

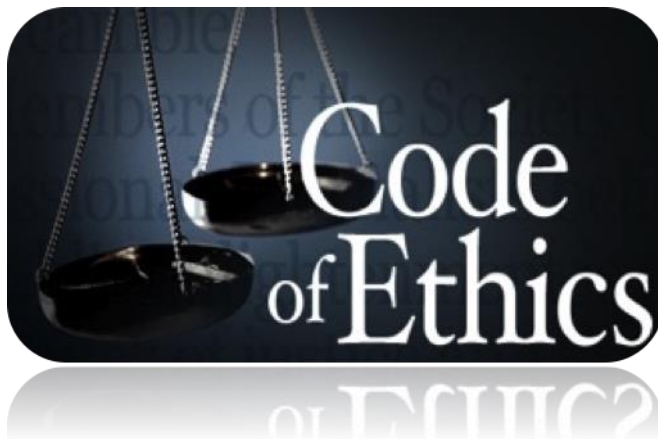


RESTORING VALUES

NEWSLETTER OF THE
FOUNDATION FOR RESTORATION OF NATIONAL VALUES

"The behavioural characteristics of people based on spiritual truths themselves form the cultural traits. Only the first part of this is begotten from birth; the other is developed through education and interpersonal interactions. It is necessary to establish methods for instilling spiritual values and truths through lessons and practical sessions in homes and educational institutions. This is where Central and State Governments should discharge their individual responsibilities with discretion. However, the story so far has been of failure only."

Swami Bhoomananda Tirtha



"All Indians must think and comprehend culture in a broad National context. The moment we speak of culture, suddenly religious and spiritual ideas rush in to subdue us. A culture need not be religious. It has to be something otherwise, to embrace and enfold humans of all kinds, classes, beliefs and disbeliefs alike. A civilized society can be away from God, at least some of its members may prefer to profess so, as you already find in our land now. But any culture cannot be but relating to the human emotional and rational intelligence!"

Swami Bhoomananda Tirtha

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Protection of Dharma unavoidable in code of Law-

1. The founders of Indian Constitution have not cared to mention India as our Motherland anywhere in it. Not only that, instead of displaying pride and honour for the greatness and glory of our ancient culture which is thousands of years old, they have upheld as examples the so called Western cultures which are barely a few hundred years old. This only shows the shallowness of their awareness and concern for our great culture and cultural heritage.

2. The Law and its enforcement though unavoidable, have great sanctity, sublimity.

The ultimate authority, the final word and assurance for independence and upkeep of individual, family, society and government rests with the Law and its principles. All people are subject to Law of the land, including the guardians of Law as well as the Government.

Though Law and its system of rules are supreme in their importance, it becomes meaningful only when purity and rationality is ensured in its observance and implementation; else it will be the unfortunate condition of the fence eating the crop.

Recently in a certain case, the court found that the charge sheet filed by the prosecution, after prolonged investigations, was unfounded; the court then rejected it. In some other instances, the court ordered re-investigation finding that the investigations were not based on facts. Such instances only serve to agitate the mind and unsettle the confidence of those who are eager to abide in Dharma. The people will begin to feel orphaned coming to know of these instances. The confidence of common people is gradually declining in the nobility of Law and in the measures to implement it.

This demotes the status of the Ministers who advise the law administrators on policy.

The case charge-sheet and charges were rejected as false by the court, only after the poor innocent victims had already undergone physical and mental torture for nine long years in jail. This incident in which the upholders of Law had themselves become the accused is no credit to any civilized Nation.

Legal ideology, surely does not permit such blatant unruliness. It was right before the wide open eyes of the department secretary, the higher officials including the Minister, that such dirty actions were taken, like a cat stealthily drinking milk with its eyes shut.

In imposing untenable accusations and allegations, in the different stages of investigation, how did the senior officials choose to be indifferent, turning a blind eye? Does our system of Law permit this? Is not such a state of affairs the result of hanging on to inefficient traditionalism? This is a question that all thinkers on Dharma ask. Such lapses and mistakes are a great slur and challenge to the legal system which is supposed to protect and uphold civil rights and liberties in our Nation.

3. It is an unquestionable fact that everyone, including the Legislative Assembly, the Government, and the courts of Law, are subject to Law. The Laws passed by the Legislative Assembly must conform to the principles of Law. The decisions of the Courts too must follow the same principles. This is an un-negotiable requirement as much as it is for the citizens.

It must be fully acknowledged that the State Legislature is the supreme authority to pass Laws and bring them into effect. Creating obstacles to this in the name of Religion and Faith is to sabotage the Rule of Law. We do not have a government based on Religion; nor do we want it. Just as we have a common criminal code, it is imperative that we have a common civil code also to protect the rights of women and ensure their equality in society. This has been promised by the Constitution itself. Only if the commitments made by the Constitution are fulfilled by resolving all objections and reservations on this through honourable negotiations, discussions, and peaceful means, will the integrity of our Nation be secured. Any delay or indifference towards this will only be exhibition of impertinence and audacity towards the Constitution of India.

We need High Ethical Standards for Members in the Parliament

By Br. Prasanna Swaroopa

Here are some thoughts relating to the topic of Ethics in the context of the upper house of the Parliament, Rajya Sabha.

On 9 July, 1993, the then Government appointed a committee headed by Sri N N Vohra, the then Home Secretary, Govt. of India to take stock of all available information about the activities of crime syndicates who allegedly had developed links with and were being protected by some Government functionaries and political personalities. It took four years to arrive at the decision to form the Ethics Committee, Rajya Sabha (on 4 March 1997), to oversee the moral and ethical conduct of the Members and to examine the cases referred to it with reference to ethical and other misconduct of Members. It took another 8 years before the fourth report of the Ethics Committee proposed a 'Code of Conduct', which was adopted on 20th April 2005.

It has taken our Nation so many years to realize that, at least one section of the Parliament needs a Code of Conduct. It is anybody's guess as to when Lok Sabha will adopt a similar resolution!

Even though it came late, it was a relief to find that the members of the Rajya Sabha were to be guided by a 'Code of Conduct'. However, when we examine the 'code', it is a feeling of disappointment. To illustrate the point, presented here are eight out of the fourteen codes of conduct:

- i. Members must utilise their position as Members of Parliament to advance general well-being of the people.
- ii. Members should not take a gift which may interfere with honest and impartial discharge of their official duties.
- iii. Members holding public offices should use public resources in such a manner as may lead to public good.
- iv. Members should desist from giving certificates to individuals and institutions of which they have no personal knowledge and are not based on facts.
- v. Members should not lend ready support to any cause of which they have no or little knowledge.
- vi. Members should not misuse the facilities and amenities made available to them.
- vii. Members should not be disrespectful to any religion and should work for the promotion of secular values.
- viii. Members should keep uppermost in their mind the fundamental duties listed in part IVA of the Constitution.

Has the Code of Conduct has been thoroughly thought through to ensure the most exemplary conduct?

Even for a 10-year old child any of these 'codes' is the most natural human response in any situation! The point about Fundamental Duties is something every Indian citizen should abide by, since it is part of our Constitution. Where is the need to separately mention it here?

Please examine the first point – “to advance general well-being of the people”. What else are they supposed to be doing? Point ‘vii’ talks of ‘Secular Values’. Another misused word and idea, which unfortunately found its place in the Preamble to our Constitution and now it is here. The word ‘secular’ itself is vague in the context of our Nation and now the idea of ‘secular value’ is another beast. It is rather strange that someone thought of including points ‘iv’ and ‘v’!

According to the First Report of the Ethics Committee, “the Committee visited Parliaments of U.K., France, Finland and Italy and had held discussions with the parliamentarians and the officials associated with the functioning of the corresponding structures/institutions responsible for enforcing ethics in public life.” For ‘ethical conduct’, what is the need to travel to other countries?

We are a Nation which has the most comprehensive and eternal *dharmic codes* for every sphere of life! This is what our rich heritage has bequeathed to us. Where is the need then to travel to other countries to understand ‘Ethics in public life’, that too spending tax-payers’ hard-earned money.

Are these codes, ensuring an Ethical Response from the members? Any list of such codes does not definitely address all the possible violations in the Upper House, which are having an adverse impact on the Nation.

What does the term ‘ethics’ mean? Ethics, in simple terms, are principles and values that govern the behaviour and conduct of an individual or a group or a society. In that, it is very fundamental in nature and at the very fulcrum of human personality, guiding and giving effect to any behaviour or interaction with reference to, directly or indirectly, other individuals, society, Nation and the entire globe.

Should not then the ‘Ethics’ Committee of the Rajya Sabha have come out with a more effective set of codes?

Now, let us see what the architects of Independent India envisaged and envisioned.

Here are extracts from the speech by the then Vice President of India and Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Sri K.R. Narayanan (expressed during the inauguration of the Ethics Committee):

“Gandhiji's conception of politics and public life was inextricably connected with high moral standards and **sacrifice and service to the people** irrespective of caste or creed. He wrote: ‘**I have always derived my politics from ethics... It is because I swear by ethics that I find myself in politics.** A person who is a lover of his country is bound to take a lively interest in politics....’ With this immediate background of our politics and the **spiritual and philosophical heritage** from the past, what is surprising is that it is only now that we are setting up a mechanism for maintaining ethical standards in our parliamentary life.

...“Dr. B.R. Ambedkar summed up the debates in the Constituent Assembly when he said: ‘We all of us are interested in seeing that the administration is maintained at a high level **not only of efficiency but of purity.**’

“Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India, had observed: ‘Parliamentary democracy demands many virtues; it demands, of-course, ability. It demands certain devotion to work. **But it demands also a large measure of co-operation, and of self-discipline and of self-restraint.**’

.....the Santhanam Committee on Corruption was set up by the then Home Minister, Lal Bahadur Shastri, in 1962. The Santhanam Committee had observed that the integrity of Ministers, Members of Parliament and of the State Legislatures was an important factor in creating a social climate against corruption, and recommended the setting up of a Committee of representatives of Parliament and State Legislatures to formulate a code of conduct for legislators."

Please note that Code of Conduct came into existence (and that too only in the Rajya Sabha) only in 2005.

But ultimately what matters is voluntary action by legislators to uphold moral and ethical values. I cannot but quote what Gandhiji said in this context: "**Restraint self-imposed is no compulsion ... you, whose mission in life is service of your fellowmen, will go to pieces, if you do not impose on yourself some sort of discipline ...** It is discipline and restraint that separates us from the brute. If we will be men walking with our heads erect and not walking on all fours, let us understand and put ourselves under voluntary discipline and restraint". It is in this spirit the Ethics committee ought to be accepted by Parliament and the public.

The Ethics committee is **not intended as an essay in idealism, but as an exercise in pragmatic politics**. It does not seek to usher in a moralistic regime in Parliament, but common ethical standards and decency in the conduct of its Members, including of course, Ministers

Is there anything more to be said about the Ethics for the political class?!

Having seen the thoughts expressed by the leaders of Independent India, and so beautifully articulated by the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and that too on the auspicious occasion of the inauguration of the Ethics Committee, it is evident that the 'Code of Conduct' does not do justice in word as well as spirit of the purpose.

We, the Citizens, call upon the leaders of both Houses of Parliament, to define High Ethical Standards for each and every representative of the people, and more importantly LIVE BY THESE STANDARDS!

References (Rajya Sabha, Ethics Committee related):

Committee Reports: rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/publication_electronic/ethics_committee.pdf

Code of Conduct: http://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/members/Code_Conduct.asp

Etiquette & Decorum: rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/practice_procedure/decorum.pdf

Committee on Ethics: rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/practice_procedure/com_ethics.pdf

What we expect from Our Government?

By Dr Gopal Ganesh

Now that the dust has settled down after the Lok Sabha Elections and a new government is expected to take charge of running this country, it is natural for all of us to have certain expectations from the government. Expectations would normally include improvement in infrastructure such as roads and bridges, drinking water, transport facilities and sanitation-these presuppose that all facilities that exist or are created function properly and serve the purpose for which they had been created and citizens are not put to any difficulty in accessing them.

Despite this country having been independent for sixty seven years, corruption has permeated every section of government activity, hampering development and causing immense dissatisfaction to its citizens. Corruption is very high in India. Transparency International, in its 2013 Corruption Perception Index, ranks India 94th out of 177 countries surveyed. Corruption has become so deep rooted that it has almost become a way of life. In this lies the greatest danger. If people start accepting corruption as a way of life, the moral fiber of the country is severely weakened. What should be done about it? There are several bills pending in Parliament which deal with catching and punishing the corrupt. These have to be passed. But will this stop corruption? No, we need to review the way government is run- the economy, bureaucracy, police, and judiciary. We have to make systems more transparent and accountable. So, to begin with, the government must make the way it functions fully transparent. Rules have to be made simple and widely publicized. All officials including Ministers /Prime Minister must be made accountable.

Governance has all but collapsed leading to wide cynicism of institutions such as Parliament, Legislatures and Government. Steps have to be taken to make them function in such a way that they regain the trust and respect of the people. State Legislatures /Parliament should function without unruly interruptions and the Speakers should ensure that business is transacted speedily and with decorum. Government has a major role in ensuring that these take place. Though the Rajya Sabha has adopted a Code of Conduct for its members, the Lok Sabha has yet to consider adopting a Code of Conduct. Many State Legislatures and Parliament have witnessed unprecedented scenes of hooliganism, making us laughing stocks around the world. Code of Ethics for all Legislatures is a must. This should receive top priority. Unruly behaviour in the sacred legislatures, including the national parliament, has to be done away with by presiding officers exercising their powers. It is their sacred duty that legislatures function properly.

One of the topmost tasks of the Government should be to unfetter business from its innumerable controls and inefficient bureaucracy. We are blessed with world class economists in government and outside, an army of management specialists who are usually busy advising clients abroad but rarely have the opportunity to help policy makers revamp the governing structure. There are giants in the IT industry now engaged in streamlining procedures in other countries, who could be harnessed to cut procedures and delays in government functioning so that on one hand government interference is the minimum and vast numbers of idle bureaucracy are freed to engage in productive employment. Entrepreneurs have long learnt to live with controls though they keep grumbling about how the whole system is unfair; they have to be freed from controls in order that they may face competition in the real world without depending on government hand outs. Of course, they have to be heard and lessons learnt from their experience. There are innumerable obsolete laws which need to be done away with and paper work reduced to a minimum. The Jain Commission, which reviewed administrative laws, admitted that multiplicity and complexity of laws and rules, as well as lack of information about them, leads to corruption and hampers growth. It recommended repeal of over 1300 central laws (including 11 British statutes). The Commission admitted that there is not even a rough estimate of similar State laws. The National Law Commission has, over the years, given several recommendations for repeal/ revision of laws, but there has been hardly any progress

Government must make it easier for entrepreneurs to start/do business. A World Bank Report, ranks India 134th among 189 countries on ease of doing business; it ranks only 168th among 189 countries on ease of starting a business. The World Bank Report states that around 35 permissions/procedures are required to construct a warehouse, which takes an average of 168 days. Imagine how long it will take to set up a factory! Small businesses also face innumerable bottlenecks. For instance, 38 licenses are required to start a bar and restaurant in Maharashtra. Consequently, these allow corrupt officials/politicians to fleece entrepreneurs of their money. Government should realize that businesses provide employment, create wealth and generates revenue for running the country. Many States have experimented with single window clearances with varying degrees of success. It is high time that time limits were fixed for clearances and officials made accountable for lapses/delays. Such an end result is possible when the entire system is put on line and made transparent.

It is in this context that a complete review of government functioning needs to be undertaken. Many sectors which were protected earlier are now open for production in the private sector. Privatization has taken place in a number of fields. Despite these developments, there are several ministries in the government of India and in the state governments which are continuing without any purpose whatsoever. Even when regulatory functions have been assigned to a Regulator, government departments have shown no signs of wanting to reduce. There are several ministries in government of India which merely supervise central schemes or centrally sponsored schemes. There is no justification for running any more central schemes except for the first three years of its existence. Then these schemes should either be withdrawn or transferred to the states who are the implementing authorities. There are ministries which deal with Non Conventional Energy, Khadi and Village industries, and so on, which have outlived their existence. Ministries such as Coal, Steel etc. are merely pushing files to no purpose and serve to provide employment to innumerable officials and ministers. A Minister for Energy Affairs could deal with all forms of energy, petroleum, natural gas, non conventional energy etc. Steel, Coal and several similar Ministries could be merged under a single Minister. Drastic pruning of the strength of staff in all departments of government must be immediately undertaken.

Privatization of public sector enterprises must be undertaken earnestly. Shares could be sold to the public besides financial institutions in a fair and transparent manner. Where it is essential to maintain ownership of the public sector enterprise in the Government, disinvestment of up to 49% shares should be undertaken. Government should make it clear that it is for minimum government and maximum governance.

It has been reported by Global Financial Integrity that India has lost nearly \$213 billion (about Rs 14 lakh crores) in illicit capital flight from Independence to 2008. Efforts to bring this money back through an amnesty scheme, would work wonders for financing our educational, health and Defence needs. Government needs to propose an innovative scheme to bring back this wealth back to the country.

All resources of the country should be allocated in a transparent manner through competitive bidding. If this were to be done, we would not have scandals of the kind we saw in allocation of coal, ore, spectrum etc.

To boost confidence in business, especially FDI, there should be no retrospective changes in taxation. FDI should be encouraged in such a way that it does not affect remunerative prices for the farmers and it benefits increased employment.

A flexible labour market along with a comprehensive social security needs to be ensured through far reaching labour reforms. Productive Employment for the Unemployed must be given due priority. Suitable tax breaks for the private sector to promote employment could be considered.

There should be no government interference in education. Every child should have the opportunity study and the Government should facilitate the poor through scholarships etc. to pursue their education. Teachers should be properly trained and provided with suitable equipment to carry out their tasks properly.

Hunger should be eradicated. No person in the country should go hungry. Measures should be devised to ensure that everyone gets food and essential commodities at reasonable prices. Begging should be outlawed. Shelters have to be provided to each homeless person.

Universal health coverage must be mandatory and free for all citizens. Suitable homes for the aged and helpless, physically disabled and mentally challenged must be provided.

Reforms of the Judiciary are a must. An effective judicial system should be put in place, which will speedily try cases and punish the guilty.

Why Judiciary is Never Criticized?

Compiled by Sri Bharat Wakhlu

Despite reports that clearly confirm widespread corruption in India, in all arms of the government **including the judiciary**, one rarely hears anything adverse or suggestive of improvement, when it comes to our judicial system, and the functioning of our courts. Why is it that we never hear any news of wrongdoing by the Judiciary in India? Or any suggestions on what needs to be done to make improvements? Presented here are a few plausible reasons:

Reason #1 – Litigants, defendants, under-trials and convicts

Litigants & defendants (who bear the brunt of all its shortcomings) don't criticize the Judiciary because they fear that:

1. Biased judges will give adverse judgments.
2. Lawyers may refuse to represent them.
3. Lawyers who represent them will be targeted by biased judges.
4. Court associates etc. will delay and spoil their work.
5. They cannot take a risk, since there are no overseeing mechanisms to force biased judges to be impartial.

Likewise, Convicts/accused/under-trials who are unfairly jailed or not granted bail, don't criticize the judicial system most probably because:

1. Jailbirds have no voice – no access to internet, media or the public
2. Nobody believes them. Their media credibility is zero.
3. They fear their sentence or jail conditions can be made worse.
4. They do not have access to legal remedies or are ignorant about their rights, forcing them to remain quiet.

Reason #2 – Lawyers and Judges

Judges (who often have first-hand knowledge about the way the court system works) don't criticize or draw attention to weaknesses, because:

1. The Judiciary has a strict hierarchy. Being outspoken undermines one's position in the hierarchy. Everyone is fearful of 'retribution'.
2. One's elevation depends on staying in the good books of senior judges.
3. The Judiciary is like a trade union, or a club. its shortcomings are trade secrets. Giving out trade secrets in public makes you a social outcast.

Lawyers don't criticize because:

1. Court's shortcomings are a source of lawyers' incomes.
2. Being in the judges' good books makes it possible to appear in court.

Judges make their likes and dislikes amply clear. This reflects in the interim

Reason #3 – The Executive Arm (State and Central Governments, including the Political class)

Governments don't criticize the judiciary because:

1. Stay orders, adjustments, pendency of cases, irrational orders, etc. are given out by courts often to suit the whims of governments. It lets Governments also hide their own slowness and ineffectiveness.
2. They fear that judges may hit back against criticism by deliberately giving strict and adverse orders on PILs
3. The Government enjoys good relationships with judges and wishes to create a 'quid pro quo' arrangement by offering post retirement positions such as lucrative & prestigious enquiry commission postings.
4. Slow progress of court cases discourages citizens from filing PILs FIRs and criminal complaints against them.

Politicians & Party Chiefs don't criticize the judiciary because:

1. Almost all party leaders, MLAs & MPs have many old criminal cases pending against them. Judges can retaliate against criticism by fast tracking such cases and passing adverse orders.

Reason #4 – Journalists, Activists and Media People

Journalists don't criticize the judiciary, or spread the opinions of the critics of the legal system, because:

1. Media bosses and management rarely support them in legal battles, and almost never in a contempt case.
2. Managements usually forces them to apologize.
3. They may lose their increment, promotion or seniority.
4. If forced to resign, they may not get another media job.

Activists don't voice their concerns, because:

1. They think the judiciary is beyond their scope of action, as democratic freedom of speech does not apply to court.
2. It is safe to criticize politicians and bureaucrats for whatever is wrong with the country. Why take the risk by criticizing judiciary? Unlike politicians, judges can send activists to jail.
3. There is confusion as to who all can be criticized, e.g. Are lawyers part of the judiciary? Are they responsible for its shortcomings? Is the Law Ministry responsible? Is it wrong to criticize judges?

The intention of high-lighting these reasons is to remind our readers that very often ethical and other transgressions get done without as much as a whimper from people who are the defenders of high standards, because they are concerned about the consequences for themselves. If we are all concerned about what might happen to us if we raise our voices against wrong-doing, then even with a whistle-blower policy, nothing much might change! Think about it!

PIL relating to Wasteful Advertisement by Governments

Writ Petition (C) No.302 of 2012
in the Supreme Court of India

Foundation for Restoration of National Values v. Union of India & others

1. This PIL has been filed by FRNV seeking to raise the issue of wasteful expenditure being done by the Central and State Governments, in issuing massive and prominent full page advertisements in National and Regional Newspapers seeking to highlight and eulogize nationally their so-called achievements in office and progress of public projects, either upon completion of a certain number of years in office or the birth anniversary of the Head of Government, which burdens the exchequer with several hundred crores annually. This wasteful and wholly unnecessary exercise is most unjustified, in the light of the fact that various developments and beneficent schemes are not able to reach the masses and unprivileged, or are diverted or mis-utilized, due to paucity of funds or infrastructural deficiency. As such, this wasteful expenditure on one-sided self-glorification advertisements needs to be done away with, and the large amount of public money spent thereon should usefully and fruitfully be spent on development and growth.
2. The said writ petition was dismissed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order dated 3.1.2014, on the ground that there appeared no violation of any fundamental right, warranting a writ petition of this nature under Article 32 of the Constitution of India.
3. FRNV had filed a review petition against the said order of dismissal dated 3.1.2014.
4. By order dated 1.4.2014 in Review Petition (C) no. 467 of 2014 preferred by FRNV, the Hon'ble Supreme Court reviewed its earlier order of dismissal, and while recalling the order dated 3.1.2014, was pleased to restore the writ petition to its original number, while issuing notice to the respondents.
5. It was noted in the said order dated 1.4.2014 that there was an error of record in the order of the Supreme Court dated 3.1.2014, in as much as in ground 'J' of the writ petition, the petitioner had taken a ground that freedom of speech and freedom of press which are part of fundamental rights under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution are affected by the impugned action of the respondents.
6. It may be useful to extract ground 'J' of the writ petition as under:

“J. Because it is imperative and essential that in a democracy such as ours, which is founded on the ideas of equality and the freedom of speech, the free press in the nation remains unbiased, non-partisan and sufficiently robust in its ability to report the truth in an objective manner, however, by having State Governments give large sums of money for the sake of inserting unnecessary and wasteful advertisements in newspapers across the country, it would be axiomatic that newspapers would be beholden to the State administration and under such circumstances, the press is unlikely to remain unbiased, neutral and non-partisan. In the aforesaid circumstances, the petitioner fears that this indirect, yet strong influence on the press, is likely to impact the impartiality of the fourth estate, and prevent them from serving the public and the greater good of the country, by truthfully and honestly reporting on the decisions and the actions of those in positions of power and authority, including and especially those, whose job it is to serve the public with impersonal zeal.

7. As stated hereinbefore, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has issued notice of the writ petition to the Union and the State Governments vide order dated 1.4.2014, and their responses are awaited.

8. On this subject, reference may be made to judgment dated 23.4.2014 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) no. 13/2003 Common Cause v. UOI, which was decided along with Writ Petition (Civil) no. 197/14. The said petitions also dealt with the misuse of publicly funded government advertising campaigns as *de facto* political advertising canvass, being violative of Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution. It was prayed in the writ petition that the UOI and all the State Governments be restrained from using public funds for advertising in a manner so as to project personalities, parties or particular governments, and for laying down binding guidelines which would prevent the abuse of public funds by such advertising. The said writ petitions were decided by the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 23.4.2014 by constituting a Committee comprising of three members to undertake the task of suggesting guidelines to the Supreme Court after an intricate study of all the best practices in public advertisement in different jurisdictions, to be submitted, preferably, within a period of three months.

9. It would hence be apparent that although there would appear to be several common propositions in the writ petition by FRNV, and those decided vide the said order dated 23.4.2014, the writ petition by FRNV carries certain novel points, particularly the issue relating to the detrimental effects of public advertisements given by Governments in national newspapers which adversely affect the freedom of speech and freedom of press, as also the right of the public to have an independent press, which is free from government control and revenue in any manner whatsoever, which features are part of the fundamental rights guaranteed under Article 19 (1) (a) of the Constitution of India. This point raised by FRNV does not appear to have been raised in either the two said writ petitions, nor in the order dated 23.4.2014, which decided the said writ petitions.