'CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN AIR AND SPACE LAW'

EDITORS

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PREFACE

While India's aviation and space activities have taken off, there has not been enough study of the issues which are coming up in aviation and space, especially in the non-technical sector. International Foundation for Aviation, Aerospace & Development (India Chapter) has been keen to discuss and disseminate the knowledge of air and space issues in India including legal issues. In this connection, it has been holding seminars and conferences over the last few years.

On The occasion of the third international conference of Air and space law National Law University, along with International Foundation for Aviation, Aerospace and Development (India Chapter) and MC Gill University, Canada is pleased to present the papers of the earlier two conferences in a book form. Earlier conferences in 2009 and 2011 were held at National Law University, Delhi. The expert conference was conceived in the context of the phenomenal growth of Indian aviation sector as well as developments its space programme.

Air and space law is a complex subject. It can only be studied as organic whole which requires a collaborative effort in knowledge production and dissemation by examining the particulars viz security and safety laws , liability issues, environment , air route structures, regulation of air services and bi-lateral air agreements in the framework of entirety.

The last two expert conferences set up by the organising partners took up the challenge and invited scholars from far and wide both from within and outside India to share their research on different dimensions related to the air and space law. Issues as wide as like air environment, Safety, Security, Liability, General Issues, Space Tourism, Space Debris, Militarization of Outer Space and Sub-Orbital flights, Space Medicines have all been discussed with papers presented. Concerned Scholars found that most of the air and space law is operation in multiple jurisdictions which sometimes leads makes efficient operations extremely difficult and profitable for the airline Industry. Scholars in both the conference unanimously felt that national laws need to be more coherent and uniform to enable the smooth passage of mass air transport across national boundaries. Also it was shared across the spectrum of opinion of experts that legal regime on air and space law is lagging far behind the actual developments and it was uniformly recommended to bridge the gap as a policy prescription to overcome the difficulties in the area.

One of the most interesting aspects of this conference was student participation. There was overwhelming student's participation which enriched the debate with fresh ideas. Students from almost all the National Law Universities and other law institutions in India participated in the conference.

We have now come out with a volume of this conference published as a book. Dr. Maheshwar Singh, Associate Professor, National Law University, Delhi *iv* Contents

have worked tirelessly at various stages in the setting up the conference. This entire endeavour would not have seen the light of the day without the active and generous support of Prof (Dr.) Ranbir Singh, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University Delhi. He has always been extremely helpful and has provided direction for arranging this event.

Prof. Ranbir Singh Vice Chancellor, NLUD

Dr. Sanat Kaul Chairman, IFAAD

Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao Professor of Law & Registrar NLUD

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