecured creditors, and tax claims, with specified allocation mechanisms.

The reform aims to enhance predictability and efficiency in bankruptcy administration while balancing debtor rehabilitation objectives with creditor recovery interests. The legislation applies to both personal and corporate bankruptcies and introduces alternative dispute-resolution procedures to reduce court backlog in insolvency matters.

Calcutta High Court Extends Judicial Review to Private Charitable Trusts

The court has held that charitable trusts receiving public funds remain subject to constitutional accountability standards.

The Calcutta High Court has ruled that private charitable trusts and non-governmental organizations receiving substantial government funds, tax exemptions, or regulatory licenses constitute entities exercising state functions subject to fundamental rights protection and writ petition jurisdiction. The bench rejected absolute private law characterization when public resources substantially fund operations. The judgment permits individuals aggrieved by charitable trust decisions violating fair procedure or discrimination principles to petition high courts for judicial review. However, the court distinguished between state action scrutiny applicable to publicly-funded entities and ordinary contractual relationships between charities and private beneficiaries.

The ruling has prompted reassessment of internal governance standards within philanthropic sectors, with legal advisors recommending implementation of transparent procedural safeguards comparable to statutory bodies receiving public funding.

UAE Court Issues Judgment on Intellectual Property Rights in AI-Generated Content

Dubai court determines that AI-generated works are not automatically copyrightable without human creative input or authorship.

A Dubai court has issued a judgment clarifying that copyright protection in the United Arab Emirates does not automatically extend to content generated solely through artificial intelligence algorithms

without substantive human creative contribution. The decision addresses ownership disputes arising from AI-assisted content creation.

The court held that intellectual property rights require identifiable human authorship and creative judgment. However, where humans direct or substantially modify AI-generated outputs, copyright protection may attach to the human-created elements. The ruling provides interim guidance pending potential legislative clarification on AI and intellectual property rights.

National Company Law Tribunal Addresses Fraudulent Share Transfer Disputes

The tribunal has clarified standards and remedies applicable to share transfer disputes involving alleged misrepresentation.

The National Company Law Tribunal has delivered a decision establishing evidentiary standards and remedial frameworks for share transfer disputes where transferees allege fraudulent misrepresentation regarding company assets, liabilities, or operational status. The bench held that companies must maintain disclosure documentation sufficient to establish reasonable reliance premises.

The tribunal established that fraudulent share transfers may be rescinded with restoration of transferred consideration, provided transferees exercise reasonable care in verifying representations. Alternatively, transferees may recover damages where rescission proves impractical due to intervening transactions or corporate restructuring.

The decision clarifies that representation verification responsibilities do not devolve entirely onto transferees but require proportionate candour from transferring shareholders. Due diligence limitations do not excuse deliberately concealed material defects.