

NEW CRIMINAL LAW

A new criminal law has been enacted to address contemporary societal challenges and improve the effectiveness of justice administration.

The law also prioritizes rehabilitation and reintegration programs for offenders, aiming to reduce recidivism rates and promote societal reintegration.

Through these measures, the new criminal law aims to create a safer and more just society, where citizens can feel secure and protected by a robust legal system.

It seeks to address systemic issues, uphold justice, and ensure that the rights of all individuals are respected and upheld within the criminal justice process.

Climate and environmental protection

MOHAMMAD HANIEF

In order to preserve our planet for many more generations, we all face major challenges in the coming decades. There is increasing number of reports about the extinction of species, the decline of insect populations or microplastics in water and living organisms.

Above all, it is necessary to limit global warming to the lowest possible level through climate protection measures and to assess the unavoidable consequences in order to be able to react to them.

The scale and nature of the health impacts of heat depend on the timing, intensity and duration of a temperature event, the level of acclimatization, and the adaptability of the local population, infrastructure and institutions to the prevailing climate.

India is among the countries most vulnerable to climate change. It has one of the highest densities of economic activity in the world, and very large numbers of poor people who rely on the natural resource base for their livelihoods, with a high dependence on rainfall.

One of the most significant ways that climate change will impact the lives of people in India will be through its water resources. While water sustains life, it all too often wreaks havoc through devastating floods and droughts.

A Heat Wave is a period of abnormally high temperatures, more than the normal maximum temperature that occurs during the summer season in the North-Western parts of India.

India is sweating through a heatwave, with thermometers in some parts of the capital recording more than 52 °C. This is the third year in a row of lethally high temperatures in April and May for the country, and climate change is increasing the likelihood of such weather extremes.

Since May 2024, a severe and long heat wave has impacted India. The heat wave occurred during the dry season, which typically lasts from March to July with peak temperatures in April and May.

Jammu and Kashmir also continued to swelter under an intense heatwave, with temperatures reaching record highs across Jammu and Kashmir. Several areas experienced temperatures significantly above normal, causing widespread discomfort.

Global temperatures have been steadily rising due to the increased concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial activities have significantly contributed to this rise.

Deforestation and changes in land use patterns have exacerbated the impact of heatwaves. Forests play a crucial role in regulating temperatures by providing shade and facilitating the process of evapotranspiration.

Heatwaves can have significant impacts on health, depending on the timing, intensity, and duration of high temperatures. Exposure to excessive heat can lead to various illnesses, including heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heatstroke, and hyperthermia.

The scorching temperatures gripping other parts of the country have further fueled the rush of tourists to Kashmir, with the region emerging as the preferred destination over traditional hill stations like Shimla, Darjeeling, and Nainital.

In July and August, tons of Hindu pilgrims camp around Kashmir and undertake the pilgrimage to Amarnath every year. The summer is a perfect time to enjoy the famous houseboats and a shikara ride on Dal lake.

It's important to note that heat waves are complex events influenced by a combination of factors, and their occurrence and intensity can vary from one region to another based on a combination of these causes.

In order to build resilience to extreme heat, strategies include identifying vulnerable populations and creating heat preparedness plans, installing cool roofs and pavements, planting trees for shade, promoting energy efficiency, and using climate mapping tools for planning and understanding climate risks.

Gojri & Pahari Languages need to be introduced in Universities Gojri being a Tribal language ignored continuously

CH RASHID AZAM INQLABI

The National Education Policy 2020 has 'emphasized' on the use of the mother tongue or local language as the medium of instruction till Class 5th while, recommending its continuance till Class 8th and beyond.

Gojri and Pahari are the mother tongues of a substantial segment of the population on both sides of LOC India and Pakistan, its speakers can be found in numbers in the nook and corner of the Union Territory. Other native languages spoken as mother tongue do have their area of influence but very limited reach.

Gojri Language included in the 6th schedule of the J&K Constitution in 1999. Gojri should have been on the concurrent list after Kashmiri while framing the 6th schedule on merit.

Gojri language in the 8th schedule of the Constitution.

Our Nation is known for diversity and this diversity is all because of languages spoken here. As such we strongly project that this largely spoken language be properly documented and researched in the academic circle.

Moreover to further promote the interest in this language Serious thought is to be given towards initiating the teaching of and learning of the Gojri and Phari language at UG and PG levels as per the new Education policy 2020.

The new National Education Policy (NEP) recommends that all students will learn three languages in their school under the 'formula'.

A student in Mumbai is learning Marathi and English, he/she will have to choose to learn another Indian language. Three-language formula, teaching/learning Hindi will be mandatory in those states where the language is not usually spoken.

The choice of languages learned will depend on the state and the students. However, it is mandatory for at least two of the three languages to be native to the country - one of which is most likely to be the local/regional language.

Although the Ministry of Education says that "no language will be imposed on any student, wherever possible, the medium of instruction until at least Class 5TH, but preferably till Class 8TH and beyond, will be the home language/mother tongue/local language/regional language.

In cases where home-language textbook material is not available, the language of the transaction between teachers and students will remain the home language wherever possible.

Gojri books to be introduced in Government schools from 1st to 8th class. A good number of books are available in the Gojri language which can be taught to the students in schools and college level.

Many religious books and other books were translated into Gojri by eminent writers, it was in the early seventies that AIR Srinagar, AIR

Jammu, CIIL Mysore, and JK Cultural Academy played significant roles in the development of the Modern Gojri Language and literature.

We at an individual level, working wholeheartedly have authored more than three dozen volumes on different aspects of the Gojri language without any official position/patronage, thus fulfilling all the requirements for its inclusion in prestigious institutions within and outside J&K.

Many universities have undertaken M.Phil / Ph.D. level research in Gojri including DU, JNU, IIU Islamabad, Harare University, Allama Iqbal Open University, Lahore, Punjab University Lahore, and Peshawar University.

However, at the same time, it is excruciating to share that Kashmir and Jammu universities have not exhibited any interest in this regard although Central University started a Certificate course in Gojri in 2015.

The BGSBU accepted the demand for introducing M.A. Course in Gojri & Pahari in 2022 and advertised the faculty positions for Gojri & Pahari. The matter had already been taken up with the Prime Minister, Home Minister, Education Minister Govt of India, and Lieutenant Governor for introducing the Gojri and Phari Language in Universities, colleges, and schools education so that Justice may be done with a regional language.

(The author is former Director School Education Jammu)

Modi Government broke down the shackles of colonial legacy

OMKAR DATTATRAY

Modi government on Monday first July 2024 implemented new and reformed criminal laws as these came into effect across the country. It resulted in breaking the centuries old shackles of colonial legacy and freed the legal system from the British era criminal laws.

The Bharatiya Nayaya Sanhita replaced the Indian Penal Code of 1860, focusing on restorative justice and victim rights. This new law shifts the focus from sheer punishment to rehabilitation and reintegration.

J&K LG Manoj Sinha has rightly commented

that the new laws will ensure justice and equality for all moving away from repressive colonial framework and this is an extra ordinary feat achieved by Modi government. This led to reformation and total overhaul of the criminal legal system which are rooted in the principle of liberty and fraternity and are proof of our commitment to safeguard the vulnerable and ensure justice to all.

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This law will reduce delays in the delivery of

justice ensuring that justice is not only done but seen to be done. The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam replaces the Indian Evidence Act of 1872, modernizing evidence collection and use. With the introduction of new criminal laws the criminal cases will be decided in time bound manner thus avoiding unnecessary delays.

Congress failed to replace the colonial era laws during last 70 years as it is obsessed with slave mentality and now Modi government has replaced the three criminal laws with new laws which is epoch making and no less than creating a history by the Modi government.

the speedy delivery of justice and reduce the pendency of criminal cases in judiciary.

In a significant development, the first FIR's under the Bharatiya Nayaya Sanhita -BNS have been successfully registered at the Model Police Stations in Doda and Reasi districts besides Udhampur, Ramban & Jammu districts of Jammu division also Jammu and Kashmir police on Monday registered the first FIR's under BNS in Anantnag, Srinagar, Baramulla, Kulgam and police district Sopore.

The new criminal laws will help in the quick justice delivery and will ensure justice to not only to the accused but also to the victims. Prime minister Modi and Home minister Amit Shah deserves all commendation and appreciation for taking a historical and epoch making step to replace the present criminal laws and for replacing, overhauling and in fact revolutionizing the criminal justice system to make it in tune with the needs, requirements and socio-economic and politico cultural system of the country.

(The author is a columnist, social and KP activist)

NEW CRIMINAL LAWS

K.V. SEETHARAMAIAH

The new criminal laws - The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) replacing 163-year old Indian Penal Code, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNS) replacing 126-year old Criminal Procedure Code and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) replacing 151-year old Indian Evidence Act have evoked mixed opinion from among the experts.

debate and discussion at that point of time is no excuse.

Nobody had prevented them from taking part in discussions and debates. They should have taken the issue seriously to take part in the discussions and debates.

The previous Lok Sabha Members had as much the same value as the present Lok Sabha Members. The apprehension that a smooth rollout of the new codes may not be possible is baseless. Earlier, every small transaction took place through cash payments only.

Parliament, Union Home Minister Amit Shah had rightly said "These laws are made by Indians, for Indians and by an Indian Parliament and marks the end of colonial criminal justice laws".

charges must be framed within 60 days of the first hearing. Much relief cannot be obtained by just making it mandatory to deliver the judgments within 45 days of completion of trial.

At the same time politically motivated opposition to laws should also have no place. No law can be framed to the advantage of a ruling party, because today's ruling party may be tomorrow's opposition party.

YOUR COLUMN Childhood becomes Silent

Dear editor,

In many dimensions of the social environment, the family circle is considered to be the smallest unit, the thread of whose fabric binds all the members of the family in some way or the other.

The Ganges of mutual harmony and understanding used to flow in the relationships between uncle-aunt, brother-sister, husband-wife etc. In my childhood, when I made excuses for not going to school early in the morning, my mother and aunt used to coax and force me to go to school.

now commonly seen in almost every home, where especially teenagers sit in silence during angry arguments or fights with their parents.

At that time their mental impulses become very sensitive and adversely affect their thinking system. In this situation they have to go through a period of emotional and cognitive weakness.

Unhealthy arguments between parents in front of children jeopardize their sense of security, due to which the child's development gets hampered due to not getting natural behavior skills.

Due to going through this condition frequently, when children become uncomfortable and unusual with their current reality, they become victims of a miserable state and become self-deprecating

and introverted. When these children grow up, due to the unfavorable environment at home, they seek shelter from their peers and face various kinds of problems.

At home, in situations arising out of disputes between the family or parents, children's playfulness, joy and child-friendly activities start moving into the background.

The ill effects of the disintegrating school of family are the consequences of life. This is being seen in the area, for whose protection it is mainly the parents who need to come forward and put aside mutual differences and bitterness.

Vijay Gang