



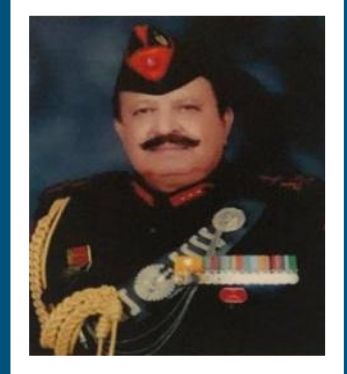
Virtual Colloquium
On
Law of Sedition in India
vis.-a-vis.
Freedom of Speech and Expression



Prof. Nishtha Jaswal,
Vice-Chancellor
HPNLU, Shimla



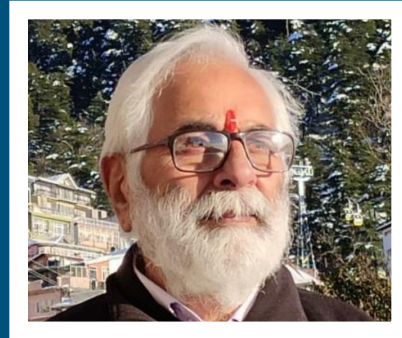
Prof. Balraj Chouhan,
Vice-Chancellor,
DNLU, Jabalpur



Lt Gen BS Jaswal
(Retd)
PVSM, AVSM**, VSM



Govind Goel,
Advocate Supreme
Court of India



Prakash Chandra
Lohumi,
Senior Journalist

Date - 29 July, 2020

Google Meet Link - <https://meet.google.com/yrb-tugt-exe>

Time - 1030-1230 hrs.

Faculty Coordinators

Ms. Sarita
Asstt. Professor of Law
+91-83607 83614

Mr. Aayush Raj
Teaching Associate
+91-8986580111



Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla

Celebrating the 70th Anniversary of Constitution Day

Virtual Colloquium

on

Law of Sedition in India vis-a-vis Freedom of Speech and Expression

Date - 29 July 2020 | Venue - Online Google Meet

Patron-in-Chief	Patron
<p>Prof. (Dr.) Nishtha Jaswal Vice-Chancellor, Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla</p>	<p>Prof. S.S. Jaswal, Registrar, Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla</p>

Faculty Coordinators	
<p>Ms. Sarita Assistant Professor of Law</p>	<p>Mr. Aayush Raj Teaching Associate</p>

About HPNLU Shimla

The Himachal Pradesh National Law University (HPNLU, Shimla), was established by the State Government in the year 2016, by an Act of the Legislature (Act 16 of 2016). Presently, the University is offering B.A./B.B.A. LL.B. (Five Year Integrated Programme), LL.M. (One Year Programme), and Ph.D. Located in the geographical terrains of Himalayas, HPNLU, Shimla, is the best place for study and learning in law, developing in students, understanding about the law and legal system, topographies of law-making, legal practice, and administration. The University is committed to providing interdisciplinary and practical/application based legal education keeping in view the requirements of overall developments of its students.

About the Colloquium

State sovereignty is an essential expression of the legal personality of the State. The term 'sovereignty' is used in many fields such as political science, law, economics, etc. The sovereignty of the state has various dimensions such as internal & external and absolute & non-absolute sovereignty. Under the Indian Constitution, sovereignty lies with its people; it authorizes the people to have a check on governmental policies by way of participatory discourses. This power is a check upon the functioning of the government. As a matter of fact, one of the facets of democracy is to bring to for the pitfalls of the government. Thus, as sovereign, people of India enjoy certain fundamental rights which include voting in or out governments every five years and criticize the performance of an incumbent government without being liable for sedition. However, this right may be used in an overarching manner such that disaffection is created against the powers that be.

The colloquium aims to educate and make aware the students, scholars, academicians, and professionals about the debates associated with the freedom of speech and expression and the reasonable restrictions imposable therein. It also aims at rekindling the debate surrounding hate-speech, dissent, and public opinion on governmental policies.

Sedition

Freedom of speech and expression is one of the fundamental human rights. The purpose of this freedom is to allow an individual to attain self-fulfillment, assist in the discovery of truth, strengthen the capacity of a person to make decisions, and facilitate the balance between sustainability and social change. Freedom of speech often poses difficult questions including the extent to which the State can regulate individual conduct. However, reasonable restrictions can always be imposed on this right in order to ensure its responsible exercise and to ensure that it is equally applicable to all. Article 19 (1) (a) of the Constitution of India guarantees freedom of speech and expression to all its citizens. However, this freedom is subjected to certain restrictions namely, the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign states, public order decency or morality, or in relation to contempt of court, defamation, or incitement to an offense.

The offense of sedition is provided under Section 124 A of the Indian Penal Code, 1860. Sedition is the act of arousing interest and motivation to overthrow a Government, or collectively writing about or speaking out against a Government in a negative manner. It can also be considered to be a kind of speech that promotes action to overthrow or harm the Government. The relevance of this section in an independent and democratic nation has been the subject of continuous debate. There is an apprehension that this provision might be easily misused. In a democratic state like India, singing from the same book is not a benchmark of patriotism. People should be at liberty to show their affection towards their country in their own way. Dissent and criticism are an essential part of public debates on public issues as a part of a vibrant democracy. The primary agenda of this colloquium is to rekindle the debate surrounding hate-speech, dissent, and public opinion on governmental policies.

Programme Schedule

Details of the Session	Speaker	Timing
Introduction to the Colloquium and Introduction of the Dignitaries Ms. Sarita		10:30-10:35 A.M.
Welcome Address	Prof.(Dr.) S.S. Jaswal, Registrar, HPNLU, Shimla	10:35-10:40 A.M.
Special Speaker	Prof. (Dr.) Nishtha Jaswal, Vice-Chancellor, HPNLU, Shimla	10:40-10:55 A.M.
Key Speaker	Prof.(Dr.) Balraj Chauhan, Vice-Chancellor, Dharmashastra National Law University, Jabalpur	10:55-11:25 A.M.
Special Speaker	Lt Gen BS Jaswal (Retd) PVSM, AVSM**, VSM	11:25-11:40 A.M.
Special Speaker	Govind Goel, Advocate on Record, Supreme Court of India	11:40-11:55 A.M.
Special Speaker	Prakash Chandra Lohumi, Senior Journalist	11:55-12:10 P.M.
Question Answer Session by Mr. Aayush Raj		12:10-12:25 P.M.
Vote of Thanks		12:25 P.M.

*The Colloquium will be conducted through the virtual platform **Google Meet**.