

NEWS BULLETIN



EDITORIAL

As a part of our continuing effort to disseminate important legal information, we are pleased to publish the ninth issue of the quarterly 'Legal Counsel News Bulletin' with some important updates, and we could not help but mention the most notable one here: Legal Counsel now has a branch at Chattogram!

CURRENT AFFAIRS

- Our Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been introduced as the "Jewel in the Crown of the Day" on 21st September, 2021 and has been awarded the **SDG Progress Award** at the 9th Annual International Conference of the United Nations Sustainable Development solution network in New York for Bangladesh's steady course in responding to the universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure peace and prosperity for all.
- A fully foreign owned Chinese company named **Meigo (Bangladesh) Ltd.**, is set to **invest \$6.55 Million** to establish a toy manufacturing company in the Dhaka Export Processing Zone.

CRYPTOCURRENCY

A cryptocurrency is a digital or virtual currency that is secured by cryptography. Individual coin ownership records and the transfer of coins are stored in a computerized database called ledger. Most cryptocurrency ledgers, such as Bitcoin, use blockchain technology. A blockchain is a virtual chain of blocks containing information wherein such information is almost impossible to alter, forge or otherwise tamper with. For instance, Bitcoin's blockchains contain data relating to transactions such as the details of the sender and receiver along with the amount of coins transferred. More importantly, each block contains hashes, a unique identifying code, of the previous block and of its own. Therefore, altering one block will subsequently alter all the following blocks making them invalid. Blockchains also use a peer to peer network which essentially means that the ledger is shared by the entire network of users. Once a new block is generated it must be verified by each node before being confirmed. Should a block be tampered with, it shall be rejected by the other users in the network.

Unlike currency, cryptocurrency is decentralized as there is no central regulatory body regulating the transactions. The legal status of cryptocurrencies have not been clearly defined in most countries. As of now, El Salvador and Cuba have accepted and recognized cryptocurrencies. Some countries like the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia have exerted some regulatory oversight on cryptocurrencies and recognize the same as property for taxation purposes. In Bangladesh, the central bank has issued a circular in December 2017 and circulars and notices thereafter from time to time, urging to refrain from trading of virtual currencies. As per the Bangladesh Bank, transactions through any virtual currency will not be allowed as per the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act 1947, the Money Laundering Prevention Act 2012 and the Anti-Terrorism Act 2009. Bangladesh Bank through a Circular dated November 24, 2019 has also advised banks to observe extended due diligence to guard against illegitimate online payments made abroad for the purchase of cryptocurrencies.

The semi-anonymous nature of cryptocurrency transactions has been linked to illegal activities, such as money laundering, terrorist financing and tax evasion. As such, cryptocurrencies are yet to be widely accepted as legal tenders by the governments globally.

DO YOU KNOW

- Under a circular, bearing memo no.03.07.2666.661.51.010.20-77 by NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB) on 17.08.2021 in relation to expats working in Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs), NGOs will be required to state the actual salary of the expats in the appointment letter. Their salaries need to be provided to their individual bank account in Bangladesh from the first month of joining the NGO. The salary statements of the expats need to be submitted to NGOAB annually by the NGOs, otherwise the employment period of the expats cannot be extended.
- Section 23 (2) of Seeds Act, 2018 states that seeds which are imported for research purposes, shall be imported in a prescribed manner and amount as mentioned in this Act; whereas, the Act is silent on the matter. Rule 18(4) of Seed Rules, 2020, however, states that there is no limitation on the amount if the seeds are imported for research purposes. Hence, overall, it appears that any amount of seeds can be imported for research purposes.

ON A SERIOUS NOTE

A surgeon, an architect and a lawyer are having a heated pub discussion about which of their professions is actually the oldest.

The surgeon says, "surgery is the oldest profession. God took a rib from Adam to create Eve and you can't go back further than that."

The architect says, "hold on! In fact, God was the first architect when he created the world out of chaos in 7 days, and you can't go back any further than THAT!"

The lawyer smiles and says, "Gentlemen, Gentlemen...who do you think created the CHAOS?!!!"



LEGAL COUNSEL NEWS

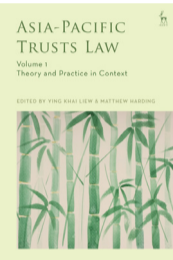


✔ Chattogram Branch Office

Legal Counsel is delighted to announce the opening of its **Chattogram Branch Office** scheduled in October 2021, at the World Trade Centre (Level-3), 102-103 Agrabad C/A, Chattogram, Bangladesh, under the same name, with a view to extend its legal services to the companies operating within Chattogram and adjoining regions. Legal Counsel Chattogram Branch Office will also serve as the Japan Desk, to be operated in collaboration with the Chittagong Chamber of Commerce & Industry (CCCI), Japan-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce & Industry (JBCCI) and JETRO Dhaka.

✔ Bangladesh Investor Booklet 2021

On 29th August 2021, the Nordic Chamber of Commerce & Industry (NCCI) in Bangladesh organised the launching of 'Bangladesh Investor Booklet 2021' in cooperation with the Royal Norwegian Embassy, the Embassy of Denmark and the Embassy of Sweden. Legal Counsel has contributed in preparing the legal and regulatory sections of the Booklet.



✔ Asia-Pacific Trusts Law Volume 1

A world-renowned publisher from the United Kingdom, Bloomsbury-UK, which also publishes amongst others, the famous Harry Potter series, published a book titled Asia-Pacific Trusts Law Volume 1 on 26 August 2021, under its Hart Imprint, and the chapter on 'Trusts Law in Bangladesh' was authored by Barrister Omar H. Khan, Managing Partner & Head of Chambers of Legal Counsel.

✔ 2021 International Advisory Experts Award

Barrister Omar H. Khan, Managing Partner & Head of Chambers of Legal Counsel, has been chosen as a winner of the prestigious '2021 International Advisory Experts Award', in the category of Labour & Employment Law in Bangladesh. The global network of law firms awards lawyers who have been distinguishably successful in certain practice areas.



✔ Permanent Court of Arbitration, the Hague



Legal Counsel has been engaged with international and local arbitration for many years, promoting out-of-court settlements all through. In the last quarter, a team of lawyers of Legal Counsel successfully completed an arbitration hearing, in the virtual platform, before the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the Hague, in a high-valued dispute.

NEW IMPORTANT LEGISLATIONS (July 2021-September 2021)

- ✔ Bangladesh Film Artists Welfare Trust Act, 2021 (Act No. 13 of 2021) - July 05, 2021

PRO-BONO WORKS: PUBLICATIONS AND TV SHOWS (JULY 2021 - SEPTEMBER 2021)

PUBLICATIONS AND INTERVIEWS

- ✔ Sexual Harassment at workplace | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | July 07, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92101>
- ✔ Child Marriage Law | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | July 08, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92102>
- ✔ Indemnity Law | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Kaler Kantho.com | July 10, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92103>
- ✔ Determination of Salary structure and Salary Taxation | Barrister Omar H. Khan, Managing Partner of Legal Counsel | Daily Star | July 27, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92104>
- ✔ Suicide | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | July 28, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92105>
- ✔ Narcotics Control Act 2018 | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Dhaka Post | August 04, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92106>
- ✔ Bangladesh Labour Act 2006 and Regulation 2015 | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | August 11, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92107>
- ✔ Bangladesh Telecommunications (Amendment) Act 2006 | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Songbad Prokas | August 11, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92108>

- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Jamuna TV | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92109>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | JagoNews 24.com | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92110>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla24.com | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92111>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | DBC News| August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92112>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Daily Janakantha | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92113>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Samoyiki | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92114>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop the production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Manabzamin | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92115>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Channel24.bd | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92116>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Jugantor | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92117>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Daily Ittefaq | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92118>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Kalerkantho | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92119>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Samakal | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92120>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Daily Janakantha | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92121>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Dhaka Tribune | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92122>
- ✔ Hindu Marriage and Registration law | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | August 11, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92123>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Business Standard | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92124>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | VOA Bangla | August 14, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92125>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Dhaka Tribune | August 15, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92126>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | United News of Bangladesh | August 15, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92127>
- ✔ Digital Security Act, 2016 | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | August 26, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92129>
- ✔ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie “Faraaz” | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Times of India | August 27, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92130>
- ✔ General Diary | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | September 08, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/92131>

TV SHOWS AND INTERVIEWS

- ▶ Online Shopping and Consumer Protection Law | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | News-Bangla. 24 | July 03, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092101>
- ▶ Hindu Marriage Registration and Divorce Act | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | DBC TV | July 05, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092102>
- ▶ Indemnity Law | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Jago News 24.com | July 09, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092103>
- ▶ Relevant laws of Justice for Child | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla24. | July 17, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092105>
- ▶ The Infectious Diseases (Prevention, Control and Eradication) Act, 2018 | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla24. | July 24, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092106>
- ▶ Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulation Act, 2001 | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | BBC Bangla News | July 29, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092107>
- ▶ Narcotics Control Act 2018 | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla24. | July 31, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092108>
- ▶ Punishment for filing a false case | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla24. | August 07, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092109>
- ▶ Interview with WICCI regarding Ignite Women | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla24. | August 07, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092110>
- ▶ Women's safety at workplace | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | DBC News | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092113>
- ▶ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie "Faraaz" | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Dhaka Post | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092114>
- ▶ Legal notice sent to stop production of Indian movie "Faraaz" | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | BBC Bangla | August 13, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092115>
- ▶ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie "Faraaz" | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Deepto TV | August 14, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092117>
- ▶ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie "Faraaz" | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla24.com | August 14, 2021 <https://legalcounselbd.com/092118>
- ▶ Legal notice to stop production of Indian movie "Faraaz" | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Jamuna TV | August 15, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092119>
- ▶ Trademark Law: Violations, Punishments and Remedies | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla. 24 | August 21, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092120>
- ▶ Rohingya issue | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | ATN News | August 26, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092121>
- ▶ Child Custody and Narcotics Control laws | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | DBC News | September 01, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092123>
- ▶ Metro Rail and Foreign Investment | Barrister Omar H. Khan, Managing Partner of Legal Counsel | News 24 | September 04, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092125>
- ▶ Right of Women employee at workplace | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | DBC News | September 06, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092126>
- ▶ Harassment at workplace | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla24. | September 11, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092127>
- ▶ Divorce | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Ekattor TV | September 12, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092128>
- ▶ Guardianship | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | NewsBangla24. | September 18, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092129>
- ▶ Parents Care Act, 2013 | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | DBC News | September 20, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092130>
- ▶ 'Own life Story' | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Maasranga TV | September 20, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092131>
- ▶ 'E-commerce Law and Regulations of Bangladesh' | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Channel -i | September 24, 2021. <https://legalcounselbd.com/092132>