

From the Editor's Desk



"IMAGE OF THE JUDICIARY "
Known as the face of Justice
IS DETERIORATING, ON ACCOUNT OF
not looking back seriously, to the quality of service rendered,
WHILE GOING UN-MONITORED, IN REALITY TO THE PEOPLE
AS
"PUBLIC SERVICES"

Common aggrieved people, reflects the Image of the Judiciary, as the face of Justice, in the country.

Dear Reader,

Life is full of happiness and sorrow. All of us yearn for happiness. But not everybody is lucky. Sorrow comes in varied shades and hues. We are all numbed by the deaths of the schoolchildren in Peshawar. Then there are personal tragedies - the loss of a loved one, even the inevitable parting of ways between people who love each other... I can go on. But one of the greatest sorrows of life is for a mother having to tend to her son who is lying in a seemingly endless coma. Sooraj Singh, the person lying in coma the past two years in Kochi (Kerala), was my colleague when I worked at The Times of India in Chennai. He sat diagonally across the narrow aisle that separated us and often I would hear him burst into peals of laughter. I sometimes wondered how he managed to do that in the midst of laying out the 'national' pages. And then I realised it was probably the copy that had set him off. He rarely sent me copy to edit but when he did he would always tell me there was no hurry. Sashi Nair, Director & Editor, Press Institute of India - Research Institute for Newspaper Development, (Publishers of Vidura/ Grassroots/ RIND Survey), RIND Premises, Second Main Road, Taramani CPT Campus, Chennai 600 113, India, e-mail editorpiirind@gmail.com, Website: www.pressinstitute.in, received an email a few days ago from Karthika, another former colleague at TOI, saying she had just discovered Sooraj's plight while surfing online, thanks to a story written by Sooraj's mother, Devi, I was shocked. You can read the piece at: <http://www.sify.com/news/a-mother-s-cry-a-speeding-car-crashed-into-my-life-imagegallery-features-ocdr1bbaacb.html>. A few of us have decided to help Devi financially. She is a cancer survivor. When I spoke to her, I sensed a strong mother full of hope. Devi has opened a bank account for Sooraj, details of which are: Account No. 0417053000005475, South Indian Bank, Tochi Branch, Vyttila, Kochi - 19. The IFSC code is SIBL0000417. Thanking you in anticipation: , Sashi Nair, Director & Editor, Press Institute of India - Research Institute for Newspaper Development, (Publishers of Vidura/ Grassroots/ RIND Survey), RIND Premises, Second Main Road, Taramani CPT Campus, Chennai 600 113, India, E-Mail: editorpiirind@gmail.com, Website: www.pressinstitute.in,

Management and Staff of "Marine Waves", call upon the learned and enlightened colleagues of the legal fraternity, " WITH NATIONAL INTEREST" to uphold integrity by An INTEGRITY FORUM for the staff of the Judicial Service to discuss 'Critical aspect of the Administration of Justice' with an object in mind to rebuilding the Institution and to address pertinent issues that would lead to good, quality justice delivery for citizens access the Courts. The Theme: 'Integrity' the key to effective Justice Delivery, is to ensure that the faith people have imposed on " Judges and Magistrates " are upheld. Such FORUM need to be held for Court Officials, who work with Judges and Magistrates and those who find themselves

(contd. on page 3)

(contd. from page 3)

in the Registries and the Court Rooms. When the talk about integrity, in the 'Judicial Service Delivery' is being mentioned the undoubted implication is that the integrity of the various categories of Court Officials are critical and absolutely essential to the kind of justice Indians obtain from the Courts. Engagements with Court Officials to draw their attention to the importance of Integrity, in their daily lives of activities as Justice Institution in the country. As there is the need to worry as CORRUPTION appears to pervade the corridors of national lives, as the survey has revealed that more than half of the judges and the magistrates are one of the most corrupt officials in the country. This perception of the people is very serious as it hurts the entire image of the Institution and the members of the bench. It is the responsibility of all in the country to therefore to work to salvage the Institutions image. Judicial corruption is the worst form of corruption since the unreliability of the JUDICIARY undermines the Rule of Law, Peace and Stability and sustainable National Development. Any learned and like-minded citizen would agree that the Judicial Service, is the lead and key Institution for fighting corruption, crimes of every kind, impunity, restoring lost rights and liberties and it is a grave disappointment to the sacred institution, that should provide solace, comfort and hope to the citizens of India.

" People when rush to the courts for redressal some court officials rather heap untold hardships on them without mercy by extorting monies from those unfortunate people to worsen their plight.

" Public are currently demanding social responsibility from the State Officials in whose hands they entrust Public Office, adding that these petitions that are brought before Management on daily basis are indicting mainly court-staff, which do not speak well of the Institution.

" Ex-servicemen have challenged all relevant officials as a wake-up call, and taken the matter to H.C. to confront their shortcomings and find constructive ways of making the necessary amends to restore public confidence in the judicial service.

" Appeal to the public to report to officials who make unjustifiable demands on them or threaten their peace and safety in the law courts.

" Corruption is a huge storm that has sufficient power to destroy the country if much attention is not paid to it.

" Focus of the theme is on personal character which encompasses truthfulness and honesty since this is about what people expects of the Judicial Service.

" Integrity influences and promote peace stability and trust in any society there by creating an enabling environment for fruitful conduct of business for development.

" Those who serve in the courts without integrity would attract criminals as their friends and urged them to say no to corruption and serve the nation with integrity.

" Also urge the officials to have integrity as their hallmark for all their service delivery, adding that if the act of corruption and perceptions are not checked it would have a long lasting legacy for future generations.

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