



# CASCL NEWSLETTER

April 2022 || Issue 2



**CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN CRIMINAL LAW**

RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB



## ABOUT RGNUL

Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab (RGNUL), is a National Law University established under the RGNUL Act, 2006 enacted by the Punjab State Legislature. The University was established for the advancement of learning, teaching, research and diffusion of knowledge in the field of law. It is one of many autonomous law schools in India. RGNUL was the first and the only National Law University to receive an "A" rating from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) in May 2015. The University has sponsored crusades for land rights, disability empowerment, and against moral policing and hate speech by using law as a tool for social change. It is dedicated to foster an ethical legal culture that safeguards and promotes the rule of law. The University has time and again collaborated with top firms to facilitate the working of the various committees that form part of its wide and diverse research environment.

## ABOUT CASCL

RGNUL has established a Centre for Advanced Studies in Criminal Law (CASCL) to undertake advanced study and research in the emerging areas of criminal law. The Centre aims to bring about reforms in the substantive and procedural criminal law in view of the modern crime scenario; development of sound criminal justice policy and practice; to generate respect for human rights and rule of law in the administration of criminal justice; training and technical assistance to agencies concerned with administration of criminal justice; renewal of sentencing policies and correctional systems; revamping justice to the victims of crime, and legal aid and speedy disposal of the criminal cases.





## RECENT CRIMINAL LAW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY

### THE ISSUE OF RELIGIOUS CONVERSION IN THE WAKE OF THE LAVANYA SUICIDE CASE

Lavanya Muruganantham was a 17 year old student of Sacred Heart Girls Higher Secondary School, a well-known minority institution run by Franciscan Missionaries of Mary in Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu. She consumed pesticide in order to end her life and eventually died on 19 January 2022. A video was circulated on social media wherein Lavanya was being coerced to do cleaning, maintenance and other related jobs in her hostel. Some local groups also claimed that the suicide was a consequence of certain social elements trying to force her to convert her religion.

Post Lavanya's death an FIR was filed under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, section 305 (abetment of a child's suicide) and other relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code. Senior police officials in the town stated that there was no such specific mention of religious conversion in her dying declaration but investigation will be conducted in that respect as well.

On 21 January 2022, the girl's parents moved the Hon'ble Madras High Court requesting a CBI inquiry. Paying credence to the argument of Lavanya's family, the Court approved the same. On 31 January 2022, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, while hearing the appeal of

Tamil Nadu Administration, decided to not interfere with the ruling of the Hon'ble Madras High Court.

These recent developments in the southern state have once again raised the issue of forced religious conversions and their impact on the peace and harmony prevailing in the society. Many new facets of the issue also come up when looked at from a criminal law point of view.

[Read More](#)

### DEATH ROW CONVICTS ACQUITTED BY APEX COURT

Three major murder convicts get a sigh of relief as a three-judge bench comprising of Justices L. Nagerwara Rao, B.R. Gavai and B.V. Nagarathna has acquitted them of the charges of murder of six family members stating the prosecution was incapable of proving the case beyond reasonable doubt. On the night of January 23rd, 2014, at around 8.30 P.M., Momin Khan, his wife Nazra, Jaikham Khan (First Cousin) and Sajid (Jaikham Khan's son) brutally assaulted Mausam Khan (Father – 85 years), Asgari (Mother- 80 years), Shaukeen Khan (Brother), Shanno (Sister-in-Law, 30 years), Samad (nephew-8 years) and Muskan (niece-15 years) with a sharp-edged weapon leading to their death.

Trial court vide judgment of 2nd January 2016 held all four accused as convicts for the murder of six members



## RECENT CRIMINAL LAW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY

under sections 302/34 of the IPC sentencing them to death on the grounds of it being a grave and a heinous crime. Momin, Sajid and Jaikham were also convicted under section 25/4 of the Arms Act and were rewarded three years of rigorous imprisonment and rupees five thousand fine. In case of default, the imprisonment was supposed to increase for 3 months. Nazra was acquitted by the Hon'ble High Court. Hon'ble Supreme court found various irregularities and negligence on the part of prosecution and it stated that "We are at pains to observe the manner in which the present case has been dealt by the trial court and the high court, particularly when the trial court awarded death penalty."

[Read More](#)

### **EVEN WHEN A CRIMINAL CASE IS PENDING, COURTS DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO SEIZE PASSPORTS UNDER S. 104 CRPC: ANDHRA PRADESH HIGH COURT**

Even while a criminal case is underway, the Hon'ble Andhra Pradesh High Court recently reiterated that the court cannot impound a passport under Section 104 Cr.P.C.

The criminal petition was filed under Section 482 of the Cr.P.C., with the goal of overturning the order of the Court of Principal Sessions Judge and returning the petitioner's passport so that he may go to the United States when it was renewed.

The lawyer cited the Apex Court's ruling in Suresh Nand v. CBI (2008), in which it was said that the Court cannot confiscate a passport under Section 104 Cr.P.C., but it can impound any other document or property.

Furthermore, following the ratio in the aforementioned Supreme Court case, the Andhra Pradesh High Court in CrI. P. No. 1954 of 2020 held that neither the police nor the courts have the authority to seize the passport or order the accused to deposit or surrender the passport even when a criminal case is pending in the court, and that only the Passport Officer has the authority to impound the passport.

[Read More](#)

### **ONLY BECAUSE OF SECTION 33(5) OF THE POCSO ACT, AN ACCUSED'S RIGHT TO CROSS-EXAMINE THE PROSECUTRIX CANNOT ALWAYS BE DENIED: UTTARAKHAND HIGH COURT**

The Uttarakhand High Court has ruled that under Section 33(5) of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses Act, 2012 (the 'POCSO Act'), recalling a child witness for cross-examination by the accused cannot be disallowed outright. The clause, in particular, requires the Special Court to ensure that the child (prosecutrix) is not called to testify before the Court on many occasions.



## RECENT CRIMINAL LAW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY

During the hearing, it was brought to the Court's attention that the appellant did not cross-examine the victim-girl at all, and his application to re-call the witness for cross-examination was denied by the learned Trial Judge on the grounds that it is provided under Sub-Section (5) of Section 33 of the POCSO Act that repeated attendance of the child should be avoided.

Notably, the Orissa High Court issued a similar ruling earlier this month in *Pidika Sambaru v. State of Odisha & Anr.*, holding that an accused's right to recall a witness under Section 311, Cr.P.C. cannot always be rejected due to the bar under Section 33(5), POCSO Act. In addition, the Madras High Court recently declared, using *Pidika Sambaru*, that the aforementioned bar does not apply once the prosecutrix reaches majority.

[Read More](#)

### IMPORTANT MOVE SEEKING A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF INDIA'S CRIMINAL LAWS BY THE HOME MINISTRY

Union Home Minister has recently written a letter to stakeholders including the Chief Justice of India, Members of Parliament and Chief Ministers of various states for a comprehensive review of India's criminal laws (primarily Indian Penal Code, the Code of

Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act) to create a people-centric legal structure. The letter written on the year-end of 2021 coming from the Home Minister seeks suggestions also from the Chief Justices of High Courts, Administrators of Union Territories, Bar Councils and law universities.

[Read More](#)

### BUDGET 2022: FOCUS ON IMPROVING CRIMINAL JUSTICE DELIVERY SYSTEM

In the Union Budget 2022-23, the central government has decided to open up its purse strings for the Home Ministry, with emphasis on improving the criminal justice delivery system by linking up e-databases of police, jails, courts and forensic science laboratories for speedy investigation of cases and delivery of justice. During such allocation of funds, improvement of the BSF Air Wing and schemes for safety of women have also got attention.

[Read More](#)

### DEFINING JURISDICTION OF CRIMINAL COURTS

In the case concerning *State of Sikkim v. Jasbir Singh*, the Apex Court ruled that criminal courts will have jurisdiction to try a case against army personnel if the Commanding Officer does not exercise the discretion





## RECENT CRIMINAL LAW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY

under Section 125 of the Army Act to initiate court-martial with respect to the offence. A bench comprising Justice D.Y. Chandrachud and Justice Surya Kant was deciding an appeal filed by the State of Sikkim against an order passed by the Hon'ble Sikkim High Court which directed that a criminal case against an army officer be handed over to court-martial.

The Bench in particular referred to *Joginder Singh v. State of Himachal Pradesh*, wherein the Court clarified that Section 125 of the Army Act leaves the discretion, in the first instance, with the competent officer and it is only when he so exercises the discretion and decides that the proceedings should be instituted before a court martial that Section 126 would come into operation. If the designated officer does not exercise this discretion to institute proceedings before a court martial, the Army Act would not interdict the exercise of jurisdiction by the ordinary criminal court.

[Read More](#)

### KERALA HIGH COURT: DECEIVING THE HUSBAND AND MAKING SECRET PHONE CALLS WITH ANOTHER MAN AT ODD HOURS IS A CASE OF MATRIMONIAL CRUELTY

In the present case, the accusations are made by the husband and wife against each other. The husband filed a case that right from the beginning, the wife had been

using filthy language against her husband. The wife did not stop the matrimonial cruelty and even dragged the husband's mother and sister to matrimonial controversy launching a false and frivolous criminal prosecution against them.

Husband had deposed that he overheard the intimate conversation between the wife and the second respondent and on questioning, she told him that the second respondent was having more right over her body and mind than him. Making discreet phone calls frequently by the wife with another man disregarding the warning of the husband, that too at odd hours, amounts to matrimonial cruelty.

The Hon'ble High Court expressed that making false complaints and initiating false criminal prosecution by one spouse against the other constitutes mental cruelty. In view of the aforesaid, the marriage between the husband and wife was dissolved.

[Read More](#)



## RECENT CRIMINAL LAW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY

### CHRISTIAN MICHEL JAMES V. DIRECTORATE OF ENFORCEMENT

Christian Michel James, the suspected intermediary in the AgustaWestland case being investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Enforcement Directorate (ED), had his bail pleas refused by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court on 11th March, 2022.

Last year, a trial judge dismissed bail requests in both the CBI and ED cases, stating that the overall facts and circumstances, the severe nature of the charges, the seriousness of the offence, and the conduct of the accused did not make it a proper case for bail.

In December 2018, James was extradited from Dubai and detained by the two investigative agencies. The Rs. 3,600 crore fraud concerns the acquisition of 12 AgustaWestland VVIP helicopters.

The CBI claims that the agreement inked on February 8, 2010, for the delivery of VVIP choppers valued 556.262 million euros resulted in a loss to the exchequer of 398.21 million euros (about Rs. 2,666 crore). The ED accused James of receiving 30 million euros (about Rs. 225 crore) from AgustaWestland in a charge sheet filed against him in June 2016.

James is one of three suspected intermediaries under investigation in the case. Guido Haschke and Carlo Gerosa are the other two.

[Read More](#)

### CENTRE INTRODUCES CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (IDENTIFICATION) BILL, 2022 IN LOK SABHA

The Centre, on Monday, March 28, 2022 has introduced the Criminal Procedure (Identification) Bill, 2022 in the Lower House of the Parliament. The Bill seeks to provide legal sanction to the police for taking physical and biological samples of the convicted, detained and arrested persons. The samples include impressions of fingerprint, foot prints, palm prints, Iris and Retina Scans, Photos as well as behavioural attributes which include Signature and Handwriting.

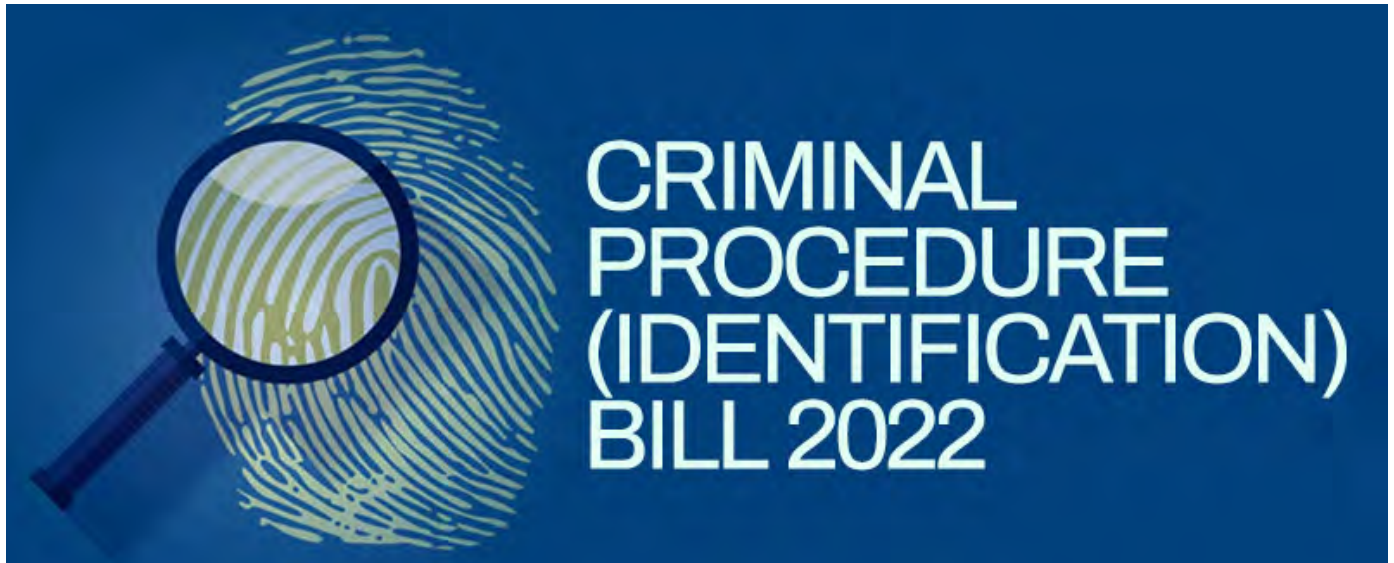
[Read More](#)

### FAILURE TO PAY RENT NOT A CRIMINAL OFFENCE: SUPREME COURT

The Apex Court has, in the case of Neetu Singh and ors. v. State of Uttar Pradesh and ors., held that failure to pay rent could not be held to be a criminal offence.

While quashing an FIR that was registered against the tenant for the non-payment of rent arrears, the Division Bench consisting of Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Bela M. Trivedi held that while failure to pay rent may have civil consequences, it cannot be considered as a criminal offence under IPC.

[Read More](#)



*Image Credits- LiveLaw*

## **CASCL COMMENTS: THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (IDENTIFICATION) BILL, 2022 & ITS SHORTCOMINGS**

*-Raghav Arora & Rushil Kumar*

### **INTRODUCTION**

On 18th March 2022, the Criminal Procedure Identification Bill, 2022 was tabled in the Parliament and both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have recently passed the bill. It proposes to allow the police to gather fingerprints, palm prints, footprints, pictures, iris and retina scans, as well as physical and biological samples for aiding the investigation. It also recommends collecting behavioral characteristics such as signatures, handwriting, or any other test referred to under Sections 53 and 53A of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). It further has provisions that anyone, providing any sort of resistance to taking of the measurements, will be charged under Section 186 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), which makes it an offence to obstruct a public servant in discharge of public functions. Under the present regime, police are allowed to take fingerprints and footprints for limited number of crimes under the 102-year-old, Identification of Prisoners Act, 1920. From the bare reading of the bill, one would get to know that it is problematic on various fronts, some of which are explained below.

The present bill violates various fundamental rights like Article 14 (Right to equality), Article 20(3) (Right against self-incrimination) and Article 21 (Right to privacy).

### **ARTICLE 14**

This bill gives police and prison authorities, as well as Magistrates, enormous and overbroad discretion to compel people to provide consent for their measurements to be taken. Such unchecked discretion is arbitrary, and it enhances the possibility of discriminatory exercise by these authorities. The bill is also filled with arbitrariness w.r.t. measurements, disclosure of the information, and destruction of these so-called measurements. The bill also doesn't specify who are obliged to give information.

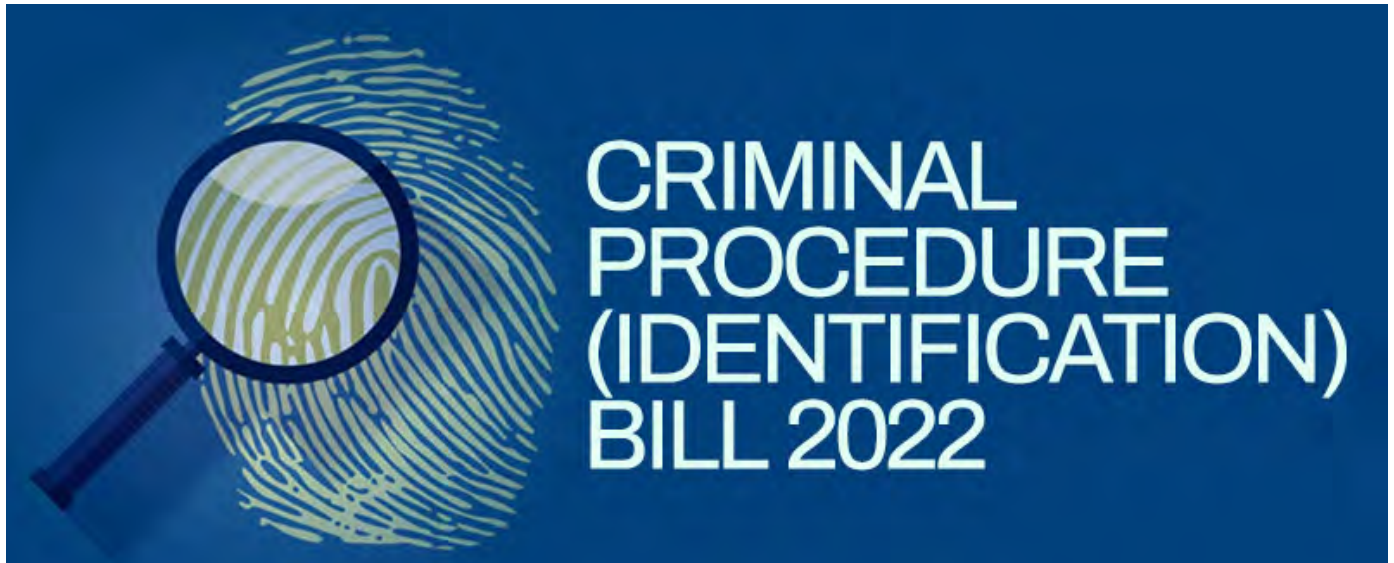
### **ARTICLE 20(3)**

The measurements include behavioral attributes which might include measurements of a testimonial nature. The term 'behavioral attributes' points towards the vagueness of the bill and is bound to be misused if put into action.

### **ARTICLE 21**

Privacy is a fundamental right and the same was upheld by a 9-judge bench in the Puttaswamy judgement. The majority of the measurements included in the Bill, such as finger impressions, palm impressions, foot impressions, iris and retina scan, physical and biological samples and their analysis, constitute personal information in the sense that they are linked





*Image Credits- LiveLaw*

## **CASCL COMMENTS: THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (IDENTIFICATION) BILL, 2022 & ITS SHORTCOMINGS**

to individual identity. This extensive collection of the data is in direct contravention of Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

Apart from violating all these fundamental rights, there is gross arbitrariness in the duration for which information would be collected as the bill proposes to keep data records for 75 years after the date of collection. As a result, it is arbitrary and devoid of rationale.

The provisions on who can collect these sensitive measurements are also very unique. A police officer or a jail official has been given the authority to collect measures pursuant to Clause 3 of the Bill. Furthermore, a police officer is classified as just “an official in control of a police station or a police officer with such a rank of head constable and above.” Moreover, the phrase “prison officer” refers to any officer with a rank greater than those of head warder.

Clause 3 of the Act also lists down the specific people by whom this sensitive information can be collected. From a bare reading of the clause, one is able to figure out how vast the said clause is and is bound to be misused.

Simply explained, with the introduction of this Bill, the spectrum of people whose measures can be gathered has been greatly extended. Measurements of the following people may be taken under Clause 3 of the Bill:

- Any individual who has been convicted of a crime.”
- “For a procedure under section 107, section 108, section 109, or section 110, any person ordered to offer security for his good behavior or keeping peace under section 117 CrPC.”
- “Any individual who has been arrested for a crime that is punished by law.”
- “Anyone who has been detained under the legislation of preventive detention.”

Therefore, the said bill is quite problematic, violates various articles of the Constitution and some clauses are totally absurd and without any reasoning.



## CASE COMMENT: GANGADHAR NARAYAN NAYAK @ GANGADHAR HIREGUTTI V. STATE OF KARNATAKA

*-Aayushi Gupta*

### INTRODUCTION

Child sexual abuse (CSA) is an age-old problem in India that the public has only recently acknowledged. Before rape was the primary offence acknowledged by the public, other CSA acts were largely ignored by public discourse and the criminal justice system. As many as 1.28 lakh cases of crime against children were registered in 2020, according to the 'Crime in India 2020' report published by the NCRB. Though the number of incidents reflects a decline from cases in 2019, the classification of the crimes under different heads reflects how a very large number of children are subjected to heinous crimes. Cases of sexual offences including child rape under POCSO accounted for 38.8% of all cases in 2020. It is also essential that the identity and dignity of the child victim should be safeguarded.

In the case of Gangadhar Hiregutti v. State of Karnataka, a 2-judge bench of the Supreme Court has delivered a split verdict on the issue whether Section 155(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure will apply to the investigation of an offence under Section 23 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO).

### FACTS OF THE CASE

In the instant case, the appellant was an editor of a newspaper "Karavali Munjavu". In 2017, a news report was published in the newspaper regarding the sexual harassment of a 16-year-old girl, thereby revealing her identity. The victim's mother lodged a complaint against the appellant under Section 23 of the POCSO Act for mentioning her daughter's name in the report. Section 23 of the POCSO Act makes the disclosure of a child's identity a punishable offence. The police filed a charge sheet at the Court of the Principal District Judge, Uttara Kannada, Karwar.

In 2018, the Court directed that summons be issued to the appellant. The appellant, who is the accused, argued that the police registered the FIR without following Section 155(2) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) which calls for a magistrate's order for police to investigate non-cognizable offence. When the Trial Court dismissed his appeal, the appellant approached the Karnataka High Court under Section 482 of the CrPC, seeking a quashing of the proceedings against him. However, the High Court rejected the petition, following which he appealed to the Apex Court.



## CASE COMMENT: GANGADHAR NARAYAN NAYAK @ GANGADHAR HIREGUTTI V. STATE OF KARNATAKA

### ISSUE RAISED

The question of law involved in this appeal before the Supreme Court was if Section 155(2) of CrPC is applicable to the investigation of an offence under Section 23 of the POCSO Act and if the Special Court is debarred from taking cognizance of the offence under Section 23 of POCSO and obliged to discharge the accused under Section 227 of the CrPC only because of want of permission of the jurisdictional Magistrate to the police to investigate into an offence?

### DECISION

The Supreme Court bench comprising Justice Indira Banerjee and Justice J.K. Maheshwari delivered a split verdict, wherein Justice Banerjee refused to entertain the Appeal, thereby upholding the order of the Hon'ble High Court. On the other hand, Justice Maheshwari gave a dissenting judgment by allowing the Appeal and setting aside the order taking cognizance and consequential orders passed by the Trial Court as well as the impugned order of the Hon'ble High Court. In order to understand the contrary point of view taken by the Division Bench in the present case, it is essential that both the judgments are analyzed separately.

#### *Justice Banerjee's Analysis*

Justice Banerjee dismissed the appeal and refused to accept the argument that the proceedings were vitiated

and liable to be quashed only because of want of prior permission of the jurisdictional magistrate to investigate into the alleged offence

"It is reiterated at the cost of repetition that a child against whom offence under Section 23 of POCSO has been committed, by disclosure of her identity, may require special protection, care and even shelter, necessitating expeditious investigation for compliance of sub-sections (5) and (6) of Section 19 of POCSO," Justice Banerjee said.

Justice Banerjee said that disclosure of the identity of a child who is a victim of sexual offences or who is in conflict with the law is in fundamental breach of the right of the child to dignity. Section 23 of the POCSO which protects child victims of sexual abuse from unwarranted intrusion into privacy, harassment and mental agony, has to be strictly enforced and it cannot be allowed to be diluted, she said.

Justice Banerjee stated that in society, instead of empathising with the victim, people start finding fault with the victim.





## CASE COMMENT: GANGADHAR NARAYAN NAYAK @ GANGADHAR HIREGUTTI V. STATE OF KARNATAKA

The victim is ridiculed, defamed, gossiped about, and even ostracized. “Every child has the inalienable human right to live with dignity, grow up and develop in an atmosphere conducive to mental and physical health, be treated with equality and not be discriminated against. The inalienable rights of a child include the right to protection of privacy. The Constitution of India guarantees the aforesaid inalienable and basic rights to all, including children,” she said.

### *Justice Maheshwari’s Analysis*

Justice Maheshwari noted that the POCSO Act does not clarify regarding cognizable and non-cognizable offences. On a fair reading of the First Schedule of CrPC which provides for the classification of offence in two parts, he opined that it is clear that for offences punishable with a sentence of imprisonment for less than three years or with fine, unless prescribed in that law, the commission of such offence under any other law would be non-cognizable, bailable and triable by any Magistrate. He, thus, held that if the sentence prescribed for the offence is less than three years, then those offences of the POCSO Act would be non-cognizable.

On the interpretation of Section 19 of the POCSO Act, Justice Maheshwari differed with Justice Banerjee to hold that it does not specify that all offences under POCSO are cognizable.

Besides, he held that Section 19 or other provisions of POCSO also do not specify how and in what manner the investigation on reporting of the commission of offence under sub-section (1) of Section 19 is to be done by the Police. He also doubted the correctness of the Delhi High Court’s 2016 judgment in Santosh Kumar Mandal v. State, wherein it was held that all offences under the POCSO Act are cognizable.

Having held that the offence under section 23 of the POCSO Act is non-cognizable, Justice Maheshwari adverted to section 155 of the CrPC to opine that its language makes it clear that it is mandatory that no police officer shall investigate a non-cognizable case without the order of the Magistrate. Therefore, the said provision is mandatory and required to be complied with prior to investigating a non-cognizable offence. Section 155(2) of the CrPC provides for the permission of the Magistrate, but under the POSCO Act, it is the designated Special Court which deals with offences under the Act. Justice Maheshwari thus held that “Magistrate” in Section 155(2) be read as “Special Courts” for offences under the POCSO Act, and the special courts may take cognizance of any offence under the POCSO Act.



## **CASE COMMENT: GANGADHAR NARAYAN NAYAK @ GANGADHAR HIREGUTTI V. STATE OF KARNATAKA**

On the merits of the present case, he chose to set aside the order taking cognizance of the offence as the Special Court failed to take note of the procedure under section 155(2) of the CrPC which mandates prior permission of the court to investigate the offence.

On the interpretation of Section 19 of the POCSO Act, Justice Maheshwari differed with Justice Banerjee to hold that it does not specify that all offences under POCSO.

In conclusion, since the Bench pronounced different verdicts and has not been able to agree, the Registry was directed to forthwith place the matter before Chief Justice for assigning it to an appropriate Bench.



## EMPIRICAL REPORT : YOUTH VIOLENCE

-Shreyansh Rath

Youth Violence refers to the intentional use of force or power, or the tendency to use such force or power, in order to threaten or seriously hurt others. The instances of youth engaging in violence and incidents of aggression have become commonplace in modern times. These aggressive and violent behaviours include slapping and beating of fellow colleagues, hitting, reckless behaviour, raping and sexual abuse, shooting at schools and workplaces, and other violent gang-related behaviour.

While in some cases, the individuals are influenced by their childhood experiences at home, among peer groups, as well as in their society and neighbourhood, in modern times, the violent tendencies among youth have increased to a great extent because of the excessive use of media which includes violence-filled movies and web series as well as easy availability of violent video games. The widening of drug and drink culture among the Indian youth has further aggravated the incidence of violent tendencies among youth.

### AIM OF RESEARCH

This piece of research is aimed at conducting a primary study of the prevalence of violence and violent thoughts among the youth in modern world. It also studies the impact of easy access to violent web series and games on the minds of the youth and the way in which it has aggravated violent tendencies among this specific section of the society. This study analyses data on the prevalence of violence among the youth and

also brings forth the data of what the population under study believes regarding the relationship between increased incidence of violence among youth and easy access and greater availability of violent content through games, web series etc.

The research shall provide first hand data on violence among youth and help in determining, up to what extent, violent tendencies have increased among youth and what could be the possible reasons for such behaviour. This research would help in providing primary data regarding the issue at hand which can, in turn, provide grounds for the development of necessary solutions to keep the prevalence of violent tendencies among youth under control.

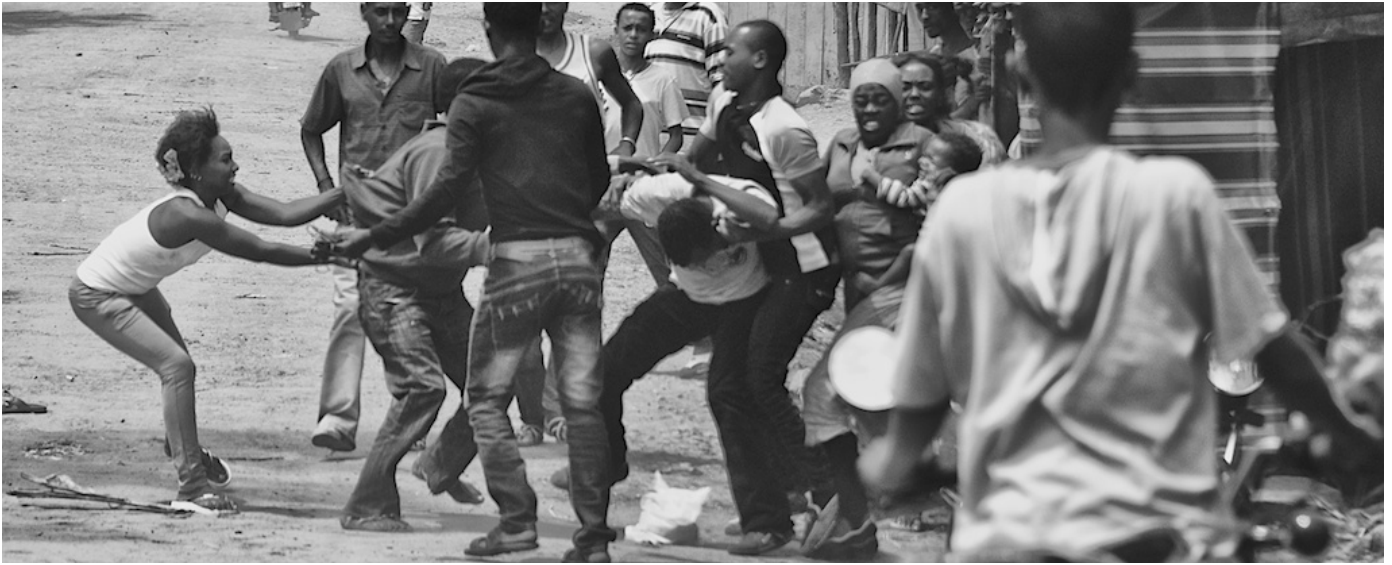
### FINDINGS

The research is divided into 6 parts, namely:

#### 1) How many times in a day one comes across violent thoughts? (Table 1)

In majority, i.e. 60% of the population under study, violent thoughts emerge in their minds at least once a day. While 45% of the youth accepted that violent thoughts emerge in their minds on an average of 1-5 times a day, the corresponding figures for 5% of them were 5-10 times and 10% were more than 10 times. 41% shared that no violent thoughts emerge in their mind at all.





## EMPIRICAL REPORT : YOUTH VIOLENCE

### 2) How many times one has been involved in a serious fight at school or at work? (Table 2)

Majority of them, i.e., 52% of the population under study accepted taking part in serious fights at school or at work at least once. While 48% of the youth accepted that they have been involved in serious fights 1-5 times at school or work, the corresponding figures for 2% of them were 5-10 times and 2% were more than 10 times. 48% shared that they have never gotten into serious fights at school or work.

### 3) Number of occurrences when one has taken part in group fights against other groups (Table 3)

Majority of them i.e. 62% of the population under study, denied taking part in group fights against other groups at any time. 29% of the youth accepted that they have participated in such group fights 1-3 times, the corresponding figures for 2% of them were 3-5 times and 7% were more than 5 times.

### 4) Number of occurrences when one has attacked someone with the intention to seriously hurt them (Table 4)

Majority of them i.e. 69% of the population under study denied attacking anyone with the intention of seriously hurting them. 21% of the youth accepted that they have attacked someone with the intent to seriously hurt them 1-3 times, the corresponding figures for 2% of them were 3-5 times and 7% were more than 5 times.

### 5) Role of increased availability of violent web series to arouse violent behaviour among youth (Table 5)

50% of the target population affirmed that easy and increased availability of violent web series has its role in increase in violent tendencies among youth. 26% of them were unsure of any such relationship and 21% denied any such relation. 2% of the targeted population even denied any consumption of such violent web series.

### 6) Role of increased availability of violent games leading to a rise in violent behaviour among youth (Table 6)

Majority of the population i.e. 55% of them affirmed the existence of easy availability of violent video games and increased violent tendencies among youth. 21% of them were unsure of any such relationship and 21% denied any such relationship. 2% denied to share their responses on the question at hand.

TABLE 1

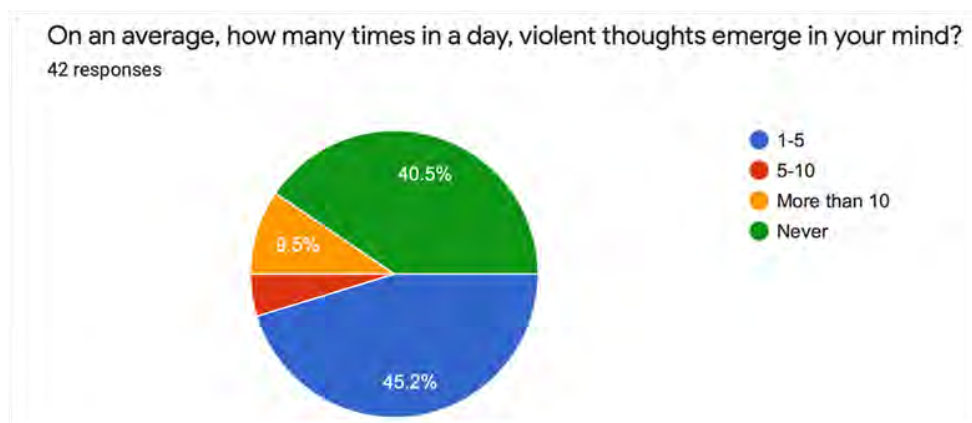


TABLE 2

How many times have you gotten into a serious fight at school or at work?  
42 responses



TABLE 3

How many times have you taken part in a fight where a group of friends fought against another group?  
42 responses

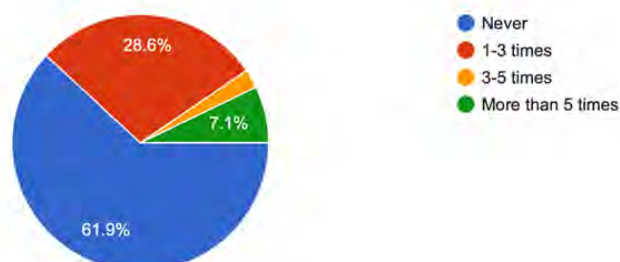


TABLE 4

How many times have you attacked someone with the intent to seriously hurt them?  
42 responses

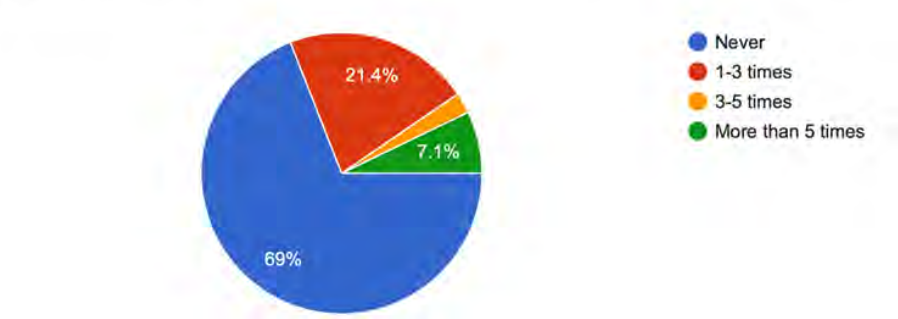


TABLE 5

Do you think that the increased availability of violent web series has its role to play in increased violent tendencies among the youth?  
42 responses

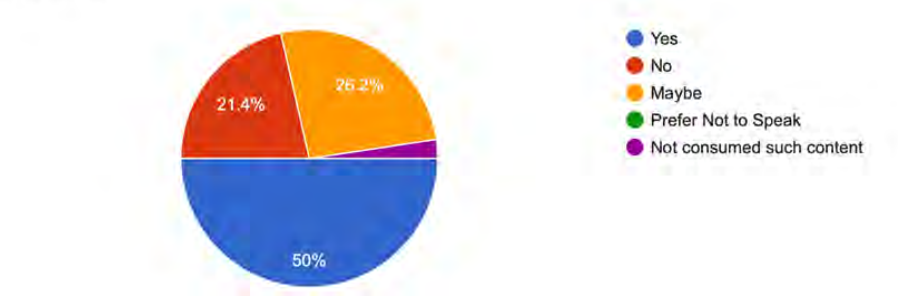
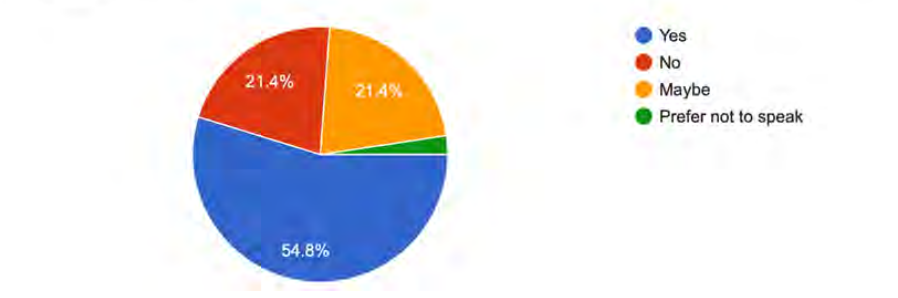


TABLE 6

Do you think that the increased availability of violent games has its role to play in increased violent tendencies among the youth?  
42 responses





# NEWSLETTER TEAM

## **FACULTY COORDINATORS**

Prof.(Dr.) Sharanjit  
Dr. Ivneet Kaur Walia

## **CONVENORS**

Rishav Devrani  
Tanya Mayal

## **CONTRIBUTORS**

Agam Bansal  
Aayushi Gupta  
Mridull Thaplu  
Aishwarya Singh Bishnoi  
Raghav Arora  
Rushil Kumar  
Shreyansh Rathi  
Vasu Pandita

Write to the Editorial Board at [cascl@rgnul.ac.in](mailto:cascl@rgnul.ac.in)



**CENTRE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES IN CRIMINAL LAW**

RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LAW, PUNJAB