



# **SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

**Workshop on  
Reporting of Court Proceedings by  
Media and Administration of Justice  
for  
Legal Correspondents / Journalists**

**On Saturday, 29 & Sunday, 30 March, 2008  
at  
Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi**

*Organised by*  
**Supreme Court Legal Services Committee  
Press Council of India  
Indian Law Institute  
National Legal Services Authority  
Editors Guild of India**

## Organizing Committee

<b>Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan</b> Chief Justice of India	<b>Chief Patron</b>
<b>Hon'ble Dr. Justice Arijit Pasayat</b> Judge, Supreme Court of India/Chairman, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. N. Ray</b> Chairman, Press Council of India, New Delhi	<b>Co-Chair</b>
<b>Mr. P.H. Parekh</b> Sr. Advocate & President, Supreme Court Bar Association	<b>Member</b>
<b>Prof. K. N. Chandrasekharan Pillai</b> Director, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi	<b>Member</b>
<b>Mr. Alok Mehta</b> President, Editors Guild of India, New Delhi	<b>Member</b>
<b>Mr. K.S. Sachidananda Murthy</b> Secretary General, Editors Guild of India, New Delhi	<b>Member</b>
<b>Mr. V.K.Jain</b> Secretary General, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi	<b>Member</b>
<b>Mr. Kamlesh Kumar</b> Member Secretary, National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi	<b>Member</b>
<b>Ms. Vibha Bhargava</b> Secretary, Press Council of India, New Delhi	<b>Member</b>
<b>Prof. S. Sivakumar</b> Research Professor, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi Phone: Off: # 91 11 23387873 (M) # 9868206708 E-mail: <a href="mailto:drssivakumar@gmail.com">drssivakumar@gmail.com</a>	<b>Coordinator</b>
<b>Mr. R.S. Seth</b> Secretary, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee	<b>Special Invitee</b>
<b>Mr. Dalip Kumar</b> Registrar, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi	<b>Special Invitee</b>
<b>Ms. Usha Rani</b> Library and Information Officer, Press Council of India, New Delhi	<b>Special Invitee</b>

## Background

Importance of the Public's Right to Know and the Media's Responsibility to inform – Constitutional Status of Media Freedom – Scope of limitations.

Independence of Judiciary and elements of Fair Trial – Contempt of Court jurisdiction and its purpose and limitations – Object and scope of Reporting Judicial Proceedings and matters Sub-judice – Impact of individual rights, administration of justice and social expectations on rule of law and purity of justice.

## Objectives

- promote a dialogue in order to evolve good practices in law reporting;
- identify limits and limitations when reporting court proceedings;
- analyze few case studies on abuse of freedom to know the context and consequences;
- evolve mutually acceptable strategies in serving the cause of justice and rule of law while exercising freedom of press;
- examining adoption of suitable mechanisms which can best deal with aberrations and willful violations of recommended code of practice; and
- develop a trained cadre of court reporters in media establishments.

## Programme

Six sessions spread over two-days on 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> of March, 2008 involving Judges of the Apex Court, Senior Advocates, Senior Editors and Bureau Chiefs of print and electronic media and Representatives of media regulatory bodies each session will be chaired by Supreme Court Judges. In addition to this there will be Inaugural and Concluding Session. **Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Mr. Justice K. G. Balakrishnan**, has consented to be the Chief Guest and **Hon'ble Dr. Justice Arijit Pasayat**, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Chairman, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee will preside over both the functions. The method is to be interactive around propositions and issues which have arisen in reporting court proceedings. The six sessions will have the following topics:

- I. Identification of Issues and Concerns including Contempt of Court
- II. Reasonableness of Restrictions on Reporting Sub-Judice Matters
- III. Freedom of Press/Media in Reporting (Print & Electronic) – Use and Abuse
- IV. Trial by Media – Understanding implications through Case Studies
- V. Professional Ethics in Reporting, Problems in Observance, and Solutions
- VI. Towards Developing a Self-executing Code of Good Practices in Reporting of Judicial proceedings and Sub-Judice Matters

- Better understanding of each others' role and responsibilities;
- Draft guidelines on development of code of good practices;
- Evolving a channel of communication between courts and media for better administration of justice and dissemination of information;
- Developing a cadre of informed reporter and correspondents in court information dissemination.

Proposed workshop for Legal Correspondents and Journalists intent to interact with Judges of Supreme Court and Senior Lawyers along with Senior Editors and Bureau Chiefs of print and electronic media and Representatives of media regulatory bodies.

The proposed workshop on 'Reporting of Court Proceedings by Media and Administration of Justice' will accommodate 60 Legal Correspondents/ Journalists. There will be selection from amongst those who express their willingness to participate.

Detailed programme and registration form is available at the offices mentioned below and can also be downloaded from the website:

**The Secretary, Press Council of India**, Soochna Bhavan, 8-C.G.O. Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 Phone: 24368726 web site: [www.presscouncil.nic.in](http://www.presscouncil.nic.in)

**The Registrar, Indian Law Institute**, Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi-110001 Phone: 23382190 web site: [www.ilidelhi.org](http://www.ilidelhi.org)

**The Secretary General, Editors Guild of India**, 2/11, INS Building, Rafi Marg, New Delhi-1. Tel. 23715210, 23325565 Resi-22750246 Mobile: 9818987555

**The Member Secretary, National Legal Services Authority**, 12/11, Jamnagar House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi-110011 Phone: 23382778

**The Secretary, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee**, 109, Lawyers Chamber, Post Office Wing, Supreme Court, New Delhi-110001 Phone: 23381555

web site: [www.supremecourtfindia.nic.in](http://www.supremecourtfindia.nic.in) ; [www.sclsc.nic.in](http://www.sclsc.nic.in)

Those who wish to participate in the workshop may submit their registration form along with a brief profile **on or before 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2008 to The Secretary General, Supreme Court, New Delhi-110001.**

**Last Date for Receipt of Registration form** : 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2008  
**Intimation to Selected Participants** : 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2008  
**Last Date of Confirmation by Participants** : 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2008

Outcome

Resource Persons

Participants

Registration

Important Dates