

LAWS OF CONTRACT, SALE OF GOODS, PARTNERSHIP (1992). By H.K. Saharay. S.C. Sarkar and Sons, Calcutta. Pp. 107 + 630. Price Rs.300.

THE LAW of contract has always been an interesting subject for producing text books, both for practitioners of law as well as for students and teachers. The increasing number of cases decided by the various courts in India and in UK on this subject and an analysis of the same have always made every book on contract a useful addition to this fast growing subject. H.K. Saharay, while producing this book¹ has concentrated on three major legislations pertaining to commercial law, viz., (i) the Indian Contract Act 1872; (ii) the Sale of Goods Act 1930, and (iii) the Indian Partnership Act 1932. Each of these enactments could have been the subject matter of a separate volume by itself. The author has not particularly explained as to why he has clubbed all of them together. However, whatever may have been the reason for doing so, a student of commercial law would find it handy to have these three major legislations in one volume.

The book is divided into a number of chapters. The Indian Contract Act portion has ten chapters, with two portions entitled chapter I, one dealing with introduction² and the other dealing with communication, acceptance and revocation of proposals.³

The portion dealing with sale of goods, has been divided into seven chapters and the portion dealing with partnership law is divided into eight chapters.

The outstanding aspect of this book is that, there is less of commentary and more of case law, specially a large number of Indian cases have been cited. This means the author has researched well into the cases decided by the various High Courts in India as also the Supreme Court on the various provisions of the enactments mentioned. The book is thus useful as a ready referencer for cases decided mostly during the post-Independence era. In this sense, this book appears to be different from the other standard books available on the law of contract, which abound in cases decided by the English and Indian courts in the pre-Independence era. With three major legislations covered, it appears, the path chosen by the author to cite cases briefly against the given section, seemed to be the only one open. By itself the book would be incomplete as there is not much discussion on the law, *i.e.*, the analysis of the section, but given the large number of cases referred to, it would help as additional material in the process of elaborating and explaining the law.

Further, the author has provided some very useful reference material like, the English Sale of Goods Act 1979, English Sale of Goods Act 1893 and also

1. H.K. Saharay, *Laws of Contract, Sale of Goods, Partnership* (1992).

2. *Id.* at 1.

3. *Id.* at 28.

the Indian Partnership Rules as promulgated in most of the Indian states, which will certainly be helpful to leading practitioners and academicians.

Hence, it is true that the book provides a complete digest of cases, but it is doubtful, as to whether, it explores the economic and business significance of the legal rules showing how they relate to the recognised practices of the business community as is made out in the folder attached to the book. However, this book could be a useful addition to any law library and one must commend the author in the research done in identification of the case law.

*Ashraf Unnisa**

* Lecturer in Law, University Law College, Bangalore.