#### **Adjudicating Officer**

Role, Responsibilities & Challenges

by Rajesh Aggarwal

#### Believe it or not!

The Information Technology Act, 2000 is the second technology related legislation in India in the last 115 years.

The first one was the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885

# The Information Technology Act, 2000

- Enabling it enables use of electronic records & digital signatures
- Facilitating it facilitates e-Governance & e-commerce
- **Regulatory** it imposes civil and criminal sanctions

#### **Adjudicating Officers**

- A quasi-judicial authority\* [section 46]
- Subject matter jurisdiction: 43, 43A, 44 & 45
- Powers of a civil court [section 46(5) & 58]
- Pecuniary jurisdiction upto Rs. 5 crores [section 46(1A)]

<sup>\*</sup> Scope and manner of holding enquiry under The IT (Qualification of Adjudicating Officers and Manner of Holding Enquiry) Rules, 2003

# Curious case of no CyAT



Sanjay Dhande v ICICI Bank & Ors.

Nagpur Petrol Pump

Information Technology (Reasonable security practices and procedures and sensitive personal data or information) Rules, 2011

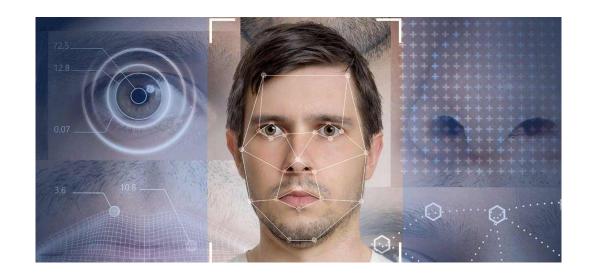
Vinod Kaushik & Anr. v Madhvika Joshi & Ors.

#### Challenges

- Rendering a techno-legal judgment within the parameters of law.
- Effective & time bound adjudication.
- Appreciation of digital forensic evidence.
- Bring awareness among people/users about the regulatory aspects of IT law.

#### Do they make you more secure or insecure?







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