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Judicial Response towards Right to Privacy and Freedom of Press

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ABSTRACT

Privacy and security are those things you give up when you show the world that makes you extraordinary.

- Margaret cho

Indian Constitution provides every citizen freedom of press and right to privacy but why till date freedom of press is considered as a havoc in the society, in this paper the research would like to emphasis on a landmark case of Indian Constitution and I.T Act case of Shreya Singhal Case which gave us the new meaning of the Right to Privacy, Freedom of Press and struck down Section 66(A) of Information Technology Act 2000. The paper also incorporates various other cases in which freedom of press and right to privacy are challenged, what where the judgements given by the courts and what was the role of the Information Technology Act 2000, in the judicial response for freedom of press and right to privacy.

Keywords: *Freedom of Press and Right to Privacy, Indian Constitution, Information Technology Act 2000.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Analysis of Shreya Singhal Case With Relation to Right to Privacy Background of the Case

Mumbai police arrested two girls Shaheen Dhada and Rinu Srinivasan in 2012 for communicating their dismay at a bandh brought in the wake of Shiv Sena boss Bal Thackeray's demise. The girls posted their remarks on the Facebook. The arrested girls were discharged later on and it was decided to drop the criminal cases against them, yet the arrests of them pulled in across the country a large protest. It was presumed that the police have abused its authority by invoking Section 66A. At the same time it is a breach of fundamental right of speech and expression. The offence under section 66A of IT act being cognizable, law enforcement agencies have authority to arrest or investigate without warrants, based on

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charges brought under the information technology act. The outcome of this was many highly famous arrests of people throughout the country for posting their views and opinions whereas govt. called them 'objectionable content' but more often these content were dissenting political opinions. In January 2013, the central govt. had turned out with an advisory under which no person can be arrested without the police having prior approval of inspector general of police or any other senior official to him/her. The Supreme Court called the entire petition related to constitutional validity of information technology act or any section within it under single PIL case known as "*Shreya Singhal v. Union of India*".²

International Law Related To Freedom of Speech And Expression

The right to freedom of expression is articulated under Article 19 as Human Right in Universal Declaration of Human Right as well as in International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which states that "everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference and "everyone shall have the right to freedom of expressions; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information's and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice." Human Rights Council of United Nations on July 5th of 2012 unanimously adopted a resolution to protect the free speech of the individuals on the internet.

- **Facts In Issue**

A writ petition was filed in public interest under Article 32 of the Constitution of India by petitioner, seeking to declares Section 66A,69A and section 79 as unconstitutional on the fact that the phraseology used in Section 66A,69A and section 79 of the IT Act, 2000 is so broad and vague, at the same time incapable of being judged on objective standards that it is susceptible to wanton abuse and hence falls foul of Article 14, 19 (1)(a) and Article 21 of the Constitution. Petitioner further argues that the terms, menacing, offensive, annoyance, inconvenience, obstruction, danger, and insult have not been defined in the General Clauses Act, I.T Act or any other law and so they are susceptible to wanton abuse. Petitioner further urged that the provision sets out an unreasonable classification between citizens on one hand and netizens on the other hand as the freedom generally guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) to citizens including general media now is tamed as far as netizens are concerned. If netizens make comments which could be made generally by citizens, they can be arrested. This is how Article 14 has been violated by this provision.

² W.P. (crl).No.167 of 2012

- **Petitioner's Arguments**

- a) Section 66A takes away the Freedom of Speech and Expression guaranteed under Art. 19(1)(a) and is not saved by the reasonable restriction mentioned under Art. 19(2).
- b) That causing of annoyance, inconvenience etc. is outside the scope of Article 19(2).
- c) Section 66A seeks to create an offence but have infirmity and vice of vagueness as it does not clearly defines the terminology used in it. The terminology used is subjective in nature and is left open at the desire and will of the law enforcement agencies to interpret it.

- **Respondent's Arguments**

- a) Legislature is in the best position to address the requirements of the people and the courts will only step in when a law is clearly violative of Part III and there is presumption in favor of Constitutionality of the law in question.
- b) Court would so construe a law to make it functional and in doing so can read into or read down the provisions of law.
- c) Only, the probability of abuse cannot be a justification to declare a provision invalid.
- d) Loose Language is used to safeguard the rights of the people from those who violate them by using this medium.
- e) Vagueness is not a ground to declare a statute unconstitutional if it is otherwise qualified and non-arbitrary.

- **Free Speech**

Preamble of Indian constitution guarantees freedom of thought and expression and it is of key significance. The right to freedom in Article 19 guarantees the Freedom of speech and expression which was acknowledged in the *Maneka Gandhi v Union of India*³ case, where the Supreme Court held that the freedom of speech and expression has no geographical limitation and it moves with the right of a citizen to collect information and to exchange thought with others, not only in India but abroad also. The zest of the Article 19 says: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression. This right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to pursue, receive and promulgate information and ideas through any media and regardless of state boundaries.”

³ 1978 AIR 597,1978 SCR (2621).

In *Romesh Thappar v. State of Madras*⁴ case, it was stated that “Freedom of speech and Expression of the press lay at the foundation of all democratic organisations. Without free political discussion, no public education which is essential for the proper functioning of the process of popular government, is possible.” The Supreme Court in *Union of India v. Association for Democratic Reforms and Anr* case held that “One sided information, disinformation, misinformation and non-information, all equally create a uniform citizenry which makes democracy a farce. Freedom of speech and expression includes right to impart and receive information which includes freedom to hold opinions”. Liberty of speech and expression is in fact the most essential of all freedoms. In the leading case of *Bennett Coleman v Union of India* (1973), it was observed that freedom of speech and press is the ark of the covenant of democracy because assessment of views by people is vital for the working of democratic institution. The Supreme Court in *Sakal Papers v. Union of India* (1962) case observed that the freedom of speech and expression is one of the most important principles under a democratic constitution. Similarly, in the *S. Khushboo v. Kanniamal and Anr* (2010)⁵ the apex Court observed that the freedom of speech and expression even not absolute in nature is essential as we need to tolerate unpopular opinions. The right of freedom of speech and expression needs free flow of opinions and views essential to support collective life. Custom of Social dialogue by and large is of great social importance.

- **Constitutionality of Section 66A of I.T Act**

In context of the information, there are three concepts essentials to understand the Freedom of Expression:

- a) Discussion
- b) Advocacy
- c) Incitement

The first is discussion, the second is advocacy, and the third is incitement. Just discussion or even advocacy of any particular cause howsoever disliked, unpopular or hated is at the heart of Article 19(1) (a). It is only when any such discussion or advocacy steps into the level of incitement that Article 19(2) gets initiated. It is at this stage/level that a law may be made for curtailing the speech or expression that leads inexorably to or tends to cause public disorder or be prone to cause or have tendency to affect the sovereignty & integrity of India, security of the country, friendly relations with other States, etc. Further, to curtail the

⁴ 1950 AIR 124, 1950 SCR 594

⁵ CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 913 OF 2010

freedom specified under article 19(1)(a) the ground must qualify the test of article 19(2) which enumerate only eight conditions or elements but section 66A does not pass the muster test and element of article 19(1)(a).

- **On Public Order**

"Public Order" is an expression which indicates a state of peace and tranquillity which prevails over amongst the members of a society as an outcome of the internal Regulations enforced by the state which state have established with due process of law. In the case of *Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia v. State of Bihar and others*⁶, Supreme Court pointed out the difference between maintenance of law and order and its disruption and the maintenance of public order and its disruption. Public order was said to enfold more of the society and community than law and order. Public order is the smooth and peaceful condition of the life of the community or society at large taking the country as a whole or even a particular locality. Disruption of public order is to be differentiated, from acts directed against or toward individuals who do not disturb the society to the extent or level of causing a general disruption of public tranquillity. It is the degree of disturbance and its impact upon the life of the community in a locality which decides whether the disturbance results only to a breach of law and order.

- **On Clear and Present Danger and Tendency to Affect**

Whether the words used are used in such circumstances and are of such a nature as to create a clear and present danger that they will bring about the substantive evils, it is an issue of proximity and degree. The expected danger should not be farfetched, remote or conjectural. It must have immediate and direct link with the expression. The expression of thought should be substantially dangerous to the public interest or to say that the expression must be inseparably bolted up with the action. This is known as the test of "clear and present danger."

- **On Defamation**

It must be noticed that for something to be defamatory, injury to reputation is an essential ingredient. Section 66A does not expressly or impliedly concern itself with injury to reputation. Something might be grossly offensive and might be annoying or may be inconvenient to somebody but may not be affecting his reputation. It is established therefore that the Section 66A is not aimed at defamatory statements.

- **On Decency Or Morality**

⁶ 1966 AIR 740, 1966 SCR (1)709

In the case of, *Directorate General of Doordarshan v. Anand Patwardhan*⁷, the Supreme Court observed the law in the United States of America and said that a material might be regarded as obscene if the average person applying contemporary society or community standards would find out that the subject matter taken up as a whole appeals to the prurient interest and that taken as a whole it otherwise lacks serious artistic, literary, political, educational or scientific value.

Section 66A cannot possibly be said to frame an offence which comes within the expression of 'decency' or 'morality'. What might be grossly offensive or annoying under the Section 66A need not be essentially obscene. The word 'obscene' is absent in Section 66A.

- **On Incitement To An Offence**

The mere causing of inconvenience, annoyance, danger etc., or being grossly offensive or having a menacing character are not defined as offences under the Indian Penal Code at all. They are ingredients of some offences under the Indian Penal Code but are not offences in themselves. By taking these reasons into consideration, Section 66A in fact has nothing to do with "incitement to an offence". Section 66A acutely curtails information that may be sent on the internet based on whether it is annoying, grossly offensive, inconvenient, etc. and being not related to any of the eight conditions mentioned Under Article 19(2), so therefore, fail to pass muster test laid down in Article 19(2) and hence said to be breaching the Article 19(1)(a).

- **On Vagueness**

The words used in the section 66A for formation of the offences are subjective and relative in character. That the words used in Section is so vague and loose that an accused person cannot be put on notice as to what precisely is the offence that has been committed by him/her, at the same time the authorities administering the Section are not sure as to on which side of a clearly drawn boundary of a specific communication will fall every expression used, as vague in meaning. What might be offensive to one might not be offensive to others. What might cause inconvenience or annoyance to one might not cause inconvenience or annoyance to others. Even the word "persistently" is not precise. Assume, a message is sent thrice, can it be said that it was sent "persistently"? Does a message have to be sent (say) at least eight times before it can be said that such message was "persistently" sent? There is no clear-cut line conveyed by any of these expressions and that is what makes the Section 66A unconstitutionally vague. It is an essential fundamental of due process that a law is void for

⁷ APPEAL (CIVIL) 613 OF 2005

vagueness if its restrictions are not clearly defined. Vague laws offend many important values.

First, because we suppose that man is free to steer between lawful and unlawful conduct, we insist that laws give the person of ordinary intelligence a reasonable opportunity to know what is prohibited, so that he may act accordingly. Vague laws may deceive the innocent persons by not providing just and fair warning. Second, if discriminatory and arbitrary enforcement is to be avoided, laws should provide explicit and clear standards for those who apply them. A vague law impermissibly gives basic policy matters to policemen, juries and judges for resolution on an ad hoc and subjective basis, with the severe dangers of discriminatory and arbitrary application.

*In Kartar Singh v. State of Punjab*⁸ case, it was observed that it is one of the core principles of legal jurisprudence that a law must be void of vagueness if its prohibitory application is not clearly defined.

A most basic principle in our legal system is that enactments which regulate persons or entities should give fair and reasonable notice of conduct that is illegal or legal. In the case of *Connally v. General Constr. Co.*⁹ it was observed that a statute which either forbids or requires the doing of an act in language is so vague that men of common intelligence must necessarily guess or predict its meaning and confused as to its application, violates the first fundamental of due process of law. This essentiality of clarity in Regulation is essential to the protections given by the Due Process. It requires the scrapping of laws that are impermissibly vague. A punishment or conviction fails to comply with due process if the law or Regulation under which it is obtained fails to provide a man of ordinary intelligence fair notice of what is prohibited, or is so vague that it authorizes seriously discriminatory enforcement. In the case of the *Goonda Act* the invalidity arises from the probability of the misuse of the law to the detriment of an individual.

- **On Chilling Effect And Over Breadth Of Section 66A**

The Section 66A is unconstitutional also on the point that it takes within its scope, protected speech and speech that is innocent in nature and what could have been used otherwise in such a manner as to have a chilling effect on free speech and therefore, have to be invalidated on the ground of over breadth.

- **On Presumption In Favour Of Constitutionality Of An Enactment**

⁸ 1994 SCC (3) 569,

⁹ 269 U.S 385 (926)

The possibility of abuse of an enactment otherwise valid does not implant to it any element of invalidity. The opposite must also imply that a statute which is otherwise not valid as being unreasonable cannot be saved by it being applied in a reasonable manner. The Constitutional validity of the enactment would have to be determined on the basis of its provisions and on the ambit of its application as reasonably construed. If so evaluated, it passes the test of reasonableness, possibility of the powers conferred being improperly used is no ground for pronouncing the enactment itself invalid and similarly if the enactment properly interpreted and tested in the light of the requisites set out in Part III of the Constitution of India does not pass the test, it cannot be declared valid only because it is applied in a manner which may not conflict with the constitutional safeguards. Moreover, its reasonable and fair implementation depends upon the law enforcement agency and will become subjective to case to case things to be analysed by the court leading towards the miscarriage of justice.

- **On Doctrine Of Severability Under Article 31(1)**

In any case Hon'ble Court not being pleased about the constitutional validity of either any expression or a part of the law, the Doctrine of Severability as stated Under Article 13 may come into play. According to Article 13(1), an existing law not consistent with any Fundamental Right is void only to the proportion of the inconsistency and not further. The rationale given by respondent is vague and ambiguous as it does not clearly point out at the part of section 66A that can be saved. The Section 66A assert to sanction the implementation of restrictions on the fundamental right contained in Article 19(1) (a) in language wide enough to shield restrictions both within and without the limits of constitutionally valid legislative action. In *Romesh Thappar v. State of Madras*¹⁰ case, the question was about the validity of Section 9(1A) of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 23 of 1949. The section empowered the Provincial Government to ban the entry and circulation within the State of a newspaper "for the purpose of securing the public safety or the maintenance of public order." Subsequent to the enactment of this statute, the Constitution of India came into force, and the validity of the provision depended on whether it was protected by Article 19(2), which save "existing law insofar as it relates to any matter which undermines the security of or tends to overthrow the State." It was held by the apex Court that as the purposes enumerated in Section 9(1-A) of the Madras Act were wider in amplitude than those specified in Article 19(2), and as it was not possible to divide Section 9(1-A) into what was within and what was without the protection of Article 19(2), the provision must fail in its entirety. The decision was really good in a way that the impugned provision was on its own language and

¹⁰ 1950 AIR 124 ,1950 SCR 594

contents cannot be severed. This case is also dealing with an Article 19(1) (a) violation wherein; Romesh Thappar's judgment would apply.

- **On Article 14**

The Petitioners had submitted that Article 14 is also violated in respect that an offence whose ingredients are vague in nature is unreasonable and arbitrary and would result in discriminatory and arbitrary application of the law. Moreover, there is no intelligible differentia between the medium of broadcast, print, and live speech as contrary to speech on the internet and, therefore, new class of criminal offences cannot be made out on this ground. Similar offences in nature which are committed on the internet have a three-years maximum sentence Under Section 66A as contrary to defamation which has a two-years maximum sentence. In addition to that, defamation is a non-cognizable offence at the same time under Section 66A. Apex Court does not agree with the Petitioners that there is no intelligible differentia between the medium of broadcast, print, and real live speech as contrary to speech on the internet. Apex Court held that there is intelligible differentia as the internet gives any person a platform which needs very little or no payment to air his views and anything posted on a site or website travels with the speed of light and reaches to millions of peoples all over the world. Apex court declares that there is an intelligible differentia between speech on the internet and other mediums of communication for which separate offences may certainly be created by legislation. Therefore the challenge on the basis of Article 14 fails.

- **On Section 69 A and 79 of I.T Act**

According to Section 69A blocking of internet site can take place only by a clear and reasoned order after following several procedural rules and safeguards which also includes a hearing to the originator and intermediary. There are two ways in which a blocking order for a website can be passed - firstly by the Designated Officer after complying with the 2009 Rules and secondly by the Designated Officer after he has to act on an order passed by a competent court. The intermediary using its own prudence to whether information must or must not be blocked is notably absent in Section 69A read with 2009 Rules. Exemption from liability of intermediary as enumerated under section 79(3)(b) says that the intermediary upon having actual knowledge (certified copy of order) that a court order has been passed directing it to promptly remove or block access to specific material, if fails to expeditiously remove or block access to that material can be exempted. This is on the ground that otherwise it would be very hard for intermediaries like face book, Google etc. to follow order when lakhs of requests are pending and the intermediary is then to verify as to which of such requests are

reasonable and which are not. It has been noticed that in other countries worldwide this view has gained acceptance (exemption of intermediaries under similar condition). Apex Court held that Court order or the notification and direction by the Government or by its appropriate agency should strictly be in accordance to the subject matters laid down in Article 19(2). Unlawful acts beyond what is stated in Article 19(2) clearly cannot form any part of Section 79. With these two conditions/restrictions, Supreme Court rejects from striking down Section 79(3)(b).

- **Market Place Of Ideas By Justice Holes**

The marketplace of ideas theory says that, with minimal or no state intervention a laissez faire policy approach to the law for speech and expression, propositions, ideas, theories, and movements will fail or succeed on their own merits if left to their own prudent devices. Free individuals have the logical capability to filter through competing views in a free atmosphere of exchange and deliberation, giving ground to truth, or the best possible results to be achieved in the end. John Stuart Mill expanded this concept by reasoning that free expression is valuable for individual and society because it assists in sustaining and developing the rational mental faculty of man and, is a contributory tool, advanced for the search of truth. The impact of Milton and Mill is clearly seen in Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes dissent opinion in *Abrams v. United States*¹¹ case, a case that conventionally established the marketplace of ideas as a legal notion. Without any doubt, Holmes never used this phrase of “marketplace of ideas.” What he wrote in *Abrams* was this: “The best test of truth is the power of the thought to get it accepted in the competition of the market and that truth is the only ground upon which their wishes safely can be carried out”. That at any rate is the theory of our Constitution. It is an experiment, as all life is an experiment. Every year if not every day we have to wager our salvation upon some prophecy based upon imperfect knowledge. While that experiment is part of our system I think that we should be eternally vigilant against attempts to check the expression of opinions that we loathe and believe to be fraught with death, unless they so imminently threaten immediate interference with the lawful and press purposes of the law and an immediate check is required to save the country. Psychological research proves that people are very prompt in accepting the opinion that he/she prefer or already hold and not to change it only on rational grounds. So casteist, sexist, communally charged class ideologies will dominate a society, not on the strength of its truth but on the strength of its dominance over the society.

¹¹ 250 U.S. 616 (1919)

- **Judgement In A Glance**

1. Section 66A is struck down in its entirety being violative of Article 19 (1) (a) and not saved under Article 19(2).
2. Section 69A and IT (procedure & safeguard for blocking for access of info by public) rules are constitutionally valid.
3. Section 79 is valid subject to reading down of Section 79(3) (b).
4. Section 118(d) of Kerala Police Act is struck down (public order).

- **Overview Of The Judgement**

The judgment has preserved and saved the freedom of speech and expression given to people under Article 19(1)(a) of Indian Constitution and also restrained state from arbitrary application of power in context to freedom mentioned under article 19 of the constitution, at the same time gave clear guidelines for further enacting of law in relation to reasonable restriction on fundamental right and freedom given by Indian constitution but misses to implore the principle of transparency for rules to block the website. It needs some further interrogation and fine tuning in regard to viewers right as he/she must know why state is not allowing them to have certain information and that the reason can also be challenged by the viewers. However, the Apex Court has put a lot of faith in technical and complicated government process based on dicey understanding of the capabilities and capacities of the different parties involved. For example, the laws regarding content-blocking procedure have been declared effective on the belief and presumption that the blocking of website rules (2009) gives a reasonable chance and opportunity to be heard and to challenge an unconstitutional blocking order. This is, many a times, misleading. It presumes that the originator of content will be contacted and informed about the blocking of his/her content and a reasonable opportunity will be given to challenge the blocking of the content. Secondly, the assumption that the intermediary will give reason and defend the content before the concerned government body. Both assumptions are practically far off the mark.

The very technical nature of the Internet with its geographic spread and anonymity, makes it likely possible that the originator of the content may not be contacted because of content-originator may be in foreign country or can lack the resources to argue and pursue his/her case. Intermediaries will not reasonably defend the content since they prefer to avoid spending resources on protecting third-party content. The cumulative impact of this is that the information available to access will continue to be affected by unreasonable government blocking orders.

The blocking procedure continues to be covered in secrecy by the application of Rule 16 of the Blocking of Access rules, which demands that confidentiality must be maintained in case of any blocking orders. This rule was contested in the Shreya Singhal case but the Apex Court left this rule untouched. For originators of content and viewers to notice that their content has been ordered to be blocked by government or its agency, the hosting page must carry a notification of the order for blocking along with the reasons.

II. JUDICIAL RESPONSE TOWARDS PRIVACY IN INDIA

Section 66A comprises the provisions of Punishment for sending offensive messages through communication service. Any person who sends, by means of computer resource or a communication device any information that is grossly offensive or has menacing character or any information which he knows to be false, but for the purpose of causing annoyance, inconvenience, danger, obstruction, insult, injury, criminal intimidation, enmity, hatred or ill will, persistently by making use of such computer resource or a communication device or any electronic mail or electronic mail message shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and with fine.

The genealogy of this section may be traced back to section 10(2)(a)¹² which made it an offence to send any message by telephone which is grossly offensive or of an indecent, obscene or menacing character. This was substantially reproduced by section 66 of the U.K post office Act 1953.

The Major Reason For The Pleading On The Issue Of Section 66 A Of The I.T Act 2009 Whether To Struck Or Violate Article 19(1) (A) Or Not?

Article 19(1)(a) guarantees to all citizens” the right to freedom of speech and expression”¹³.

But Article 19(2)¹⁴ at the same time provides that “nothings in sub clause(a) of clause (1) shall affect the operation of any existing law or prevent the state from making any law , in so far as, such law imposes reasonable restrictions on the exercise of the rights conferred by the said sub clause in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India ,the security of the state, friendly relation with foreign states, public order, decency or morality or in relation to contempt of court ,defamation or incitement to an offence”¹⁵.

¹² U.K post office (Amendment) Act. 1935

¹³ M.P. Jain ,*Indian constitutional law* ,1020(LexisNexis, 7th edn, 2015)

¹⁴ *Ibid* at 1043

¹⁵ Narender Kumar, *Constitutional law of India*, 233 .(Allahabad law agency Haryana ,7th edn, 2011)

III. FREEDOM OF CIRCULATION

Freedom of speech and expression includes the freedom of propagation of one's ideas or views and this freedom is ensured by the freedom of circulation ¹⁶.

In the famous case

Romesh Thappar vs. State of Madras ¹⁷, the provisional govt. in exercise of its powers under Sec.9 (1)(A) of the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act 1949, by an order imposed a ban upon the entry and circulations of the petitioner's weekly journal cross roads printed and published in Bombay.

IV. CONCLUSION

The Constitution's prime aim, one would imagine, is to effectuate into justiciable principles those ideas contained in its Preamble, to make the ideas capable of realisation through an action in a court of law. But the attempted crystallization of the philosophies underpinning the Preamble, viz. Justice (social, economic and political), Liberty (of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship), and Equality (of status and of opportunity), has only resulted in the creation of further abstractions. Article 14, for instance, which seeks to provide a right to equality, says the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India. It, however, offers no explicit clues on what equality means—on whether it guarantees merely formal equality which would give individuals a right to be treated equally without discrimination, or on whether it guarantees a more substantive equality which would demand that the State treats its people with equal concern. The attempted crystallization also doesn't rid the Constitution of its innumerable contradictions. When a person's right to religion conflicts with another's right to free speech, for instance, which right must prevail? What exactly do we mean by "personal liberty"? Does the right to personal liberty encompass nothing more than a guarantee against arbitrary incarceration? Or, does it encompass a right to bodily integrity and to live with human dignity? The Constitution doesn't always give us any overt answers to these questions. It leaves judges with the task of adjudicating these conflicts in the hope that there is a right answer, to be found within its language.

¹⁶ *Ibid*

¹⁷ AIR 1950 SC 124