

Seminar on
'Strengthening Democracy: Role of judiciary'
Organised by
The International Centre, Goa
&
Friedrich Ebert Foundation, India

Venue: *Mandovi* Hall, The International Centre, Goa
24-25 October, 2009

PROGRAMME

Saturday, 24th October 2009

9:00 am – 10:00 am **Registration**

10:00 am – 10:45 am **Inaugural Session**

Lighting of Lamp

Welcome Address & Seminar Objectives by **Nandini Sahai**,
Director & Chief Executive, The International Centre, Goa

Introductory Remarks by **Rajeshwar Dyal**,
Media Advisor, Friedrich Ebert Foundation - India

Inaugural Address by **Hon. Ramakant Khalap**,
Chairman, Law Commission of Goa & former Union Law Minister

Keynote Address by **Adv. Prashant Bhushan**,
Senior Lawyer, Supreme Court of India

Vote of Thanks by **Arjun Halarnkar**
Programme Manager, The International Centre, Goa

10:45 am - 11:00 am **Tea/Coffee Break**

11:00 am - 1:00 pm **Session I**

Accountability Vs Independence of Judiciary

Chairperson: **Justice (Retd) M F Saldanha**, Former Judge, Karnataka High Court

Speakers: **Adv. Pradeep Havnur**, Advocate, Bombay High Court

Adv. E O Mendes, Advocate, Bombay High Court

Adv. Cleofato Almeida Coutinho, Member, Law Commission, Goa

[Chairperson 20 mins, Each speaker 20 mins. Discussion 40 mins.]

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm **Lunch Break**

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Session II**
Judiciary: Partner in Societal Development?

Chairperson: **Adv. Prashant Bhushan**, Senior Lawyer, Supreme Court of India

Speakers: **Dr. Nina Dey-Gupta**, Formerly Faculty of Education, University of Delhi
Adv. Jamshed Mistry, Advocate, Bombay High Court

[Chairperson 20 mins, Each speaker 20 mins. Discussion 30 mins.]

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm **Tea/Coffee Break**

3:45 pm – 5:30 pm **Session III**
Relationship between Judiciary and Parliament

Chairperson: **Hon. Ramakant Khalap**, Chairman, Law Commission of Goa & former Union Law Minister

Speakers: **Ishwar Bhat**, Editor, Times of India (Kanada Edition)
Parsa Venkateshwar Rao Jr, Senior Assistant Editor, DNA
Prabhakar Timble, Former Principal of Govind Ramnath Kare College of Law *and* Govt. College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Quepem and former State Election Commissioner, Goa.

[Chairperson 15 mins, Each speaker 20 mins. Discussion 30 mins.]

Sunday, 25th October 2009

9:30 am – 11:00 am **Session IV**
Judiciary and Media in India

Chairperson: **Parsa Venkateshwar Rao Jr**, Senior Assistant Editor, DNA

Speakers: **Prakash Kamat**, Special Correspondent, Goa - The Hindu
Aariz Schandra, Principal correspondent, Aajtak/ Headlines Today

[Chairperson 20 mins, Each speaker 20 mins. Discussion 30 mins.]

11:00 am – 11:15 am **Tea/Coffee Break**

11:15 am – 12:45 pm

Session V

**Translating Dream of Zero Pending Cases into Reality: Need for
Faster dispensation of Justice**

Chairperson: **Adv. Amrut Kansar**, Former MP & Constitutional Expert

Speakers: **Maneka Rao**, Legal Correspondent, DNA
Adv. Amit Karkhanis, Advocate, Bombay High Court

[Chairperson 20 mins, Each speaker 20 mins. Discussion 30 mins.]

12:45 pm – 1:30 pm

Open Forum

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Valedictory Session

Valedictory Address by

Subhalaxmi Nayak,
Trustee, The International Centre, Goa & Eminent Lawyer

Guest of Honour

Hon. Pratapsingh Rane,
President, The International Centre, Goa &
Speaker, Goa Legislative Assembly

Concluding Remarks &
Vote of Thanks by

Nandini Sahai, Director & Chief Executive,
The International Centre, Goa

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Lunch

End of the Seminar