



Legal Counsel

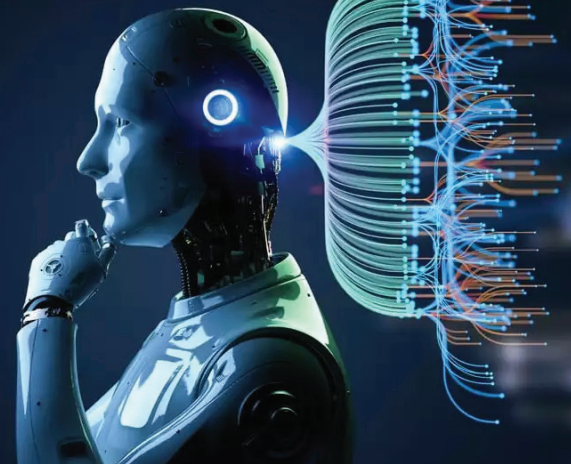
BARRISTERS-ADVOCATES-LEGAL CONSULTANTS



Legal Counsel

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NEWS BULLETIN



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EDITORIAL

As a part of our continuing effort to disseminate key legal information, we are pleased to bring out the twentieth issue of the quarterly 'The Legal Counsel News Bulletin' with some important quarterly updates.

ON A SERIOUS NOTE:

“A robot and a lawyer walked into a bar. The bartender yelled: we don't serve their kind here! The robot looked sad and started to walk out. The bartender said: No buddy, you can stay. It's lawyers we disbar.”



Note : This image was generated using microsoft AI.

THE WORLD OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The emerging use of Artificial Intelligence ('AI') with the assistance of tools such as ChatGPT, Siri, Alexa, Google Assistant, Snapchat AI evidences our heavy reliance on AI. However, while the majority of us are familiar with what AI means, many people are still unaware of the meaning of this term. Therefore, we provide a basic overview on what Artificial Intelligence is and its impact on us so that the ones unfamiliar with its meaning and impact are enlightened.

Artificial Intelligence ('AI') is simply the use of machines to perform certain tasks which would have required human intelligence in order to be performed. The idea of making machines perform tasks using human-like logic and information was first explored by the computer scientist Alan Turing from where the Turing Test was invented. The Turing Test is a test to prove that AI can perform human-like tasks and use human-like logic.

AI has been in use since around the 1950s, however, with technological advancements, it has evolved over time to perform complex functions which would have required a lot more time and effort had those been performed by humans.

A few of the many examples of AI's contribution to societies are listed below:

- AI generated self-checkout services in many convenience stores improve the business' customer service and create room for the employees to work efficiently elsewhere.
- The introduction of AI generated self-driven cars such as Tesla.
- The use of AI in the education system such as Google Bard.
- AI generated self-baggage claims in many airports.
- The very popular ChatGPT used for businesses, education and so on.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

It is indeed undoubtable that AI has made our lives much easier, however, whether it has changed our lives for the better is arguable. It has saved us from the monotony of doing repetitive tasks, helped us save time by completing tasks faster and with more accuracy, and opened up the doors to use the saved up time and effort elsewhere more efficiently.

The use of AI has been prevalent in sectors such as education, finances, also the legal field in some cases, for medical reasons, in the commercial world, and so on. AI has been in use in business for a long time. It assisted in automating tasks done by humans which includes customer service work, lead generation, fraud detection and quality control. In many areas AI can perform tasks more efficiently than humans especially when the task is repetitive, detail-oriented such as analysing large numbers of legal documents to ensure the relevant fields are filled in properly, and that too with more accuracy. AI has also been very useful for disabled people.

On the contrary, with such magical outcomes from using AI lies disadvantages that may lead to a very dark future. Majorly relying on AI for our everyday work including tasks related to professional fields, household, the society and so on, may lead to dangerous outcomes such as an 'apocalypse' in the event of malfunction. Moreover, many may misuse the AI by affecting peoples' private lives thus, increasing cybercrimes.

Apart from these, although AI was first invented and introduced in order to increase efficiency, replacing human labour with AI may make humans incapable in the long run. Furthermore, it is already a threat to human skills like creativity and critical thinking. The composition of literature, poetry, music and computer programmes are not for the AI to perform, however, people are relying on the AI system for such purposes as well. Thereby, the AI system is making us lazier, and wiping off our desire to create new skills, improve existing ones, and to being more innovative. In addition, creative people may lose the motivation to innovate due to the belief that the AI generated result would be much better than human results, hence, their innovations and creations may be unrecognised. Additionally, AI taking actions without possessing semantic understanding may lead to major consequences in the wrong situation. Thus, if not used effectively, AI can weaken human discipline, skill and community, as humans are relying more and more on the AI system with time and the increase in technological advancements. Leaving all the innovative tasks to the bots will lead to an end to human innovations such as AI in the future.

Thus, the existing and possible repercussions of the AI system may be alleviated if it is advanced with the aim to complement human intelligence rather than replace it. As AI tools are simultaneously making us smarter and dumber, stronger and weaker, and more human and less human, regard must be had to the fact that we do not completely rely on such a system the failure or malfunction of which may maroon us, leaving us in the middle of an ocean by stealing the skill to swim.

CURRENT AFFAIRS



The Department of Information and Communication Technology (ICT Department) announced the publication of the National Artificial Intelligence Policy 2024. In particular, the draft policy lays down the objectives, artificial intelligence (AI) principles, AI policy implementation approaches, key sectors for AI development, challenges and mitigation approaches, and policy review. With this policy Bangladesh has recognized the importance, benefits and potential of Artificial intelligence in order to improve the digitalization process and move one step closer to achieving the Smart Bangladesh initiative. The policy is to focus on sectors such as public service, education, agriculture, transportation and health.



The upcoming National Budget of Bangladesh, set to be approved on 30 June 2024, will bring significant changes to the country's economy. With a budget exceeding Taka 7,97,000 crores, the government plans to implement initiatives that will lead to price increases for some goods and make others more affordable. The budget includes proposals to increase supplementary duty on cigarettes and communication expenses, as well as import duty on certain products like furnace oil and soft drinks. However, there are also plans to reduce import duty on essential commodities like rice, edible oil, and sugar, as well as on laptops and healthcare equipment. These changes aim to stimulate sectors like aviation, improve access to essential goods, and support healthcare infrastructure.

DID YOU KNOW ?

AI can help predict the outcome of any case on hand, based on historical data and may also unearth new information and potential arguments to take on any kind of case.

Despite there being ample AI tools to assist lawyers with legal work, sole reliance on AI for deciding case laws and doing other legal work is highly discouraged as the results will not be 100% accurate due to AI lacking semantic capacity.

NEW IMPORTANT LEGISLATIONS (APRIL 2024 - JUNE 2024)

1. The Village Courts (Amendment) Act, 2024
2. The Local Government (Union Councils) (Amendment) Act, 2024
3. National Primary Education Academies Act, 2024
4. Payment and Settlement System Act, 2024
5. Foreign Voluntary Organizations (Control of Acquisition of Immovable Property) Act, 2024
6. Finance Act, 2024

LEGAL COUNSEL NEWS

- ✓ Legal Counsel is delighted to share that in the first 2 quarters of 2024 (January - June), Legal Counsel has achieved 100% success rate in dispute resolution. In the pending litigations where judgments have been pronounced in this period, Legal Counsel has obtained favourable judgements from tribunals and courts of different hierarchies in favour of its clients.
- ✓ Our Senior Associate Barrister Shahrukh Sadek, Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh conducted a workshop titled, "Learning and Sharing Workshop on Sexual Misconduct Investigations in Bangladesh" held at Inter Sector Coordination Group's (ISCG) office in Cox's Bazar.
- ✓ Team LC attended the Annual Dinner of Barristers Association of Bangladesh at Pan Pacific Sonargaon.

PRO-BONO WORKS : PUBLICATIONS AND TV SHOWS (APRIL 2024 - JUNE 2024)

PUBLICATIONS AND INTERVIEWS

- ✓ Father returning abroad is denying us as children. | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | April 21, 2024; <https://www.prothomalo.com/lifestyle/81lc9npxq1>
- ✓ Can children be adopted in Bangladesh? | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | May 15, 2024; <https://www.prothomalo.com/lifestyle/yfigfd1x4x>
- ✓ Is a woman entitled to dower money during her second marriage? | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | May 15, 2024; <https://www.prothomalo.com/lifestyle/7ey9ciylie>

TV SHOWS AND INTERVIEWS

- ▶ Violence against women is not decreasing | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Ekattor TV | April 01, 2024; <https://youtu.be/dOOVAinBTwY>
- ▶ "Middle-income" countries continue to increase the risk of child labor! | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Ekattor TV | May 03, 2024; <https://youtu.be/DzUrFcrOk5o>
- ▶ When will women attain equal right ? | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | DBC NEWS | May 04 2024; https://youtu.be/JDb6IP_f19M
- ▶ There is a penalty for non-registration of marriage | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | The Daily Prothom Alo | May 04 2024; <https://t.ly/cltoM>
- ▶ International Day Of UN Peace Keepers | Barrister Miti Sanjana, Partner of Legal Counsel | Deepto TV | May 29, 2024; <https://www.facebook.com/miti.s.khan/videos/2657936557715433/>

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