



Press Council of India

Soochna Bhawan, 1st, 2nd & 3rd (floor), Phase 4,
8, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003

☎ 24366745-46-47-49 Ext 320

E-Mail - pci@nic.in

Website: www.presscouncil.nic.in



Recd on 12/12/07

File No.14/141-142/07-08 PCI

Dated 4.12.2007

Shri Satya Pal Dang, Ex-MLA,
Ekta Bhawan, G.T.Road,
Chheharta, (Amritsar) - 143 105,
Punjab.

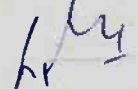
Sub:- Complaint of Shri Satya Pal Dang, MLA, Amritsar, Punjab
against Hind Samachar and Tribune.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter dated 21.6.2007 on
the subject mentioned above and to provide herewith a copy of
the opinion drawn earlier in the matter of Public Interest
Litigation regarding banning of publication of Rashiphals in
Media etc. for your information and the matter is thus put to
rest.

No enclosure

Yours faithfully,


(PRADEEP BAHL)
Section Officer (c)

Satyopal Dang

Ex-MLA (Pb)

Vimla Dang

Ex-MLA (Pb)

Tel. : 0183-2258631 (O)
0183-2258023 (R)

EKTA BHAWAN,
G. T. Road,
Chheharta (Amritsar).
Pin-143105

To: Press Council of India,
Soochna Bhawan, 1st, 2nd & 3rd (floor). Phase 4,
8, CGO Complex Sochi Road,
New Delhi 110003.

Dated 5/9/2007

Subject: Vulgarity and obscenity in newspapers, & ads. reg.

Shriman Ji,

Thank you very much for yours NO. FNo. 14/128/07-CPI.
The norm adopted by the Press Council on the
issue of vulgarity are indeed praise worthy & good.

The fact, however, remains that the Press Council of
India can act only if & when it received a specific
complaint complying with all the formalities.

In the very nature of things white disease is
widespread, specific complaints to the PSI cannot
be more than few. Every the few newspapers which
do not carry obscene material, do not carry on a
campaign against obscenity and vulgarity.

What is the way out? I suggest that the
Press Council of India considers the matter and make a
strong recommendation to the GOI and the Parliament
to adopt a Criminal Law providing for deterrent
punishment for newspapers, journals and magazines
carrying obscene and vulgar matter.

Yours faithfully,
Satyopal Dang



भारतीय प्रेस परिषद्

Press Council of India

सूचना भवन, 1,2 और 3, (तल), फेस 4, 8 सी.जी.ओ कॉम्प्लेक्स,
लोधी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110 003

Soochna Bhawan, 1st, 2nd & 3rd, (floor), Phase 4,
8, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003

☎ 24366745-46-47-49

Ext. 200

E-Mail - pcids@vsnl.net

Website: www.presscouncil.nic.in



F.No.14/128/07-08-PCI

Dated:22.8.07

Shri Satya Pal Dang,
Ex-MLA (Punjab)
Ekta Bhawan,
Chheharta (ASR) Punjab

Subject: Vulgarity and obscenity in newspapers, advertisements reg.

Sir,

o/c
I am directed to refer to your letter dated 6.6.07 on the subject mentioned above and to inform you that the Council is equally concerned over the issues raised in your letter as reflected in its various adjudications and has framed guidelines on the subject. Realizing the need to check growing obscenity and other violations the Council is doing all, it can within the parameters of the Act.

The norms 17 of the Norms of Journalistic conduct Edition 2005 evolved by the Press Council on the issue of obscenity is attached herewith for your information.

Yours faithfully,

Pradeep Bahl
(PRADEEP BAHL)
Section Officer(C)

he doesn't transgress the law and violate the norms of journalism and editorial comments published in the newspaper should be couched in sober and dignified language.

- ii) Selection of the material for publication as reports/articles/letter is within the discretion of an editor, therefore it is his duty to see that on a controversial issue of public interest, all views are given equal prominence so that the people can form their independent opinion in the matter.
- iii) The editor should not publish the news report/article if his mind is in doubt about the truth of the news report/article. If the veracity of any part of the news report/article is in doubt, that portion should be omitted and rest be published provided the editor is satisfied that the remainder is substantially true and its publication will be for public benefit.

17. Obscenity and vulgarity to be eschewed

- i) Newspapers/journalists shall not publish anything which is obscene, vulgar or offensive to public good taste.
- ii) Newspapers shall not display advertisements which are vulgar or which, through depiction of a woman

in nude or lewd posture, provoke lecherous attention of males as if she herself was a commercial commodity for sale.

- iii) Whether a picture is obscene or not, is to be judged in relation to three tests; namely
 - a) Is it vulgar and indecent?
 - b) Is it a piece of mere pornography?
 - c) Is its publication meant merely to make money by titillating the sex feelings of adolescents and among whom it is intended to circulate? In other words, does it constitute an unwholesome exploitation for commercial gain.

Other relevant considerations are whether the picture is relevant to the subject matter of the magazine. That is to say, whether its publication serves any preponderating social or public purpose, in relation to art, painting, medicine, research or reform of sex.

- iv) The globalisation and liberalisation does not give licence to the media to misuse freedom of the press and to lower the values of the society. The media performs a distinct role and public purpose which require it to rise above commercial consideration guiding other industries and businesses. So far as that role is

concerned, one of the duties of the media is to preserve and promote our cultural heritage and social values.

- v) Columns such as 'Very Personal' in a newspaper replying to personal queries of the readers must not become grossly offensive presentations which either outrage public decency or corrupt public moral.

18.(a) Glorification/encouragement of social evils to be eschewed

Newspapers shall not allow their columns to be misused for writings which have a tendency to encourage or glorify social evils like Sati Pratha or ostentatious celebrations.

(b) Reporting on natural calamities

Facts and data relating to spread of epidemics or natural calamities shall be checked up thoroughly from authentic sources and then published with due restraint in a manner bereft of sensationalism, exaggeration, surmises or unverified facts.

19. Violence not to be glorified

- i) Photo Coverage on Terrorist Attack, Communal Clashes and Accidents

While reporting news with regard to terrorist attacks or communal riots, the media should