IN THIS ISSUE

COURTESY CALLS Page 1
WARMEST CONDOLENCE Page 2
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING Page 1
SUMMARY ON END OF CHILDHOOD REPORT page 3
SUMMARY OF GLOBAL ENERGY ARCHITECTURE PERFORMANCE INDEX REPORT 2017 page 4
THE INFRASTRUCTURE RANKING IN SOUTH ASIA Page 5

SAARCLAW
South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in Law
SAARC Apex Body

HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESIDENT SAARCLAW,
MR. MEHMOOD Y. MANDVIWALLA’S VISIT TO SRI LANKA

Delegation led by Mr. Mehmoond Y. Mandviwalla, President SAARCLAW along with Mr. Nihal Jayamanne, President, SAARCLAW Sri Lanka and Vice-President, SAARCLAW visited Sri Lanka, on 6th April, 2017 to pay courtesy calls to Ministers and to meet other Dignitaries to discuss the holding of upcoming 11th SAARC Chief Justices Conference and 14th SAARCLAW Conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

♦ Courtesy Call on Hon’ble Mr. Justice Priyasath Dep, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Sri Lanka, on 6th April, 2017.
♦ Courtesy Call on Hon’ble Minister Dr. Wijeyadasa Rajapakshe, Ministry of Justice, Sri Lanka on 5th April, 2017.
♦ Meeting with Mr. Esala Weerakoon, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Sri Lanka on 6th April, 2017.

♦ Mr. Mehmoond Y. Mandviwalla, President, SAARCLAW had a meeting with Executive Council Members, Sri Lanka Chapter including Mr. Nihal Jayamanne, Vice President, SAARCLAW, President, SAARCLAW Sri Lanka, Mr. Jayanta Mootatamby Swaminathan, Vice President, SAARCLAW Sri Lanka Chapter, Mr. Kushan De’Alwis, Vice President, SAARCLAW Sri Lanka Chapter, Mr. Dinal Phillips, Vice President, SAARCLAW Sri Lanka Chapter, Ms. Laleenie P. Hulangamuwa, Secretary General, SAARCLAW Sri Lanka Chapter.

♦ Courtesy Call on Hon’ble Mr. D. M. Swaminathan, Ministry of Prison Reforms, Rehabilitation, Resettlement and Hindu Affairs, on 5th April, 2017.

Find more about us at:
An Memorandum Of Understanding has been signed with PLAN International Asia Regional Office on 20th June, 2017 at SAARCLAW Regional Secretariat, Kathmandu Nepal. The signatories being Prof. Purna Man Shakya, Vice President SAARCLAW on behalf of SAARCLAW and Mr. Sven Coppens, Country Director on behalf of Ms. Senait Gebregziabher, Regional Director, Plan International Asia Regional Office.

Memorandum of Understanding

The SAARCLAW Family would like to extend heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of Late. P.N.Bhagwati , Former Chief Justice, Supreme Court of India (12 July 1985 – 20 December 1986), Patron SAACLAW. The SAARCLAW Family would also like to extend heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families of Late. Altamas Kabir, Former Chief Justice of Supreme Court of India (Sept 29, 2012—July 18, 2013) for their sad demise.

WARMEST CONDOLENCES

Late. Mr. Prafullachandra Natwarlal Bhagwati (P. N. Bhagwati), 17th Chief Justice of India (12 July 1985 – 20 December 1986) Justice Bhagwati passed away on 15 June 2017 at the age of 95 after brief illness at this home in New Delhi. He is also considered as a Pioneer of Judicial Activism and introduced the concept of Public Interest Litigation and Absolute Liability in the Indian Judiciary System. He had been a patron in SAARCLAW Executive Council.

Late. Altamas Kabir, 39th Chief Justice of Supreme Court of India (Sept 29, 2012—July 18, 2013) passed away on 19 February, 2017 in Kolkata after prolonged illness from a kidney ailment and related complications. He had participated in the 9th SAARC Chief Justices’ Conference and 12th SAARCLAW Conference in Thimphu, Bhutan.

NEW CHIEF JUSTICES IN SOUTH ASIA

His Excellency Mr. Maithripala Sirisena, Hon’ble President, Sri Lanka during the swearing in ceremony of newly appointed Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Sri Lanka Hon’ble Priyasath Dep, on March 2, 2017

His Excellency Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon’ble President, India during the swearing in ceremony of newly appointed Chief Justice of India Hon’ble Justice Jagdish Singh Khehar on January 4, 2017 (Express Photo by Tashi Tobgyal New Delhi)

Source: http://dailynews.lk/2017/03/02/local/109212/priyasath-
Highlights of 
“End of Childhood Report, 2017” Save the Children

- 263 million Children are out of school.
- 168 million children are involved in child labour.
- 85 millions are involved in hazardous work.
- 156 million children are with stunted growth.
- Approximately 40 million girls (aged 15-19 years) are currently married or in union.
- 15 millions are married as children each year (Under 18 years)
- 4 millions are married as children each year (under 15 years)
- Approximately 28 million children are forced to flee their home
- 11 millions are refugee and asylum seekers
- 17 millions are internally displaced.
- Approximately 16 million girls (15 - 19 years) give birth each year
- 1 million girl are under 15 year give birth each year
- Approximately 8 million boys and girls (0-19 years) die each year
- 75% (6 million) children are under age of 5 years
- Approximately, 75000+ boys and girls under 20 years are murdered in 2015
- Everyday more than 16000+ children die before reaching their 5th birthday mostly from preventable and treatable disease.
- 156 million children under 5 years of age have stunted growth due to malnutrition.
- Over two-thirds of the world’s stunted children live in ten countries and India, Pakistan and Bangladesh are among those ten.
- 263 million children are out of school that’s more than 1 in 6 school aged children worldwide
- About 15 million girls never have any opportunity to learn to read and write in primary school compared to 10 million boys.
- The Gender Gap is wider in South Asia, where 4 out of 5 school girls never enter the formal education system compared to 2 out of 5 boys.
- Children are forced into exploitation and hazardous work.
- 168 million world-wide are involved in child labour - that is more than all the children in Europe.
- Every year around 17 million girls give birth, forcing them to assume adulthood responsibilities and putting their health, education and economic prospect at risk”. More birth to adolescents (95%) occur in developing countries and 9 out of 10 of these birth occur within marriage and or union. Half of all adolescents birth occur in just seven countries and out of these seven two are from South Asia.
- Conflict has forced nearly 1 child in 80 from their homes and some in the front line of war.
- Everyday more than 200 boys and girls around the world are murdered.

Recommendations from the report: Investing in the children
- No child is robbed of a future due to malnutrition
- All Children access to quality education
- No children is robbed of childhood due to marriage or pregnancy
- No young life is cut short due to violence or forced labour

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Rank in World (175 Countries)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: https://campaigns.savethechildren.net/end-of-childhood

Compiled by SAARCLAW Regional Secretariat
Global Energy Architecture Performance Index (EAPI) Report 2017

The EAPI, developed by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with Accenture, looks at trends and the real performance of countries’ energy systems. Since its launch five years ago, the EAPI has contributed to the global benchmarking of energy systems, highlighting topical energy issues and providing guidance on making energy transitions more effective. This year’s report includes the findings from benchmarking 127 countries on 18 indicators covering contribution to economic growth and development, environmental sustainability, and energy access and security. Like any index, the EAPI cannot fully reflect the complexity of energy systems or of managing energy transitions. It can, however, serve to benchmark the performance of national energy systems, providing a basis for comparison across nations. The EAPI offers the latest available global energy data, aiding policy formation by providing a reliable indicator of strengths and target areas for improvement.

Definition of EAPI
The EAPI is a composite indicator, as defined by the organized for economic cooperation. Composite indicators are used to measure and compare the performance of countries and other geographic entities (e.g. regions) on a specific concept. The EAPI measures and compares the energy system performance of different countries based on 18 indicators across three sub-indices, corresponding to the three imperatives of the energy triangle:

1. Economic growth and development: this sub-index measures the extent to which a country’s energy architecture adds or detracts from economic growth and development (six indicators).
2. Environmental sustainability: this sub-index measures the environmental impact of energy supply and consumption within a country’s energy architecture (six indicators).
3. Energy access and security: this sub-index measures the extent to which a country’s energy supply is secure, accessible and diversified (six indicators).

EAPI 2017 RESULTS
Major Energy Consumers countries (India, Sri Lanka etc) continue to struggle to take leading positions on the EAPI. While showing strength in certain areas and early signs of strong trajectories in others. India has slipped in the rankings since the EAPI 2009 benchmark or experienced only marginal areas. Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldives still hasn’t got any ranking in the EAPI 2017 results.

Name of the country | World ranking | South Asia Ranking | Economic Growth and Development | Environmental Sustainability | Energy Access and Security | 2017 Score
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Afghanistan | - | - | - | - | - | -
Bangladesh | 104 | 1 | 0.63 | 0.43 | 0.46 | 0.51
Bhutan | - | - | - | - | - | -
India | 87 | 2 | 0.54 | 0.49 | 0.62 | 0.55
Nepal | 113 | 5 | 0.46 | 0.67 | 0.33 | 0.49
Maldives | - | - | - | - | - | -
Pakistan | 101 | 3 | 0.48 | 0.49 | 0.59 | 0.52
Sri Lanka | 59 | 1- High Ranking | 0.70 | 0.61 | 0.59 | 0.63

Top performers countries in EAPI 2017
Sri Lanka tops (1st) in the ranking of EAPI for the current year (2017). It shows that Sri Lanka economies have successfully balanced performance across each side of the energy triangle in 2017 year. India has maintained 2nd ranking in this year. India is gradually improving its performance on the EAPI. But its energy system continues to face some significant challenges, particularly in environment sustainability (0.49). India is followed by Pakistan (3rd), Bangladesh (4th), Nepal (5th) cementing their position as the top five.

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_Energy_Architecture_Performance_Index_2017.pdf

Compiled by SAARCLAW Regional Secretariat
The Infrastructure Ranking in South Asia as given by the Global Competitiveness Index 2016-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>2.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>3.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>4.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>3.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The importance of infrastructure for overall economic development and enhancement of trade and business activity in a country need hardly be emphasized. Infrastructure reflects credibility, confidence, low-cost production, and market competitiveness. Investment in physical and social infrastructure positively affects the poor directly and indirectly in multiple ways.

South Asia continues its upward trend and competitiveness improves in most economies in the region, which is experiencing positive economic momentum, and in 2016 is set to grow more quickly than China for the first time in more than 20 years. Over the past decade, the subcontinent has focused on improving overall health and primary education levels and upgrading infrastructure, areas of particular importance for future diversification and preparedness given the resource-driven nature of the regional economies. In the health and primary education and the infrastructure pillars, South Asia’s average score has increased by 0.5 and 0.3 respectively since 2007, but infrastructure remains the region’s second weakest pillar, just after technological readiness. Investment in these areas will be vital to fully unlock economic growth. As they move up the development ladder, it will also be increasingly important for South Asian economies to establish competitiveness agendas to improve the functioning of their labor and financial markets, which have deteriorated over the last 10 years.

Supreme Court Judgements in South Asia

Seven Judgements that shaped Environmental Laws in India:

Politicians can’t seek votes on the basis of Caste, Creed or Religion (India)

Disclaimer: Views/data expressed in the newsletter/articles were prepared based on the secondary data/information available online and are not conclusive. The opinions, if any expressed do not reflect the views of the organization. The newsletter is for generating and sharing information at one platform. Please check the relevant Act/statue/links/report for further and updated information. The organization will not be responsible for submission or omission of information, in whatsoever manner.