

Editorial

Imphal Thursday, May 25, 2017

Articulating freedom of speech

As according to Vincent Blasi, the noted law scholar, the most important role of free speech is to "check" government abuses and reveal to the public information that government wants to keep secret from them. If we follow this theory - which is a specific application of the democracy-centred theory of free speech - the press and the media become the most important organs of a system of free expression.

In addition to the checking value of free speech, there is another consideration that is now acknowledged by Courts in most jurisdictions, including our Supreme Court. When we speak about the "right" to free speech, we do not just mean - as might seem at first glance - the right of speakers to speak unhindered. We also mean the rights of listeners and hearers to receive information.

A classic example is the Indian Supreme Court's opinion in *LIC v. Manubhai D. Shah*, which used Article 19(1)(a) to vest a right-of-reply in a person who had been criticised in a newspaper editorial, on the ground of providing a balanced account to readers. Furthermore, instruments like the ICPR and the ECHR make this clear in the text of the free speech right as well. For instance, Article 19 of the ICPR states that "everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds."

If free speech is about the right to receive information, and about the public good of a society in which information circulates freely and widely, then the vehicles of information occupy a central position in any theory or doctrine about the scope of the constitutional right. Every law makers, bureaucrats or the guardian of the law should understand that the press is perhaps the most important of those vehicles.

Establishing the crucial role of the free press in free speech theory is important to understand a crucial issue that has largely gone unaddressed in Indian constitutional and statutory law: that of source-protection laws for journalists. A source-protection law exempts journalists from having to compulsorily reveal their sources when ordered to do so by government or by courts.

This write up is being addressed to our so call Police officers, intelligent agency and others in the government. There is no logical meaning on why a journalist which is serving the society by publishing news which the government will never able to do have been often harassed. Recently NIA called on editors of some few media houses and forced them to produce all related documents sent by a particular outfit. There is no problem in helping them but when such an act disturb the hectic schedule of journalists particularly editors, one wonder where is that freedom of speech guaranteed by the constitution of India. Let's give freedom of speech a chance.

Admit Card, Registration Certificate Lost

I, the undersigned have lost my following documents on the way in between Moirang Lamkhai to Moirang Bazar on 20th May. The documents lost are:

1. Admit Card, Mark Sheet, Certificate for class X bearing roll no. 2429 (old course) of 2010 issued by BOSEM.
2. Admit Card, Mark Sheet, Certificate for class XII, Registration Certificate bearing roll no 10691 issued by COHSEM.

Sd/-
Heisnam Bidyandana Singh
Keirenphabi Mayai Leikai

Bank Pass book lost

I have lost my bank pass book bearing account no.10929428052 issued by State Bank of India, MG Avenue, Imphal on the way in between my residence and Imphal on 20th May, 2017. Finders are requested to handover the same to the undersigned.

Sd/
Sagolsem Bimolchandra Singh
Khurkhu, Imphal West.

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National and International News

PM Narendra Modi stresses on affordable treatment for all

PTI
Mumbai, May 25: Prime Minister Narendra Modi stressed on reducing dependence on other countries for getting medical equipment so as to make treatment affordable for people. "Seventy per cent of medical equipment used are imported from foreign nations. This situation has to change because it makes the treatment very costly," he said after launching a book to mark Tata Memorial Centre's 75 years of social service. He was addressing the event held

in Mumbai through video conferencing from New Delhi. The aim of the National Health Policy is to ensure affordable health care, he said. "We have come out with a National Health Policy. With this, our aim is to ensure affordable health care for all," the prime minister said. He said the government was aiming at providing the best medical care to all sections of the people and, as part of it, new AIIMS and medical colleges would be set up across the country.

"We are coming up with new AIIMS and medical colleges across the country. We want every citizen to have access to best medical treatment," PM Modi said. "I congratulate Tata (Memorial) hospital on their platinum jubilee. I am happy to release this book," PM Modi said after releasing the book titled 'Indelible footprints on the sands of time'. The book traces the journey of the hospital, identifying and defining its growth and development. "After 75 years, this institute is

known for education, human resource development and research. Very few hospitals in India have done so much for human ailment," said the prime minister. Stating that cancer was one of the biggest challenges of our times, he said it was vital to create a common platform where patients get affordable treatment. "Cancer is no less than an 'agni pariksha' for anyone," he said. The contribution of Tata Memorial Hospital towards its cure is laudable, he said.

CBSE Class 12th board exam results 2017 delayed

Courtesy: First Post
New delhi, May 25: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) Class XII results, which were originally supposed to have been announced on Wednesday, were withheld by the board at the last minute, following a court order asking it to do so.

The CBSE board exams come directly under the purview of the central government and the Union Human Resources Development Ministry, unlike those run by individual state boards. But the debate surrounding the board's controversial marks moderation has meant uncertainty surrounds when results will actually be declared. Here's all the Frequently Asked Questions in the CBSE board exam results:

When will the results be announced?

No date was announced by the education board after Wednesday's deadline was delayed, so students are still in the dark about when they will actually get to know their marks.

Where will they be announced?

The results will be put up on the CBSE board's official websites, cbse.nic.in or cbseresults.nic.in.

What did the Delhi High Court order say?
The high court told the board to retain its 'marks moderation' policy for this academic year, and to scrap it from 2018 onwards. It termed the board's decision to scrap the policy as "unfair and

irresponsible", and asked why it couldn't be implemented from next year onwards. Doing so this year would have a "drastic effect on the students", the court had said.

What will the government now do?

The government is likely to challenge the high court order in the Supreme Court. According to top government sources, the CBSE will file a special leave petition justifying its decision to scrap the moderation policy.

At a high-level meeting on Wednesday chaired by Union human resource development minister Prakash Javadekar, it was decided that the board will take legal opinion before deciding on its future course of action. "Legal opinion was sought and it was decided that the board may challenge the order and results will be announced on basis of the decision," a source said.

But what about delays in declaring results?

CBSE officials are still insisting that they will try hard to ensure there are no delays in declaring the results. Board chairman RK Chaturvedi maintained that the high court order is being "studied", and all attempts are being made not to delay the results. "The court order is being studied in detail and we are trying that the results are not delayed," he said.

What is marks moderation, and why is it so controversial?

To bring about uniformity in results and to make up for the differences

in difficulty levels when dealing with different sets of question papers on the same subject, different education boards across the country adopted the policy in 1992. But many have argued that under the garb of marks moderation, grades and passing percentages are artificially being increased. What this results in, as argued in the previous piece, is that far too many students are now ending up scoring the higher 90s percentages, which means 100 marks now would be equivalent of substantially lower marks a few years ago. Besides distorting comparison across years, this concentration of students in the higher marks bracket blurs the line between good and bad performers from the same year - ruining their efforts to secure admission in top institutes.

So what happens next?

As of now, everything hinges on the court. If the Supreme Court rejects the high court order, we could have the results out sooner than expected. The board has said a majority of the question papers have been corrected without marks moderation. But if the court upholds it, then these papers would have to be re-examined, which would result in more time being taken up.

What about admission to entrance exams?

A further delay would be catastrophic for students planning to give higher level entrance exams to professional courses, especially medicine and engineering degrees, which are competitive and draw in applicants by the thousands. Other boards have announced their results and CBSE students stand to be at a disadvantage the longer it goes on.

Under Graduate registration and admission process of Delhi University, 2017.

The UG registration started from 22nd May and will end on 12th June at 6pm. Please visit www.du.ac.in. The documents to be uploaded for registration are listed below:

1. Class 10 marksheet
 2. Class 12 marksheet
 3. Passport photo
 4. Signature of applicant
 5. ST/SC/OBC certificates
 6. Income certificates (specially for OBC Candidates)
 7. Sports certificates or Extra curriculum Activities (ECA) if any.
- #And get along with Migration certificate for admission.#

The cut offs will be announced on the following dates:

1. First cut-off - 20 June
2. Second cut-off - 24 June
3. Third cut-off - 1 July
4. Fourth cut-off - 7 July
5. Fifth cut-off - 13 July
6. Sixth cut-off - 18 July

For any registration and admission queries please contact
1. 7290807236-Babul Laisram (Academic Secretary, MSAD)
2. 7503460204, 8802035410-Bideshwori Huidrom (President, MSAD)
3. 9654109330, 8383851661-Ningthoujam Meiraba (Volunteer, MSAD)
Please feel free to contact us for any help.

Manipuri Students' Association Delhi

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