



PROBE TIMES



A Monthly English Cyber World Magazine & News Portal

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VISION OF PROBE

The PROBE (A Resource Centre for Journalist) is basically a society for protecting and advocating the freedom of speech and expression, standards of journalistic profession and spreading awareness among the general public on current socio-legal issues.

PROBE TIMES

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Editorial Desk

To go ahead the media must act like only a medium and show us the situation of people rather than showing separatist sentiment as this will help to develop and connect rest of India towards Kashmir and normal people living in other states will think to help them or at least have empathy rather than hate.

Honorable President of India Sri Ram NathKovind approved governor's rule in Jammu and Kashmir a day after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ended its alliance with the People's Democratic Party (PDP). Trust deficit, governance deficit and soft separatism — were the main complaints against incumbent Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti when BJP decided to pull the plug on the alliance government in Jammu and Kashmir. In three years, the outgoing government could spend less than Rs 35,000 crore, of the Rupees one lakh crore Kashmir package. As you know the Kashmir dispute is the oldest, unresolved, international dispute in the world today. Kashmir has a recorded history from the earliest times. Kalhana, the most illustrious Hindu King of Kashmir wrote Rajatarangini, the River of Kings, in 12th century A.D. It is considered to be the earliest written book of history in the sub-continent. Kalhana relates the happenings in Kashmir from ancient times. Historically, Kashmir has been the birth place of glorious Indian civilization. We cannot divest ourselves from this past. Mr. Sheikh Abdullah, who was appointed prime minister of Jammu & Kashmir by Maharaja Hari Singh had argued that Article 370 should not be placed under temporary provisions of the Constitution. Clause 3 of Article 370 is clear in other words, Article 370 can be revoked only if a new Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir is convened and is willing to recommend its revocation. Of course, Parliament has the power to amend the Constitution to change this provision. Majority of people of Jammu and Kashmir do not want to live with Pakistan. We should develop nationalistic feelings among the people in Kashmir. We have to move ahead following the guidelines and codes given to us by our ancestors. If the nation has to move ahead confidently, we will need to teach sanskar (values) to our young ones. Our identity should be from the country. There is a tremendous scope for development of the state and a number of possibilities for tourism exist. "We must re-federalize our states and empower local bodies. Decentralization of power is essential." Being a responsible citizens and politically and socially empowered Journalists we must supported abrogation of Article 370 the only one is solutions the burning Jammu and Kashmir Issue. Government has initiated a debate on Article 370. Civilizations change with times but cultures do not. It is the responsibility of the family to inculcate values in children who must learn how to live for others.

SILVERI SRISHAILAM 
Editor

Self-regulation needed for media - CJI Dipak Misra



PROBE NEWS:- Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra today said that no restrictions should be imposed on media and a responsible fourth estate should be guided by self-regulation and self-realisation. CJI Misra was giving his Presidential address at a talk hosted by the International Law Association where Professor Madhava Menon delivered the Lecture on the subject, “Courts, Media and Fair Trial Guarantee.” Touching upon the idea and concept of a fair trial, Misra J. said that it is an “inseparable and integral facet of personal liberty protected under Article 21”. “The concept of a fair trial is something which is required as a basic ingredient to uphold the majesty of Law.” He also delved into the contribution made by media in ensuring that the majesty of Law is upheld stating that the fourth estate of the democracy was contributing towards “ensuring a fair trial and

equitable distribution of justice”, CJI Misra further said, “The freedom of speech performs a pivotal role in the generation of public opinion on matters of national significance encompassing the social, political and economic affairs dominating a country... freedom of speech is crucial for the creation of an informed citizenry.” However, while recognising the “mammoth task” the media has at hand in disseminating information to the public, Misra J. underlined the importance of responsible reporting. “Media has a responsibility of maintaining objectivity while reporting especially in cases which can stir the emotions of the public. Paramount consideration should be given to the ethics and professional morality”, he said. He also highlighted that the recent trend of sensational reporting done for garnering higher TRPs and readership stating that it goes against the constitutional values of free and fair trial. “In recent times, in order to sensationalise the reporting and to increase its commercial value, the media starts naming and blaming the suspect or accused. The sub-judice doctrine has



to be respected. The culture of pre-judging by the formation of opinion should be avoided.” Further, he also cited the unfortunate rise in the incidents of mob-violence and lynching. “There is a recent surge in mob lynching, please don’t misunderstand me because I have authored the judgement, there is a recent surge in mob lynching based on the viral text on the social media and this leads to mobocracy and loss of life, in certain cases. The blatant reliance on social media needs to be checked by the citizens themselves; to ensure peace and order in the society.” In the backdrop of these, the CJI highlighted the need for introspection and a sense of responsibility in the media industry

stating that members of the press should constantly bear in mind the responsibility they have. Taking a different view from Prof Madhava Menon, who delivered his lecture before CJI Misra and said that “the need for guidelines for the media cannot be overemphasized”, CJI Misra ended his address by saying that he is of the firm belief that the media does not need guidelines, “I’m of the firm belief there should be no guidelines (for media). Let them frame their own guidelines and be guided by that. Nothing serves better than the individual or collective guidelines of the press. There should be no imposition but some sort of self-realisation”

Akshay Thanks GST Council for Tax Exemption on Sanitary Napkins

PROBE NEWS: National Award-winning Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar, whose film PadMan tried to create awareness on menstrual hygiene, has thanked the GST Council for making sanitary napkins Goods and Services Tax (GST) free. Expressing his happiness: "One of those days when a news brings tears of joy as a cause close to your heart gets fulfilled. Thank you, GST Council, for understanding the need for menstrual hygiene & exempting

sanitary pads from tax. I'm sure crores of women in our country are silently sending gratitude your way." The GST on sanitary pads has been cut from 12 per cent to zero. Earlier this year, Akshay narrated the story of Arunachalam Murugantham, who introduced the low-cost sanitary napkins in India, in PadMan. The film was produced by Twinkle Khanna and directed by R. Balki. It featured Radhika Apte and Sonam Kapoor along with Akshay.

19,799 CHILDREN DIED IN MAHARASHTRA IN 12 MONTHS



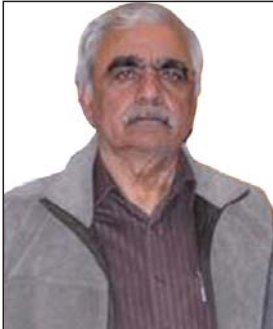
PROBE NEWS: As many as 19,799 children died in Maharashtra between April 2017 and March 2018 due to various reasons, including poor weight and respiratory illnesses, Health Minister Deepak Sawant has said. The main reasons of death during the period were poor weight at the time of birth, premature delivery, contagious diseases, congenital respiratory illnesses and deformities, besides others, he said in a written reply during the recently concluded Monsoon Session of the Legislative Council in Nagpur. The ages of the children who died were not mentioned in the minister's statement. Listing out measures taken up to prevent such deaths, Sawant said the women and child development department, under its schemes

through anganwadis (state-run women and child care centres), is providing nutritious food, health check-ups, pre-school education and vaccinations to children. Pregnant women are being provided free treatment for 42 days after child delivery and ill children are given free medical aid until the age of one year, he said. "The other services include blood transfusion, making available vehicles (like ambulance in case of an emergency) and information on nutritious food," he said. The public health department has also initiated various schemes under which complete physical check-up of a pregnant woman is done and the health of newborns is checked periodically, and essential vaccines are given to them, Sawant added.



Article of discrimination

370 of the Constitution of India



SRI ASHOK MALIK

PROBE NEWS :- Article 370 of the Constitution of India is hurting the weaker sections of the population, the West

Pakistan refugees, the Safai Karmcharis and the women. Let us begin with the position on the ground. On February 20, 1987 the Supreme Court passed a verdict regarding West Pakistan refugees. It lamented that the position of the petitioner and those situated like him was 'anomalous'. This anomaly could not be set right by the court because of Article 35-A, Supreme court added. The court agreed that the petitioners and others were surely entitled to be looked after better by the Jammu and Kashmir government and also the Central government. Over 41 years have passed since that Supreme Court verdict. However, there is not much improvement in the conditions of the hapless West Pakistan refugees. During Maharaja Hari Singh's rule, anyone staying in

J&K for 10 years continuously was entitled to becoming a State Subject (or Permanent Resident as it is called today). These people have been living in J&K since 1947 and after all these seven decades are not entitled to being Permanent Residents. Applying a law passed on May 14, 1954, to people who were staying in J&K since 1947 appears a travesty of justice, patently unjust in fact. Safai Karmcharis are living below the poverty line in Jammu and Kashmir. They do not get equal treatment from State Government under Fundamental Rights (Art. 14) as is awarded to other residents of J&K. They are deprived of basic human rights by State Government of JK in the garb of Article 35A, inserted in Indian Constitution via backdoor entry in 1954 superseding the established procedure. Article 35A sanctifies the crass discrimination which deals blow to rights and dignity of Safai Karmcharis of JK. They are out-rightly denied by

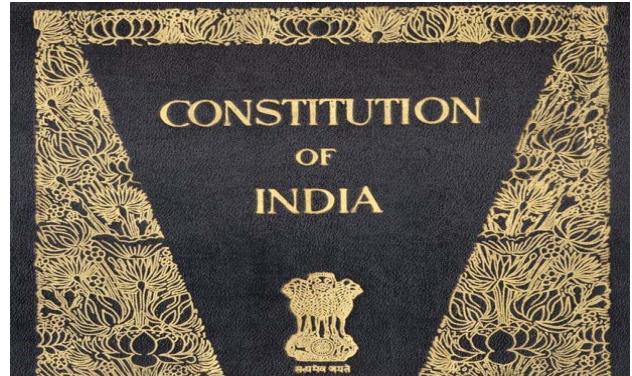
State Government in unjust, unfair and discriminatory manner the, Permanent Resident Certificate, right to vote in local elections of state, government job &

COVER STORY





social welfare benefits, moreover, even their children are denied admission in Professional colleges. Laws of J&K have reduced them to the position of a “second class citizen” where Safai Karamcharis can only work as “Sweepers”. They have no fundamental rights. Though the law does not discriminate between female and male PRs, an administrative rule made it clear that women could remain PRs only till marriage. After that they had to seek a fresh right to remain PRs. And if a woman married someone who wasn't a J&K PR, she automatically lost her own PR status. Only in a 2002 high court ruling made it clear that a woman will remain a PR even after marriage to a non-PR, and enjoy all the rights of a PR. All this despite the promise of Jammu and Kashmir Constitution, in its preamble, to Equality of status and of opportunity. In December 2016, the Supreme Court of India set aside a judgment of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir which stated that Jammu and Kashmir had "absolute sovereign power" on account of Article 370. The Supreme Court held that the state of Jammu and Kashmir has "no vestige" of sovereignty outside the Constitution of India and its own Constitution is subordinate to the Indian Constitution. The accession of state of



Jammu and Kashmir, like all other princely states, was on three matters: defense, foreign affairs and communications. All the princely states were invited to send representatives to India's Constituent Assembly, which was formulating a constitution for the whole of India. They were also asked to set up constituent assemblies for their own states. Only a few states did that, these included Saurashtra Union, Travancore-Cochin and Mysore. The States Department developed a model constitution for the states, in May 1949, the rulers and chief ministers of all the states met and agreed that separate constitutions for the states were not necessary. They accepted the Constitution of India as their own constitution. The states that did elect constituent assemblies suggested a few amendments which were accepted. The position of all the states (or unions of states) thus became equivalent to that of regular Indian provinces. In particular, this meant that the subjects available for legislation by the central and state



governments was uniform across India. In the case of Jammu and Kashmir, the representatives to the Constituent Assembly requested that only those provisions of the Indian Constitution that corresponded to the original Instrument of Accession should be applied to the State. As a result the Article 370 was incorporated into the Indian Constitution, which stipulated that the other articles of the Constitution that gave powers to the Central Government would be applied to Jammu and Kashmir only with the concurrence of the State's constituent assembly. This was a "temporary provision" in that its applicability was intended to last till the formulation and adoption of the State's constitution. However, the State's constituent assembly dissolved itself on 25 January 1957 without recommending either abrogation or amendment of the Article 370. Thus the Article has become a permanent feature of the Indian constitution, as confirmed by various rulings of the Supreme

Court of India and the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir, the latest of which was in April 2018. Preamble and Article 3 of the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir states that the State of Jammu and Kashmir is and shall be an integral part of the Union of India. Article 5 states that the executive and legislative power of the State extend to all matters except those with respect to which Parliament has power to make laws for the State under the provisions of the Constitution of India. The constitution was adopted on 17 November 1956 and came into force on 26 January 1957. Preamble of Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir. EQUALITY of status and of opportunity; and to promote among us all; FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity of the nation; IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this seventeenth day of November, 1956, do hereby adopt, enact and give to ourselves this constitution." —Preamble of Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir. Article 370 specifies that the State must concur in the application of laws, except those that pertain to Communications, Defence, Finance, and Foreign Affairs.[39] The 1974 Indira-Sheikh accord between Kashmiri politician Sheikh Abdullah and then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi stated, "The State of



Jammu and Kashmir which is a constituent unit of the Union of India, shall, in its relation with the Union, continue to be governed by Article 370 of the Constitution of India". In notifications issued as far back as 1927 and 1932, the state created various categories of residents – with some being called permanent residents (PRs) with special rights. Though the law did not discriminate between female and male PRs, an administrative rule made it clear that women could remain PRs only till marriage. After that they had to seek a fresh right to remain PRs. And if a woman married someone who wasn't a J&K PR, she automatically lost her own PR status. When a 2002 high court ruling made it clear that a woman will remain a PR even after marriage to a non-PR, and enjoy all the rights of a PR, a People's Democratic Party government, led by Mehbooba Mufti, passed a law to overturn the court judgment by introducing a Bill styled "Permanent Residents (Disqualification) Bill, 2004'. This was not Mufti's solo

effort. Omar Abdullah's party, the National Conference, backed this Bill and got it passed in the lower house of the assembly. But it did not ultimately see the light of day for various reasons. Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah, the state's 'Prime Minister' and leader of the Muslims in the Valley, found the inclusion of Article 370 in the 'Temporary and Transitional Provisions' of the Constitution's Part XXI unsettling. He wanted 'iron clad guarantees of autonomy'. Suspecting that the state's special status might be lost, Abdullah advocated independence from India, causing New Delhi to dismiss his government in 1953, and place him under preventive detention. In December 2016, the Supreme Court of India set aside a judgement of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir which stated that Jammu and Kashmir had "absolute sovereign power" on account of Article 370. The Court upheld the applicability of SARFAESI Act to Jammu and Kashmir as it was under the Union list of subjects for which the Indian Parliament is empowered to enact laws for the whole of India, including Jammu and Kashmir. Former Governor of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Jagmohan has strongly advocated the removal of Article 35A from the Constitution of India. He recently said, "They have created a



land without justice. The provisions introduced through the Constitutional Order of 1954 were done intentionally. It's not as if the leaders, the parliamentarians didn't know what they were doing...This law must go." According to Jagmohan "Mere legal things cannot solve the problems. The problem will be solved only when there is fundamental change of mindset within the nation. The common people of Jammu Kashmir, the poor, no one is benefitting from Article 370 or Article 35A – whether they are Hindus or Muslims. It is only vested interests, the elite, who have been benefitting these provisions. So called 'experts', such as A.G. Noorani, are misleading the people by advocating for Article 370," he reiterated that it is high time for this

law to go. Jagdeep Dhankhar, senior advocate of the Supreme Court and former Union Minister, said Article 35A outrages every word of the Preamble of the Constitution of India. He admitted how he was also unaware of the existence of Article 35A and expressed gratitude to Jammu Kashmir Study Centre for its in-depth research on the subject. Dhankhar said "Can President do what the Parliament cannot do? This is a very dangerous situation before us. This Article does not deserve to be on the statute book. He requested the Media to study this serious issue so that it can be discussed in an informed manner before the public. This issue must be taken up as a campaign by the media, so that public opinion is built to bring justice to the people of J&K.



KASHMIRI COLONIALISM

How Article-35a Has Perpetuated “Kashmiri- Colonialism” In Jammu & Kashmir

The Constitutional Bench Of Supreme Court Is Reviewing The Legality Of Article 35-a. The Fear Of Abrogation Of This Funny Law Has Brought All Mutually Fighting Sections Of Kashmiri Leadership And Seperatists On A Common Platform. On The Other Hand, It Has Brought National And International Focus On Some Of Those Inhuman ‘constitutional’ Practices And Laws Of J&k Government Which Would Have Put Even Nazis To Shame.



VIJAY KRANTI

(Author is a senior journalist and Chairman, NUJ(I) School of Journalism and Communication)

PROBE NEWS :- The Supreme Court of India is currently reviewing the legality of a strange article of the constitution which has been lying hidden in the annexures of this bulkiest constitutional document of the world for 67 years. A group of petitions in the Supreme Court of India, filed separately by some Kashmiri woman citizens and a Jammu based NGO have challenged the constitutional validity of a special law, namely Article-35A of Indian constitution. This Article, originally issued as a Presidential order in 1954, was later made a part of the Indian const-

itution without any debate or expressed consent of the Parliament. It gives J&K Assembly special rights to frame its own laws to define who can be ‘permanent resident’ of the State and who can’t be. As a result, J&K is the only state in the Indian Union which has the powers to control rights and liberties of other Indian citizens in J&K. These powers come from Article-6 of the J&K constitution which draws its strength from Article-35A of the Indian constitution. Ms. Seema Razdan Bhargav and Ms. Charu Wali Khanna are among those Kashmiri women who are





Article 370

- J&K residents have a **dual citizenship** and their own national flag.
- Tenure of all states govt. is 5 yrs but that of J&K parliament is 6 yrs.
- Disrespecting Indian flag and other national symbols is **not a crime** in J&K.
- Indian **Supreme Court has no jurisdiction** in J&K.
- Indian Parliament can make laws in a **very limited domain** (like defence).
Majority of powers are with J&K parliament.
- A J&K citizen loses its J&K citizenship if **s(he) marries an Indian**.
- A Pakistani resident gains J&K citizenship if s(he) marries a J&K citizen.
- RTI, RTE , CAG and **majority of Indian laws** are not applicable.
- Kashmir forces **sharia law** on its citizens, **especially women**.
- Kashmir doesn't have a Panchayat system.
- Hindus & Sikhs are a **minority** but they don't get a 16% reservation.
- Because of Article 370, **no outsider (Indians)** can purchase a land in J&K.

contesting the Constitutional validity of Article-6 of J&K's State Constitution on the ground that it takes away most of civil rights of those Kashmiri woman who decide to marry a man of non J&K origin. While this law denies basic rights of her husband and children to live in and enjoy all constitutional rights due to a 'State Subject', it also debars her children from inheriting immovable property of her parents or even to seek admission in State run higher educational institutions or State government employment. The petitioner's contention is that since Article-6 supersedes her and her children's basic rights of residence, education and emplo-

yment as guaranteed to them as 'citizen' of India under Article-14 of Indian Constitution therefore this article is unconstitutional and hence deserves to be declared invalid. 'We The Citizens', a Jammu based NGO, too has challenged the constitutional validity of Article-35A. Its contention is that this Article was introduced in the Indian Constitution in 1954 only through a Presidential order. The NGO argues that although it is within the rights of the President to pass such orders, yet any such order can become a part of Indian constitution only after it gets approval of both Houses of Indian Parliament by a majority vote. It has also questioned the



intentions of the erstwhile Central government for including this article only as an 'annexure' of the Constitution and not incorporating it in the main text of the Constitution. The Supreme Court decided to bunch these cases together and has forwarded it to a Constitutional Bench to review the constitutional validity of 35-A. In case the bench comes with the opinion, and chances are no less, that the introduction of 35-A was faulty or unconstitutional, all special powers of J&K Assembly



to separately formulate laws on permanent residence and hence Article-6 (passed in 1956) too will go to the dustbin. This will open J&K's doors to every other Indian citizen like any other state of India. Past experience shows that Article-6 has come to stay as the fountainhead of an unfortunate kind of exclusivity which has deeply ingrained a sense of separation, arrogance and confrontation against rest of India in the hearts of a vocal section of political, social, intellectual and religious leadership of Kashmir

valley. While focussed violence against non-Muslim citizens of Kashmir Valley has been persistently forcing them to quit the Valley during past seven decades, Article-6 of J&K constitution effectively blocks any inflow of 'outsiders'. As a result of this process Kashmir Valley has won the distinction of being the only social theatre of India where population flow has become one way and ethnicity specific since the day the State became a part of the Indian Union. A systematic inflow of Pakistani infiltrators and Wahabi Maulanas from UP and Bihar to the Valley over past seven decades has only made things worse. All this has led to a system which is supported by a constitutionally approved apartheid. Nullifying of 35-A is bound to water down the impact of Article-370 of Indian constitution which gives special political, administrative and legal powers to the ruling elite of J&K but has been opposed tooth and nail by a major section of non-Kashmiri population of J&K and their supporters in rest of India. If it happens, it will be a constitutional coup no smaller than the recent historic Supreme Court settlement of Triple-Talaq issue. But the mood is just opposite in Kashmir Valley. The prospects of 35-A being struck down by the Supreme Court has suddenly brought together all



such political, militant, religious and other activist groups of the Valley who have been traditionally at war with each other and would have never agreed to sit on a common table until only a couple of months ago. They include National conference, PDP, Congress and the Hurriyat. Interestingly PDP leader and the Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti was the first to warn the Centre that “there will be no one left in Kashmir to give shoulder to the Indian tricolour if 35-A is struck down.” Her arch rival Dr. Farooq Abdullah, the former Chief Minister and head of National Conference tried to be an inch above her with his war cry to New Delhi, “Kashmiris will make you forget the upheaval of Amarnath movement when they rise up against nullifying of 35-A”. Leaders of Hurriyat and many other fanatic groups too have launched a new calendar of ‘Hartal’ (public strike) and warned New Delhi of a ‘blood bath’ if Supreme Court gives such a verdict. Even if the Valley leadership is up in arms against the abrogation of Article 35-A, it is bound to receive a thunderous welcome from many sections of J&K communities to whom this article is a symbol of what they call “Kashmiri Colonialism” over rest of J&K. In their recent memorandums to the Union Home Minister, National Human Rights Commission and Mr.



Ram Madhav BJP’s points man on J&K, the ‘Jammu Kashmir People’s Forum’ and ‘POK Peoples’ Forum’ presented cases of 9 such communities whose fundamental rights have been ‘legally’ snatched by the State government. These rights include right to property; right to vote; right to employment; right to marriage by choice; right to higher education; right to be a member of Panchayat or a cooperative society or; even right to avail bank loans. They include refugees from POK who were forced to live and settle outside J&K after they crossed over to Jammu in 1947; Kashmiri Pandits and Sikhs who were forcibly pushed out of Kashmir Valley; West Pakistan Refugees (WPR) who migrated to adjoining Jammu in 1947; Families displaced due to regular firing along the LOC with Pakistan; Balmiki community members who were persuaded by Sheikh Abdullah to migrate from Punjab to J&K to undertake scavenging of night soil; descendents of Gorkha soldiers of Maharaja’s Army; women of J&K who decided to



marry men from other States and; the people of Ladakh who have to live at the mercy of Kashmiri administration simply because the State has only two administrative Divisions namely Ladakh and Kashmir. Except for the exiled Pandit families and people of Ladakh all other communities mentioned in this list have been denied the status of a 'Permanent Resident' or 'State Subject' because of Article-6 of J&K constitution which draws its powers from Article 35-A of Indian constitution. Similarly, another rule, derived from these two laws reminds one of Nazi's Germany where each Jew was obliged to wear his religious identity around one's neck. This rule obliges the State administration to brand the resident certificate of even 3rd and 4th generation youths of Balmiki families of Jammu with a stamp that announces "eligible only for job of scavenger". It was in 1981 that the J&K Assembly 'J&K Resettlement Bill' used its absolute Kashmiri majority to pass a law which opened doors for those Kashmiris and their descendents who had migrated to Pakistan or POK during Partition in 1947, to return to J&K as its legitimate citizens and take charge of their ancestral properties. However, JKPF and POKPF point out that such people who belong to POK

refugees and their descendants, numbering about 1.5 million today, have not only been kept out of this legal provision but the State government has consistently refused to let them or their descendants settle in J&K as 'State Subjects'. These communities have been demanding their right to those 24 seats in Assembly which are left vacant in the name of POK. Ironically, the Muslim refugees from Xinjiang and Tibet who had migrated to Kashmir following occupation of their countries by China in 1949 and 1959 respectively, have been granted 'State Subject' along with voting rights in the Assembly by J&K government. On the one hand the ongoing constitutional debate in the Supreme Court is being looked at with fear and apprehension by the Kashmiri leaders and their separatist supporters, but there are millions of other citizens of J&K who see a new ray of hope in the abrogation of Article 35-A and hence of Article-6. This is bound to change the national and international discourse on Kashmir and put an end to the Kashmiri-Colonialism which is the real problem that faces Jammu & Kashmir today.

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Media Unfair

Reporting Kashmir Issue Speaker at NUJ(I) National Seminar

PROBE NEWS : Contrary to the prevailing discourse on Jammu and Kashmir, panel of experts today came out with the facts and analysis to point out that Article 370 and Article 35 A of Indian Constitution have, more than anything else, worked as instruments of injustice and indiscriminate against a large number of vulnerable communities and sections of Jammu and Kashmir population. These views were expressed in a seminar organized jointly by K V Ranga Reddy Law College, Hyderabad and National Union of Journalists (India) on the topic "Role of Media- Understanding



Kashmir Issue". The seminar was attended by more than five hundred students, journalists, academicians and members of civil society. Supreme Court Advocate and famous expert on constitutional issues related to Jammu and

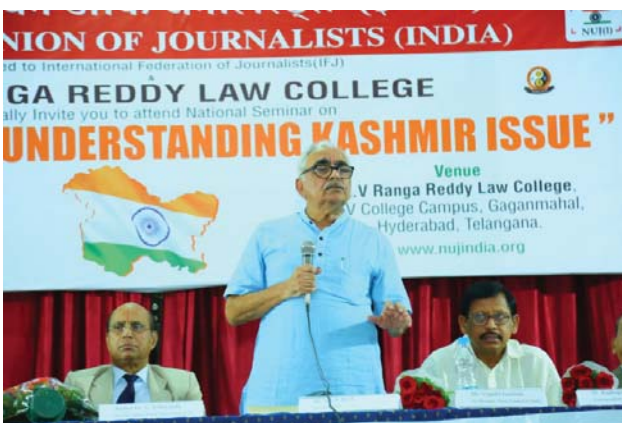
Kashmir, Mr. Dilip K. Dubey said that the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to the Union of India was complete and was done exactly in the same way and through the same accession document as in the case of other 562 princely states which acceded to Union of India. Elaborating on the temporary nature of Article 370, Mr. Dubey pointed that Art 370(3) give the power to the president of India that president can abrogate it with concurrence of state of Jammu Kashmir when ever he think fit that the circumstances are normalised in the state those was created due to the war by Pakistan at that

time and state was in uncertainty and was not normal due to such a emergency. the very important point Mr. Dubey emphasised that on two different occasions past governments of Jammu and Kashmir have themselves formally requested the



central government to abrogate this article 370. But the then Prime Minister Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru chose to ignore it saying that it was not right time to do so. He was of the opinion that Article 370 will paralyse automatically that is why there is no need to abrogate it . The reality is that this article was incorporated in Constitution of India to gradually enforce the remaining

the parliament and that is why such a situation like today's created. Chief Guest of the event, Justice Dr. G. Yethirajulu narrated sequence leading to accession of Jammu and Kashmir. He appreciated that such important issues should be discussed widely among students of law and media to enrich democracy.



Mr. Vijay Kranti, Senior Journalist and Chairman of NUJ(I) School of Journalism and Communications, who belongs to a refugee family from Pakistan Occupied Jammu Kashmir (POK), spoke about many vulnerable communities of Jammu and Kashmir who have been denied many such basic human rights by the governments of J&K which are guaranteed in the Indian constitution to every Indian citizen. "Even after living in J&K for past three or four generations their children are denied right to admission in higher education institutions, right to apply for state government jobs, right to own property or even right to vote for the State Assembly", he said. These

articles in State of Jammu & Kashmir as per the circumstances normalised time to time. Government of India did so and enforced more than 350 Articles of Union Constitution in Jammu and Kashmir but unconstitutionally inserted Article 35A by the presidential order with out going to



communities include POK refugees who are living outside J&K, refugees from erstwhile West Pakistan, members of Valmiki community, families of Gorkha, soldiers of erstwhile army of Maharaja of J&K and those women citizens of J&K who decide to marry men from other states of India. Similarly, the J&K government has made no meaningful efforts to bring back and rehabilitate Kashmiri pundits and Kashmiri Sikhs who were forced to leave Kashmir in recent decades due to communal violence. Referring to what he termed as “manipulated majority” of Kashmir valley in the State Assembly Mr. Kranti said “by keeping 24 assembly seats vacant in the name of POK in a house of 111 seats and arbitrarily allocating 46 seats to Kashmir valley out of remaining 87 seats, the State leaders have manipulated permanent absolute majority for the Valley as against Jammu region (37) and Ladakh region (4). This, supported by Articles 370 and 35A of Indian

constitution, has led to a wide range of many such strange laws which could not have found place even in the constitution of a worst kind of dictatorship.” Mr. Ashok Malik, President of National Union of Journalists (India) urged Journalists and Law students to try and

understand the discrimination made under Article 370 and other administrative illegalities in J&K. He advised the students to raise their voice against all such injustice. He also mentioned the work being done by NUJ(I) through school of Journalism and Communication to make Journalists aware of new and emerging areas of knowledge. He said that as the largest body of journalists in India, NUJ(I) is committed to responsible journalism. NUJ(I) National Secretary Sri. Silveri Srishailam said that NUJ(I) will continue to hold such programs to make journalists aware of the complexities of various issues facing the society. Dr. M.V. Lakshmi Devi, principal of K.V. Ranga Reddy Law College thanked NUJ(I) for organizing this program for the benefit of law students of Hyderabad city and exalted students to be alert and to study new subjects to make themselves responsible citizens.



What's up disorder?



I KILLED, 3 INJURED AFTER FIGHT OVER WHATSAPP MESSAGE TURNS FATAL

PROBE NEWS:-In yet another case of lynching over child-lifting rumours, Mohammed Azam Ahmed, a 32-year-old techie who was working on a project with Google in Hyderabad, was allegedly beaten to death by a mob in Karnataka's Bidar district on Friday, 13 July. Three others were severely injured in the attack and are currently admitted in a Hyderabad hospital. A police official told that 30 people believed to have been part of the mob have been arrested, along with three others who spread the child-lifting rumours on WhatsApp, including the administrator of the group. The incident took place when Ahmed, a software engineer, was travelling to Handikera village in Aurad taluk with Noor Mohammed and Mohammed Salman, along with a Qatari national Salham Eidal Kubaisi for a social function,

according to reports. Around 4:30 pm, the four of them stopped for tea and it was there that Kubaisi offered some chocolates to the school children who were around. This fuelled the child-kidnapping rumours. While the four of them initially managed to escape in their car, the locals took their photographs and alerted those in the adjacent village about the presence of "kidnappers" via messages on WhatsApp. Those in the adjacent village blocked the road with a tree, and as the four men attempted to manoeuvre their vehicle around the tree, it ended up falling into a ditch. The mob then caught hold of them and thrashed them. Regarding the incident, Ahmed Balala, an AIMIM MLA from Hyderabad's Malakpet was quoted saying: I met the victims and they said that two policemen reached the spot but could not prevent the mob from beating them up. The family of the deceased requested the Telangana government to intervene and take up the matter with the Karnataka government for thorough investigation and arrest of the culprits. "We want justice," they told.

21 Nuclear Reactors



Sri Jitender Singh Union Minister

PROBE NEWS: Twenty-one nuclear reactors with a total installed capacity of 15,700 MW are currently under construction, the government said today. However, it ruled out increasing the generation capacity of the existing plants. Currently, there are nine nuclear power reactors at various stages of construction which are expected to be completed by 2024-25, Union Minister Jitendra Singh said in the Lok Sabha. In reply to questions, he said 12 more reactors were accorded administrative approval and financial sanction in June last year. The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office said that together 21 nuclear power reactors, with an installed capacity of 15,700 MW are under implementation and envi-

saged for progressive completion by 2031. Besides, in-principle approval has been given for five sites for setting up nuclear plants, he said during the Question Hour. These sites are in Jaitapur (Maharashtra), Kovvada (Andhra Pradesh), Chhaya Mithi Viridi (Gujarat), Haripur (West Bengal) and Bhimpur

(Madhya Pradesh). To a query on whether the government was considering increasing the capacity of the existing nuclear power plants, Singh replied in the negative. "The existing units are operating at their rate capacity. The unit size of indigenous Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) has already been increased from 220 MW to 540 MW and then to 700 MW, which are now under construction."

"In addition, Light Water Reactors of 1,000 MW have also been introduced with foreign cooperation," the minister said. Singh also said the government has taken several measures to enable setting up of nuclear power reactors. These include resolution of issues related to Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act and creation of Indian Nuclear Insurance Pool, he added.

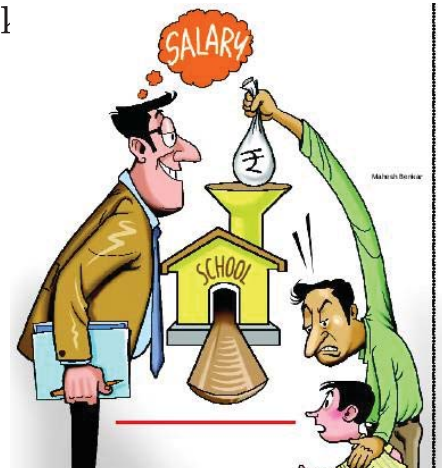


NO FEE HIKE - SC



PROBE NEWS:-The court's judgement came after about 150 students filed a petition questioning Tamil Nadu's Annamalai University's move to hike the fees for the MBBS course for the 2013-2014 academic session. Government and private universities cannot increase their fees arbitrarily without getting the approval of the fee fixation committee, the Supreme Court has held. A bench of justices Arun Misra and UU Lalit said the university's decision was in violation of the 2003 SC constitution bench ruling that made it mandatory for every state to have an independent Committee on Fee Fixation, headed by a retired high court judge, to oversee educational institute's fee structure. The court had made it a must for the institute's to get the panel's nod before increasing their fees. Anamalai University became a state university in 2013 and had fixed the fee structure for medical and dental

students without the fee fixation panel's approval. The petitioners had first moved the Madras high court against the university's imposition of Rs.5.54 lakhs per annum fee on them. The students contested that the varsity had leveled the "excessive" fee without the fee fixation panel's approval. The HC, however, rejected their plea. The students then moved the SC, arguing that the annual fees fixed for MBBS course in the state's government colleges was Rs.12,290 while it was Rs.10,290 for BDS Course. "We hold that the University was not entitled and competent to devise its own fee structure in the present matter without having the fee fixed by the Committee on Fixation of Fee as contemplated under 1992 Act," the SC held. It directed Annamalai University to place its balance sheet and accounts before fee fixation committee within two weeks





STATEMENT OF JUSTICE AJIT NATH RAY



Dr Justice K G Shankar
Former High Court Judge

PROBE NEWS: Justice A N Ray has the dubious credit of being the first judge of Supreme Court of India to become Chief Justice of India (CJI) superseding judges senior to him. There was an uproar when three judges in J M Shelat, A N Grover and K S Hegde who were senior to A N Ray were superseded to make way to Ray to become CJI. The Economic Times recorded that as many as 66 Supreme Court Judges expressed their views about the supersession to American scholar George H Gadbois Junior in 1980s and that it

was released as a book recently. I believe that Mrs. Indira Gandhi was not only showing favouritism but also was warning judges to face consequences if they did not toe the line of the Government. While Justice A N Ray claimed that he had two hours' time to consider the offer to become CJI, the assertion of Justice P Jagannathan Reddy is that he heard Mohan Kumara Mangalam, the Minister of Steel and a close associate of Mrs Gandhi congratulating A N Ray, J about a week before the appointment. I do not blame A N Ray, J for accepting the position, but his defence that he came to know of the appointment about a couple of hours before the appointment is pathetic. The proximity of this appointment with the Judgment in Kesavananda Bharati case is no coincidence. Kesavananda Bharati case laid that the Constitution of India can be amended (tampered) by the Parliament but the amendment shall not alter the Basic Structure of the Constitution. What is the Basic Structure of the Constitution had not been clearly stated in the case. However, even now, on the basis of his case, Supreme Court and High Courts strike down



several laws as being against the Basic Structure of the Constitution. In all, 13 Judges heard Kesavananda Bharati case. The Minority including A N Ray, J held that the Parliament has plenary powers to amend the Constitution without any fetters. Shelat, Grover and Hegde, JJ were in the majority which held that the Basic Structure of the constitution cannot be altered. There is more than one point in the appointment of A N Ray as CJI after the decision. Ray took over a couple of days after the decision of Kesavananda Bharati. If the claim of P Jagan-mohan Reddy, J is correct, the decision to appoint A N Ray, J as CJI was taken prior to the decision of Kesavananda Bharati. In other words, Kesavananda Bharati was not the reason for the supersession; or Mrs Gandhi was aware of the result of the decision before its pronouncement!!!. Let us forget the appointment of A N Ray as CJI. What about the appointment of M H



Beg as CJI to succeed A N Ray by supersession of H R Khanna, J who ought to have succeeded A N Ray, J being senior most Associate Justice after CJI. Did A N Ray, J recommend the name of M H Beg, J for the post of CJI? For that matter, when S M Sikri, J retired as CJI, did he not recommend the name of Shelat, J as CJI. This issue becomes important in very near future. When Deepak Mishra, J retires as CJI, whose name would he recommend? Is it Gogoi, J, the senior most judge after CJI or would it be Sikri, J as Lokur and Joseph, JJs are inconvenient to the present Government. God save the Judiciary and the Nation.

The
SUPREME COURT
SUPREME COURT





FIVE STAR BURGLAR



PROBE NEWS:- If you are travelling to the any parts of India.....if your couple or newly married pairif you're booking any five stars or seven star hotels... beware of burglar...they watch all your movements from the date of booking to check in time. The Hyderabad city police nabbed India's most wanted five star hotels burglar, sent him to prison. A cinema style thief catch hold by Banjara hills police under the supervision of Asst. Commissioner of Police, K.S Rao and Inspector Mr. Srinivas, a special team arrested most wanted bungler tactfully by using very advanced technology. The accused is most want criminal in all states of India, as on today police department not having the accurate figure of his robbery worth in different offences. A mind blowing case facts are as follows, Banjara Hills police



received a complaint from Park Hyatt Hotel, Banjara Hills that there was a theft in his room and some unknown offender has entered the room and committed theft of diamond jewellery and gold ornaments. The SHO registered a case started investigation, The team of police officers verified the footage of CC cameras matched with old criminal records. scandalously the suspect is most wanted bungler is Mr. Jayesh Ravji Sejpal is resident of Gujarat he was started his career as catering assistant in vapi city of Gujarat. Who committed number of thefts of diamond jewellery, gold ornaments and net cash from 5 star hotels in major metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Kolkatta, Chennai, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Konchi etc., across the country and recovered stolen Gold



ACP KS RAO

and diamond ornaments worth in corers. Five years and 11 thefts at star hotels after his release from jail, Hyderabad police finally managed to arrest suave 'jewel thief' in Thane and recovered ₹30 lakh worth stolen jewellery from his possession. The accused Jayesh Ravji Sejpal is a school dropout of X Standard and has earlier worked in some small hotels/food joints at Gujarat and Mumbai. The accused who was arrested in the year 1991 in an electronic material (VCP) theft case by Dhongri Police, Mumbai and has served imprisonment in Aurthur Road Jail, Mumbai where he came in touch with another accused Ramesh

Chaag. After coming out of jail, Jayesh Ravji Sejpal along with his accomplice Ramesh Chaag has planned to commit thefts by targeting the customers of star hotels in metropolitan cities of different states across the country. He managed to collect the access card or the room keys from the reception staff with his deceit and tactful words and commits thefts of valuables from customers' rooms in their absence. He is absconding for the last 6 years and presently wanted in theft cases reported at more than (20) cities of different (13) states across the country. The accused Jayesh Ravji Sejpal used to move along with his accomplice



CI SRINIVAS



Ramesh Bavgi Chaag in busses to various cities across the country and stays in ordinary lodges by submitting fake id proofs in order to conceal their identity. The accused travel in hired autos to reach their targeted star hotels by wearing neat dress and move inside the hotels as if genuine customer. The accused identify the posh customers by keeping watch on their movements at reception and also managed to enter into the lifts along with the targeted customers and observe the room number / suit in which the customer boarded. Later, the accused approaches the star hotel reception staff and will collect the details of the customers with deceitful tactics that he belong or related to the particular targeted customer. Sometimes, the accused collect the details of the targeted customers from the list displayed by star hotels for complimentary breakfast lounges at their hotel restaurants. Once the customer went out on some work from their room, the accused approach hotel reception / other staff deceiving them that he is customer of the targeted room and when the hotel staff asked for identity, he reveals the name of the genuine customer as he already collected the details. Believing the version of the accused in good faith, the hotel staff used to

give access cards of their lifts and the room to the accused. After collecting the electronic / digital access cards / keys, the accused opens the targeted room and commit theft of valuables like jewellery and subsequently abscond with the valuables. After coming out of the hotel, the accused used to board hired autos and reach his destination lodge and later he escapes to Mumbai by bus and disposes stolen gold ornaments to his know receiver one Mr. Hiren M. Shah of Borewilli Mumbai. In the present theft case of Park Hyatt Hotel, Banjarahills, Hyd also the accused adopted the same modus-operandi and he conducted recce at Park Hyatt Hotel on 5th and 6th March 2018 and identified the newly wedded couples who checked in room no. 312 in the said hotel as his target. In the afternoon hours the accused approached the reception staff of Park Hyatt Hotel and posed himself as their relative or known person and questioned the staff whether the guest in room no. 312 checked out or not. Believing his version in good faith, staff present at reception, without suspecting anything opened their computer system and revealed the name of Guest of room no. 312 and replied that the guest was not yet checked out. The accused waited in the lobby of Prak Hyatt Hotel and at about 7.30 pm, when the victim



couple of room no. 312 went out, the accused obtained access of lifts by playing deception over the staff. Upon reaching the third floor, he made a phone call to the reception and deceived the reception staff that he was the guest of room no. 312 and lost his access card and requested for alternative digital access card. When the reception staff enquired for his identity, he revealed the original name of guest of room no. 312 as he already collected the same from the reception. Then without thorough verification, the reception staff sent a alternative digital access card of room no. 312 and handed over the same to the accused. The accused Jayesh entered into room no. 312 with the access card and committed theft of jewellery items by broke open the suitcase available in the room. After committing theft, the accused came out of the hotel and boarded in a hired auto and reached his temporary staying lodge at Nampally and stayed there for two days. After noticing his photographs

in the news papers, he escaped to Mumbai by bus. Though the accused did not use any cell phone at the hotel and left no clues except his photograph in CCTV Cameras, police Banjara Hills Police and DIs of S.R. Nagar and Jubilee Hills under the close supervision of DCP, West Zone and ACP, Banjara Hills Division have gathered clues by using technologies adopted by Hyderabad City Police and arrested the accused within fortnight. The Hyderabad city police commissioner Sri. Anjani Kumar IPS cautioned the customers of the hotels be careful while leaving Jewellery and valuable items in the room. Instead they can deposit the same with the reception / hotel staff. The five star hotel staff and management should be more watchful and implement security more intensively to deny access to such elements without proper verification.





ATTACK ON PEACE SAINT



PROBE NEWS:- Several political figures, as well as celebrities, have condemned saffron terrorism after activist Swami Agnivesh was beaten up by the right-wing fringe group. Sri. Swami Agnivesh is an Arya Samaj scholar, a social activist and former Member of Legislative Assembly from the Indian state of Haryana. Some of his views on idol worship and other beliefs have hurt the sentiments of a right-wing fringe group. He was attending an event in Pakur in Jharkhand. The group resorted to protest against him in front of the hotel and raised slogans against him. He leveling blame at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Yuva Morcha and the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), the 80-year-old social activist said they had falsely accused him of supporting cow slaughter and beaten him up. Agnivesh, a former lawmaker and education minister in Haryana, that his assault in BJP-ruled Jharkhand was a "state sponsored attack". The eight men

who were arrested in connection with the violence were released on the same day. The circumstances of their release are unclear. In a recent conversation, Agnivesh, who has been a crusader against bonded labor and the caste system for decades, talked about his ordeal on June 17 and why he believes it to be a consequence of Hindutva politics and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "hate mongering campaign." Swami Agnivesh is back home. "Alive," he points out when Archbishop of Delhi Anil Couto calls on him at the Arya Samaj offices he is staying at after his return from Ranchi and a brief stay at the Trauma Centre at Safdarjung Hospital. His ribs hurt, he speaks with pain, and is loath to show the wounds on his body, particularly his bruised legs. There was no police to be seen. "Their intent was to kill," says the man who has been attacked often enough in his half a century long political and activist career. That he lives to tell the tale is something he attributes to his luck and the youth of the tribal community that is fighting a losing battle to save its lands and forests from a rapacious government and its corporate cronies. They saved him.



CAR *stolen from valet parking*



Saifabad police station. According to his complaint, there was a laptop, mobile phone, jewellery and cash worth Rs 10 lakh in all inside the car. Mean-while, the restaurant man-

PROBE NEWS:-Imagine going out for a nice dinner and returning to find that your car, that had been entrusted with a valet, has been stolen. That's exactly what happened with Abhishek Gyani, a native of Vikarabad, when he went out for dinner at Ohri's restaurant in Basheerbagh. The incident happened way back in 2011, but Abhishek pursued the matter all these years with the consumer forum and has now won Rs 4.9 lakh as compensation. Abhishek and his family went to Ohri's for dinner late one night in their Toyota Innova. They availed valet parking and handed over the car keys to a boy employed by the restaurant. However, after dinner they found out that the boy could not bring back the car as he had 'mistakenly' given the keys to somebody else. Immediately, Abhishek lodged a complaint with

management claimed that the family had created a fake valet token to gain money unlawfully from the restaurant. Moreover, in their written contention, the management said that valet services are to be used at the owners' risk and the restaurant does not own any responsibility. The commission, however, observed that the hotel had failed to implement security measures. They did not maintain a vehicle-in and vehicle-out register and the car was handed over to someone who did not have a valet token. Also, there was no CCTV Camera in the premises. "If the restaurant was serious in proving the complainant wrong, it would have lodged a police complaint but it didn't," the commission held. It also awarded the hassled consumer a compensation of Rs 4.9 lakh.



SECTION 377 VERDICT



PROBE NEWS:- The much-awaited verdict on the constitutional validity of Section 377 of IPC was reserved by the Supreme Court. As the Supreme Court proceeded the hearing on pleas seeking scrapping of Section 377 there was some clarity in the Centre's stand on the issue. Arguing for the Centre, ASG Tushar Mehta said, "We leave the validity of Section 377, so far as it relates to consensual acts between two adults, to the wisdom of the Court." Centre seeks clarity on bestiality, wants incest to be kept out of discussion. Says issues like property and inheritance shouldn't be taken up now. Asking the five-judge bench to keep incest out of deliberations and seeking clarification on bestiality, Mehta said the Centre would leave the matter of the constitutionality of Section 377 to the court. Adding that issues like gay marriages, property and inheritance rights will have repercussions, Mehta urged the apex court not to deal with them at the moment. The Supreme Court said it would restrict itself to whether Section 377 was unconstitutional with

regard to consensual sex between two adults. Arguing for IIT students, one of the petitioners, Menaka Guruswamy said Section 377 discriminates on the basis of the gender of the partner. She also quoted a notification by the Indian Psychiatry Society that said homosexuality was not a psychiatric disorder. She said, "Homosexuality doesn't affect a person's career and growth. People have cleared civil service examinations, IIT examinations, and other top-level competitive exams." She said lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people also deserve to be protected by the court, Constitution, and the country. "Section 377 denies the LGBT community the equal opportunity of participation," she added. Section 377 is the colonial era law that prohibits same-sex sexual relations between consenting adults. In 2013 the Supreme Court struck down the 2009 order of the Delhi High Court which had legalised homosexual acts among consenting adults. Alumni from IIT's LGBTQ group 'Pravritti' are among the petitioners, asking the Supreme Court to recognise them as queer people and grant them the freedoms and protections accorded to every citizen of the country. The alumni narrate their experiences with Section 377 and how it has affected them personally.



PROUD OF YOU - MODI



PROBE NEWS:- The newest sensation of the Indian sporting scene Hima Das will get "end-to-end" support towards her preparation for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics under government's Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS). Das created history on 19th July, as she won India's first ever track gold medal at the IAAF World Under-20 Athletics Championships in Finland. She recorded a time of 51.46 seconds in the 400m race. Post her excellent show in Finland, she was showered with blessings and congratulations from all the eminent personalities of the country and now she will be receiving extra government support for her preparation as well. "Hima, post her excellent

performance at CWG 2018, where she ran her then personal best of 51.32, was inducted in ministry's Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) in May 2018. Hima Das to be Assam sports ambassador Celebrations have swept the Dhing residence, in central Assam, of star sprinter Hima Das, who scripted history by becoming the only Indian athlete ever to win a gold medal in a track event at the world level. Hima had clinched the gold in 400m race in the IAAF World Under-20 Athletics Championships at Finland. As the news spread, well-wishers and neighbours flooded Hima's residence at Dhing since her achievement. Hima has spoken to her family a couple of times after the winning



dash and sounded elated at the victory, thanking everyone back home for their blessings and well wishes, her family members said at Dhing. The elated mother of Hima said her daughter always had set high goals and worked relentlessly to achieve it. Her final race was shown on a big screen at her village at Dhing, where all villagers, as well as people from nearby areas, had witnessed Hima entering the record book. Assam Governor Prof. Jagdish Mukhi congratulated Hima and said in a statement, she is a source of motivation and inspiration to other young athletes who can emulate her achievement to scale any height in life. Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, through a statement, said the Assamese youngster has

achieved a rare feat by becoming the first Indian athlete to win gold in such a prestigious track event. Moreover, Sonowal also announced that the golden girl would be felicitated at a state level function where she will also be given a cash award. In order to inspire the budding players of the state to aim big and the young generation to take up sports seriously, Hima will also be made the state's brand ambassador for sports, Sonowal announced. The Assam Athletics Association announced Rs 2 lakh as cash prize. The local media here, had shot to limelight after qualifying for the 400m finals at Commonwealth Games in Gold Coast in April 2017. She had gone on to set a new personal best of 51.

NEW AIRCRAFT FROM INDIAN NAVAL SHIP (INS)

PROBE NEWS:-For the first time, Indian Navy's P8I long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft from Indian Naval Ship (INS) Rajali has inducted at Hawaii for participating in the Rim of Pacific Multinational Naval exercise (RIMPAC-18). This is the first time ever that an Indian Naval aircraft has traversed so far east into the Pacific. In doing so, the aircraft has attained many additional firsts for an IN aircraft. It is the first IN aircraft to cross the International Date Line, undertaking the longest ferry of nearly 3300 nm from Guam to Hawaii and the first IN aircraft to participate in RIMPAC. The aircraft will form part of the largest naval exercise which has 26 nations

participating in this year's edition and will undertake Tactical exercises including Anti Submarine Warfare and Maritime Reconnaissance missions along with participating foreign Naval ships, submarines and aircraft to hone the interoperability skills of the IN. During the exercise, IN P8I will be operating from Joint Airbase Hickam, Honolulu in Hawaii.





Power of Pranayam



PROBE NEWS:-The 12 boys and their soccer coach rescued from a cave in northern Thailand described the moment they realized they finally had been found, as they appeared at a news conference after leaving the hospital where they had been recuperating. “We were digging stones on top of the hill and we heard voices,” said 14-year-old Adul Samon. He said the coach told everyone to be quiet. “We weren’t sure if it was for real,” Adul said. “So we stopped and listened. And it turned out to be true. I was shocked.” Adul said he then snatched a flashlight from another team member and rushed down to meet the two British divers who found them nearly 10 days after they became trapped in the flooded cave. The group, looking healthy, entered the news conference to applause from reporters and classmates and put on a quick demonstration of their ball-handling skills on a miniature soccer field set up in the hall where they met journalists from around the world. They then hugged their friends before taking seats up front with doctors and members of the Thai navy SEAL unit that helped bring them out, along with others who helped them during their ordeal, which ended after more than

two weeks when they were brought out of the cave last week. The boys, whose ages range from 11 to 16, and their coach answered questions submitted by the media, including about the lessons they learned during their experience. “I feel stronger, I have more patience, endurance, tolerance,” said 13-year-old Mongkol Boonpiam. Adul said, “This experience teaches me not to live life carelessly.” Several said they want to become professional soccer players, while four said they wanted to emulate the heroes who saved them. “I want to be a navy SEAL because I want to help others,” said one. All said they want to apologize to their parents, most of whom they had not informed in advance about the trek to the cave after soccer practice. “I know my mom is going to punish me and I am in big trouble with my mother,” one of the boys said





when asked what he expected to happen when he got home. Doctors said the 13 were healthy in body and mind. They said the boys gained around 3 kilograms (6.6 pounds) on average since they were rescued from the cave. They were said to have lost an average of 4 kilograms (9 pounds) during the more than two weeks they were trapped in the cave. The news conference was the first opportunity the members of the team had to speak directly to the media, though video of them was released previously. Officials reviewed questions in advance to make certain none might cause damaging psychological effects. The Wild Boars teammates had entered the ThamLuang cave on June 23 for what was to be a quick, relaxing excursion after soccer practice. But rain began falling while they were underground, and water filled the caverns, cutting off their escape. The British divers found the group huddling on a spot of dry ground deep inside the cave on July 2, hungry but generally healthy. An international team of rescuers using diving equipment and pulleys extracted the 12 boys and their coach through the tight, flooded passageways over three days, concluding July 10. Some of the boys were treated for minor infections during their hospital stay, but all 13 have been described as recovering well. The family of one of the boys was preparing their home for his return Wednesday night. BanphotKonkum,

an uncle who has raised 13-year-old DuangpetchPromthep, said he'll have a renovated bedroom and gifts awaiting him. "We'll do whatever he wants. If he wants anything we'll buy it for him as a present as we promised that when he gets out, whatever he wants we'll do it for him," Banphot said.

Meditation saved 12 Boys :-

The 12 boys and their soccer coach who were trapped in a cave in Thailand for 18 days have been rescued. "We are not sure if this is a miracle, a science, or what. All the 13 Wild Boars are now out of the cave," the Thai Navy SEALs said on their official Facebook page, referring to the name of the boys' soccer team. "Everyone is safe." The coach Ekapol Chanthawong, 25, and his players, who are between the ages of 11 and 16, were exploring an underground cave after practice on June 23 when it flooded with monsoon rain. Ten days later, two British divers found the group sitting in the dark, meditating.

Reacting to a video of them in the cave, one boy's mother pointed out that they seemed serene: "Look at how calm they were, sitting there waiting. No one was crying or anything. It was astonishing," she told. Stanford University meditation expert Leah Weiss, who was taught by the Dalai Lama, says that meditating was probably crucial to keeping the group alive. "For Buddhists, meditation is a go-to when distressed or in danger," Weiss



tells. "Cognitive resources that would otherwise be hijacked by the threat can be accessed once again, meaning that problem-solving capacities increase." And, she says, "given that insufficient air and food was a major issue for the trapped boys, meditation is actually a very practical response to both of these concerns." Meditation, Weiss explains, is a type of mental training that can increase your focus and compassion for others, among a wide range of other benefits. It calms you by slowing down your heart rate, your breathing and your metabolism, while decreasing cortisol levels, oxygen utilization and carbon dioxide emission. Some of today's most successful business leaders rely on this practice to help them in their careers. Oprah Winfrey, Salesforce's Marc Benioff and Thrive Global's Arianna Huffington have all said that making meditation part of their daily routines has been key to their success. Thai volunteers celebrate while leaving the Tham Luang cave area as all 12 boys and their coach who became trapped in a flooded Thai cave more than a fortnight ago have been rescued, the Navy SEALs announced on July 10, completing an astonishing against-the-odds rescue mission that has captivated the world. Thai volunteers celebrate while leaving the Tham Luang cave area as all 12 boys and their coach who became trapped in a flooded Thai cave more than a fortnight ago have been rescued, the

Navy SEALs announced on July 10, completing an astonishing against-the-odds rescue mission that has captivated the world. Chanthawong's aunt explains that the coach was once a Buddhist monk, which she says "definitely helped him and probably helps the boys to stay calm." But you don't need years of training to meditate, Weiss says. Just some practice. Start by taking a full breath: Feel the air go through your nostrils and into your lungs. Hold it for a few moments and then exhale fully. As you breathe out the air, envision breathing out any stress, anxiety, anger and feeling of being overwhelmed. Do this three times at your own pace. "It's key to understand that meditation won't get rid of thoughts and feelings," she adds. "This is a mistake so many people make," and one that often leads people to give up too soon. "Set up a specific time and place and have a realistic initial goal that you succeed in and build from," she says. "Recognize that resistance to the habit and to the meditation itself is part of the process, so having an accountability buddy, a system or class is helpful for many people."





Facebook Effectively Broke The Law



PROBE NEWS:-Facebook continues to face fallout over the Cambridge Analytica scandal, which revealed how user data was stealthily obtained by way of quizzes and then appropriated for other purposes, such as targeted political advertising. The U.K. Information Commissioner’s Office (ICO) announced that it would be issuing the social network with its maximum fine, £500,000 (\$662,000) after it concluded that it “contravened the law” — specifically the 1998 Data Protection Act — “by failing to safeguard people’s information.” The ICO is clear that Facebook effectively broke the law by failing to keep users data safe, when their systems allowed Dr AleksandrKogan, who developed an app, called “This is your digital life” on behalf of Cambridge Analytica, to scrape the data of up to 87 million Facebook users. This included accessing all of the friends data of the individual accounts that had engaged with Dr Kogan’s app. The ICO’s inquiry first started in May 2017 in the wake of the Brexit vote and questions over how parties could

have manipulated the outcome using targeted digital campaigns. Damian Collins, the MP who is the chair of the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee that has been undertaking the investigation, has as a result of this said that the DCMS will now demand more information from Facebook, including which other apps might have also been involved, or used in a similar way by others, as well as what potential links all of this activity might have had to Russia. He’s also gearing up to demand a full, independent investigation of the company, rather than the internal audit that Facebook so far has provided. The fine, and the follow-up questions that U.K. government officials are now asking, are a signal that Facebook — after months of grilling on both sides of the Atlantic amid a wider investigation — is not yet off the hook in the U.K. This will come as good news to those who watched the hearings (and non-hearings) in Washington, London and European Parliament and felt that Facebook and others walked away relatively unscathed. The reverberations are also being felt in other parts of the world. In Australia, a group earlier today announced that it was forming a class action lawsuit against Facebook for breaching data privacy as well. (Australia has also been conducting a probe into the scandal.)



The ICO also put forward three questions alongside its announcement of the fine, which it will now be seeking answers to from Facebook. In its own words: Who had access to the Facebook data scraped by Dr Kogan, or any data sets derived from it? Given Dr Kogan also worked on a project commissioned by the Russian Government through the University of St Petersburg, did anyone in Russia ever have access to this data or data sets derived from it? Did organisations who benefited from the scraped data fail to delete it when asked to by Facebook, and if so where is it now? The DCMS committee has been conducting a wider investigation into disinformation and data use in political campaigns and it plans to publish an interim report on it later this month. Collins' full statement: Given that the ICO is saying that Facebook broke the law, it is essential that we now know which other apps that ran on their platform may have scraped data in a similar way. This cannot be left to a secret internal investigation at Facebook. If other developers broke the law we have a right to know, and the users whose data may have been compromised in this way should be informed. Facebook users will be rightly concerned that the company left their data far too vulnerable to being collected without their consent by developers working on behalf of companies like Cambridge Analytica. The number of Facebook users affected by this kind of data

scraping may be far greater than has currently been acknowledged. Facebook should now make the results of their internal investigations known to the ICO, our committee and other relevant investigatory authorities. Facebook state that they only knew about this data breach when it was first reported in the press in December 2015. The company has consistently failed to answer the questions from our committee as to who at Facebook was informed about it. They say that Mark Zuckerberg did not know about it until it was reported in the press this year. In which case, given that it concerns a breach of the law, they should state who was the most senior person in the company to know, why they decided people like Mark Zuckerberg didn't need to know, and why they didn't inform users at the time about the data breach. Facebook need to provide answers on these important points. These important issues would have remained hidden, were it not for people speaking out about them. Facebook's response during our inquiry has been consistently slow and unsatisfactory. The receivers of SCL elections should comply with the law and respond to the enforcement notice issued by the ICO. It is also disturbing that AIQ have failed to comply with their enforcement notice. Facebook has been in the cross hairs of the ICO over other data protection issues, and not come out well.



SATELLITE PHONES



BY MARCH
2019

PROBE NEWS: A year since the high-profile launch of its satellite phone services, BSNL has sold 4,000 handsets, majority to government agencies, and expects the number to reach 10,000 by March 2019 riding on fresh demand from corporates and states for the premium service, its chairman Anupam Shrivastava said. “The satellite phone business is doing well, and we have sold 4,000 satellite phone handsets to defense, army, Border Security Force (BSF), disaster management agencies, ONGC (Oil and Natural Gas Corporation), Railways and some in the private sector.” A satellite phone offers communication services via satellites, as opposed to terrestrial mobile towers. Satellite phones are used in situations and locations where terrestrial mobile service may not be available. Satellite phones can work in any part of the country, inside flights and on ships too, as they depend on signals directly from satellites located about 35,700 kms above the Earth. Traditional mobile networks cover around 25-30 kms around towers and can transmit signals to phones placed equal to or below the height of the tower. Besides the agencies handling disaster management, the state police, railways, BSF and others, even multinational companies are now feeling the need to stay connected anywhere and anytime, notwithstanding the fact that while the handset itself is expensive, even the services

come at a premium—tariffs hover about ₹25-30 per minute. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) says it has earned ₹100 crore revenue from this business, that was unveiled in May 2017. “We have already hit a revenue of ₹100 crore in one year from satellite phones, annualised business will remain ₹100 crore even if we don’t do anything further. But we see a lot of potential and headroom for growth,” Shrivastava said. The telecom PSU, which began satellite phone services by targeting government agencies, has now opened up these offerings even for non-government outfits, he said. “The demand from government agencies was so huge that in the first phase we decided to cater to that segment and transfer all the satellite communication of government to BSNL. We have now opened up services to others,” he said. For 2018-19, BSNL has set a target of 10,000 handsets to be sold. “Additional business is coming from the navy, hotels, fishing trawlers...fishing industry will be amongst the biggest users of satellite phone. We are seeing interest from state governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu for the fishing industry,” Shrivastava said. The satellite phone services were launched through INMARSAT. The International Mobile Satellite Organization was set up under aegis of United Nations in 1979 and India is one of its founding members.

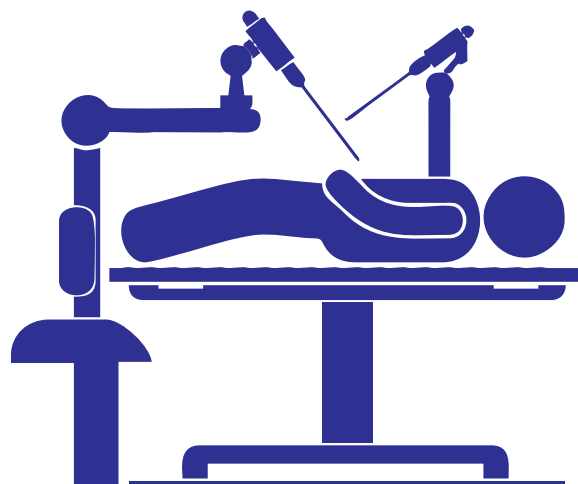


+ TECH - DOCTORS +



PROBE NEWS: An AI system has wiped the floor with some of China's top doctors when it comes to diagnosing brain tumors and predicting hematoma expansion. The system defeated a team comprised of 15 of China's top doctors by a margin of two to one. The AI, BioMind, was developed by the Artificial Intelligence Research Centre for Neurological Disorders at Beijing Tiantan Hospital, and is another example of the long line of the technology analyzing images. When diagnosing brain tumors, BioMind was correct 87 percent of the time, compared to 66 percent by the medical professionals. The AI also only took 15 minutes to diagnose the 225 cases, while doctors took 30. In regards to predicting brain hematoma expansion, BioMind was victorious again, as it was correct in 83 percent of cases, with humans managing only 63 percent. Researchers trained the AI by feeding it thousands upon thousands of images from Beijing Tiantan Hospital's archives. This has made it as good at

diagnosing neurological diseases as senior doctors, as it has a 90 percent accuracy rate. The executive vice-president of Beijing Tiantan Hospital, Wang Yongjun, That he didn't care who won in the battle between doctors and the AI. "I hope through this competition, doctors can experience the power of artificial intelligence," he said. "This is especially so for some doctors who are skeptical about artificial intelligence. I hope they can further understand AI and eliminate their fears toward it."





Love & Elopement Court Support

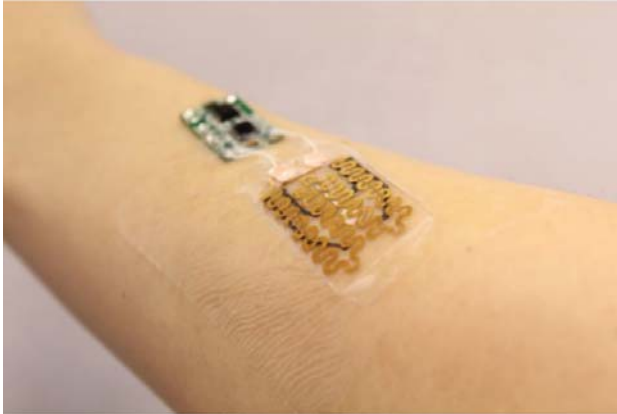


PROBE NEWS: Describing love as "a blind and an innate humane instinct," the Kerala High Court quashed the decision of a college in the state to oust a boy and girl student for love affair and eloping. The court issued the order on the petition filed by BBA student Malavika Babu, 20, at Varkala CHMM College for Advanced Studies and her senior Vyshak, 21, challenging the decision of the college. The court said the college authorities failed to understand the intimate personal relationship is the matter of privacy of individuals upon which it has no authority to interfere. In the absence of evidence that it had affected the classes conducted by the college or the congenial environment for learning, no action can be taken on the ground of indiscipline. "Love is all about the

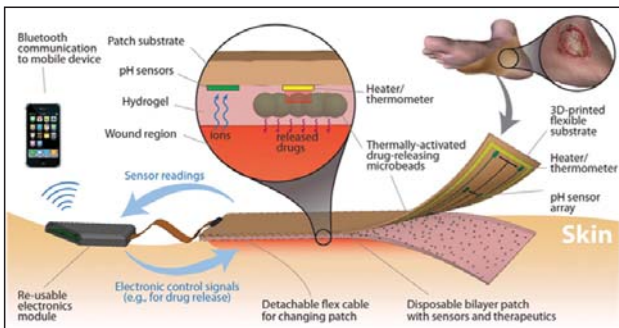
individuals and their freedom." In this case, the college authorities as well as their parents objected to the affair. Finding them as barriers, Malavika eloped with Vyshak. Malavika's mother lodged a man-missing complaint following which the police produced them before the magistrate. However, the court set her free as she was not wrongfully detained. Malavika's parents retracted from the opposition and supported their marriage. Now the pair are husband and wife. However, the college's approach was indifferent and it decided to expel them citing their act amounts to gross indiscipline. The petitioners' counsel Syam J Sam submitted Malavika wanted to continue her degree course in the college while Vyshak decided to discontinue the course and sought for the return of his



HEALTH GADGETS



PROBE NEWS: A team of engineers led by Tufts University has developed a prototype bandage designed to actively monitor the condition of chronic wounds and deliver appropriate drug treatments to improve the chances of healing. While the lab-tested bandages remain to be assessed in a clinical context, the research, published today in the journal *Small*, is aimed at transforming bandaging from a traditionally passive treatment into a more active paradigm to address a persistent and difficult medical challenge.



Chronic skin wounds from burns, diabetes, and other medical conditions can overwhelm the regenerative capabilities of the skin and often lead to persistent infections and amputations.

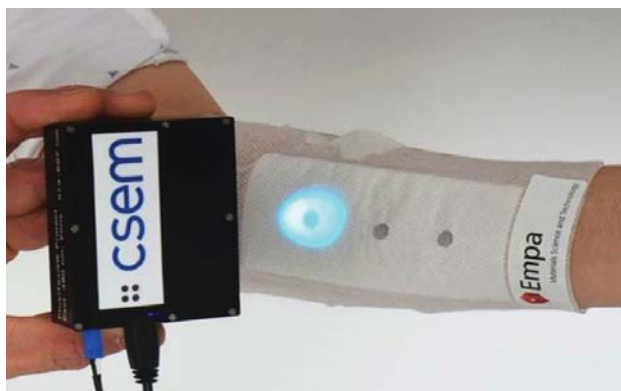
With the idea of providing an assist to the natural healing process, the researchers designed the bandages with heating elements and their more responsive drug carriers that can deliver tailored treatments in response to embedded pH and temperature sensors that track infection and inflammation. Non-healing chronic wounds are a significant medical problem – nearly 15 percent of Medicare beneficiaries require treatment for at least one type of chronic wound or infection at an annual cost of an estimated \$28 billion, according to research published in *Value in Health*. Patients are often older, non ambulatory, and limited in their ability to provide self-care, yet non-healing wounds are typically treated in an outpatient setting or at home. The smart bandages could provide real time monitoring and delivery of treatment with limited intervention from the patient or caregivers. “We’ve been able to take a new approach to bandages because of the emergence of flexible electronics,” said Sameer Sonkusale, Ph.D. professor of electrical and computer engineering at Tufts University’s School of Engineering and corresponding co-author for the study. “In fact, flexible electronics have made many wearable medical devices possible, but bandages have changed little since the beginnings of medicine. We are simply applying modern



technology to an ancient art in the hopes of improving outcomes for an intractable problem.” The pH of a chronic wound is one of the key parameters for monitoring its progress. Normal healing wounds fall within the range of pH 5.5 to 6.5, whereas non-healing infected wounds can have pH well above 6.5. Temperature is also an important parameter, providing information on the level of inflammation in and around the wound. While the smart bandages in this study combine pH and temperature sensors, Sonkusale and his team of engineers have also developed flexible sensors for oxygenation – another marker of healing – which can be integrated into the bandage. Inflammation could also be tracked not just by heat, but by specific biomarkers as well. A microprocessor reads the data from the sensors and can release drug on demand from its carriers by heating the gel. The entire construct is attached to a transparent medical tape to form a flexible bandage less than 3 mm thick. Components were selected to keep the bandage low cost and disposable, except for the microprocessor, which can be reused. “The smart bandage we created, with pH and temperature sensors and



antibiotic drug delivery, is really a prototype for a wide range of possibilities,” said Sonkusale. “One can imagine embedding other sensing components, drugs, and growth factors that treat different conditions in response to different healing markers.” The smart bandages have been created and tested successfully under in vitro conditions. Pre-clinical studies are now underway to determine their in vivo clinical advantages in facilitating healing compared to traditional bandages and wound care products. This work was supported by the National Science Foundation. Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, Massachusetts, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.



SAY NO TO PLASTIC @ WORSHIP - GOVT.



PROBE NEWS: All states and Union Territories have been asked to communicate to temples, mosques, gurudwaras and churches about the ill-effect of single-use plastic and encourage their staff and visitors not to use those, the government said today. Minister of State for Environment Mahesh Sharma, in written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, said the Environment Ministry has written to the offices that come under its own administrative control, offices of the central government and its departments, major PSUs, corporates and institutions to eliminate single-use plastic products, including water bottles and take away coffee cups. "Letters were issued to chief secretaries of all the states and UTs to communicate with temples, mosques, gurudwaras and churches in their states on ill-effects of 'single-use plastic' and to encourage staff and visitors to prohibit single-use plastic products," he said. The institutions, offices and departments have been asked to eliminate single-use plastic products, including water bottles, take away

coffee cups, lunch wrapped in disposable plastic packaging, plastic bags, disposable food containers, plates and containers made of polystyrene foam, plastic straws and others from their offices. "Schools have been reached through eco-clubs operating in the respective states to create awareness about ill-effect of 'single-use plastic' and eliminate them," Sharma said. India recently hosted World Environment Day 2018 with the theme 'beat plastic pollution'. During an event to celebrate the WED-2018 on June 5 in New Delhi, Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan, in presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, pledged to eliminate single-use plastics from India by 2022. Sharma said plastic is used at a high level in the day-to-day life. "However, due to various environmental reasons, the rules prescribe plastic bags with a thickness less than 50 microns to be prohibited. Further, many state governments and UTs have imposed a ban on plastic carry bags irrespective of thickness in order to prevent littering of plastic," he said.



NO CONTROL ON SOCIAL MEDIA : GOVT.

PROBE NEWS: There is no proposal to control social media, the government said in Rajya Sabha when asked if it was planning to do so. In a written reply, minister of state for information and broadcasting Rajyavardhan Rathore said, “There is no proposal in the ministry to control social media. However, the ministry proposes to set up a social media hub to facilitate information flow regarding its policies and programmes through social media platforms i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Youtube etc.” His response came to a question on whether the government is planning to control social media, as it was posing a serious threat to the society. “There is no proposal to invade an individual’s right to privacy,”



Rathore said. The minister’s reply in Rajya Sabha comes days after the Supreme Court asked the government whether its move to create a social media hub was to tap people’s WhatsApp messages, observing that it will be like creating a “surveillance state”. In May this year, the Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL), a Public Sector Undertaking under the ministry, had floated a tender to supply a software for the project.



PROBE NEWS: A fraud in the Central Goods and Service Tax (CGST) involving tax evasion of around Rs 43 crore was unearthed today, official sources said here. Three persons

including two directors of the Howrah CGST Commissionerate were arrested in connection with the irregularities in Howrah and Hooghly areas under the Commissionerate. Investigations revealed that the fraud pertains to issuance of fake GST invoices to 63 taxpayers without delivery of any goods or service, the sources said. These recipients have availed inadmissible Input Tax Credit, the sources said adding that some of these recipients were also found to be non-existent. As per Section 132 of the CGST Act, issuance of an invoice or bill without supply of goods or services and wrongful availment of Input Tax Credit is a punishable offence, the sources said.



YOUNGEST INDIAN GIRL ON EVEREST



Shivangi Pathak, the 17-year-old who became the youngest woman from India to reach the peak of Mount Everest from Nepal side, has scaled Africa's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro, in three days. Tanzania's Mount Kilimanjaro measures 5,895 metres in height. "I always wanted to do something different and stand out from the crowd," Shivangi said about mountaineering.

J-K Govt revokes individual Arms Licenses



**P R O B E
NEWS:-**The Jammu and Kashmir Administration has ordered the revocation of individual

Arms Licenses issued between January 1, 2017, to February 23, 2018, under Arms Rules, 2016. Taking serious note of indiscriminate issuance of arms licenses within Jammu and Kashmir, the state government has also put a ban on the issuance of licenses till further orders. According to an order issued by the Principal Secretary Home Department, "No fresh individual arms license shall be issued by the District Magistrate(s) of the state of Jammu and Kashmir till further orders. "The order also said that the State Home Department has referred the matter to the State Vigilance Organisation (SVO) for

investigation and further appropriate action in terms of the law. The Divisional Commissioners have also been directed to furnish a detailed report to the Home Department within a month. The order further reads, "The Divisional Commissioner of Jammu/Kashmir have been directed to verify all the cases of individual new arms licenses issued between 1-1-2017 and 23-02-2018 in respect of the districts of Kishtwar, Kupwara, Ganderbal, Leh, Rajouri, Ramban, Reasi and Udhampur. Pending verification by the Divisional Commissioner concerned, the District Magistrates of the districts of Kishtwar, Kupwara, Ganderbal, Leh, Rajouri, Ramban, Reasi and Udhampur shall not issue any new individual arms license till further orders. "Meanwhile, the District Magistrates of the remaining districts have been directed to exercise due diligence and care while granting any new individual arms license.



BRUTAL RAPE



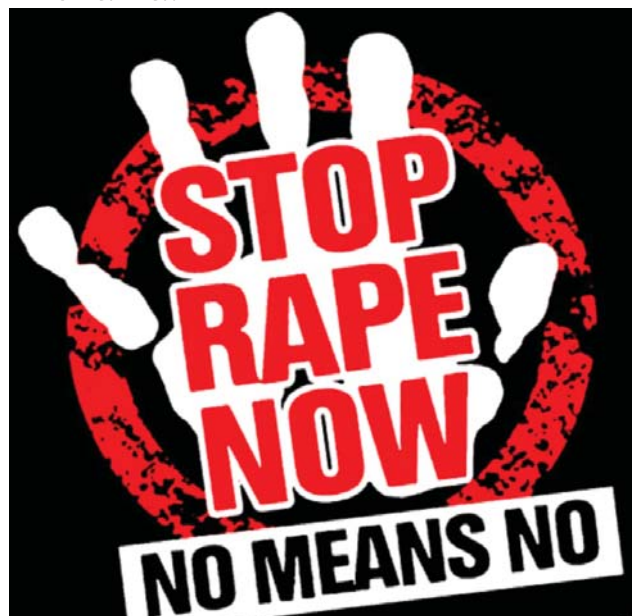
PROBE NEWS: Bihar will not recommend a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation in a case where 29 out of 44 girls were raped in a shelter home in Muzaffarpur, the state's senior-most police officer said, even as opposition parties accused the government of shielding the accused. Director general of police KS Dwivedi said he was satisfied with the investigation being conducted by the department into the case that has triggered an outrage in the state. Dwivedi said 42 girls out the 44 rescued from the shelter home, 70km north of Patna, were medically examined and reports show 29 were raped. The two other girls are reportedly unwell and could not be sent for the tests. The senior police officer deflected a

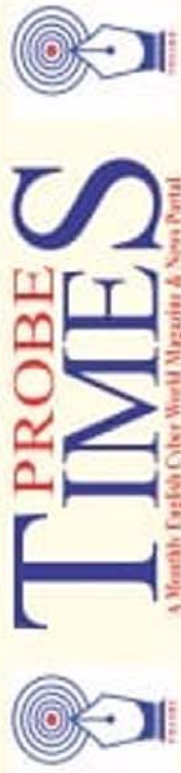
question on the involvement of politicians in the case while addressing the media along with principal secretary, social welfare department, Atul Prasad, in Patna. "Ten of the 11 accused have so far been arrested," he said. When asked why a test identification parade had not been done as yet, Dwivedi said, "We will do it, if required." Reports of repeated sexual abuse of inmates at the short stay home in Muzaffarpur surfaced after Mum-bai's Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) carried out a social audit of shelter homes across Bihar last year. The audit report pointed to sexual abuse of girls at the Muzaffarpur home. Prasad said the institute submitted its report in April this year. The government lodged a first infor-



mation report on May 31. “The department first discussed and reviewed the report, which was in three parts — good practices being followed, administrative lapses, and criminal negligence at shelter homes,” said Prasad. “The lapses at the Muzaffarpur shelter home came on the criminal side. We held a workshop on May 26 in which we deliberated on the report threadbare,” he added. A medical board of Patna Medical College Hospital (PMCH) in June had confirmed the sexual abuse of a majority of the girls of the ‘Balika Grih’. The Nitish Kumar-led government is under pressure from opposition parties in the state to act against the culprits and Rashtriya Janata Dal leader Tejashwi Yadav has even accused it of shielding the culprits in the case. Opposition parties raised the case in the Lok Sabha and Congress member Ranjeet Ranjan demanded a probe by the central agency into the case. Union home minister Rajnath Singh said it was a serious issue. “If there is a recommendation from the state government, the Centre will consider ordering a CBI probe,” Singh said during Zero Hour. And, an aggressive opposition led by RJD, Congress and CPI-ML-(Liberation) disrupted the proceedings in the Bihar assembly and pressed for their demand for a CBI probe into the sexual exploitation of the inmates of Muzaffarpur shelter home. Yadav,

Leader of opposition in the Bihar legislative assembly, also demanded a CBI inquiry under the Patna high court’s watch and slammed the state government for rejecting the central probe. The RJD leader accused that the leaders of the ruling Janata Dal(United) were involved in the case. He also wondered about the reason behind the state government’s opposition to an impartial probe by the CBI if the Centre was willing to get it done. He alleged that chief minister Kumar had gone to campaign during the 1995 assembly elections for the main accused in the case. Authorities had on Monday dug the vacant space inside the Muzaffarpur short-stay home over allegations that one girl was allegedly killed and buried after an argument with the staff. The authorities, however, did not find any human body. Following the expose, the girls were rescued from the shelter home and shifted to Madhubani, Patna and Mokama.





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