
preface to the fourth edition

After the last edition of “Law of The Press”, there has been continuous development of Law and ample evolution of newer principles on the subject. In the past few years, a steady stream of principles readily flowing from landmark decisions by Supreme Court of India as well as remarkable influence of judicial pronouncements world-wide have richly contributed in developing the law on the subject. Rights, duties and obligations and semblance between these, apart, law of the Press, has been facing a perennial dilemma, “to combine that degree of liberty without which law is tyranny with that degree of law without which liberty becomes license”.

The ‘right to know’, and ‘right to information’ having been globally recognized; the much hyped “areas of confidentiality” in State actions having been minimized to narrower ‘cores of confidentiality’; the freedom of information having been systematically synthesized under various Laws at National & International levels, the areas of confidentiality have yielded place for transparency and openness. Similarly the law is also tuning with times. Resultantly we do find postulates of altogether newer approaches on changing concepts of rights and obligations in relation to contempt of Courts, Communication, Information, Privacy, Secrecy, Publication, Cybernetics and many more in a wider perspective relating to press.

Looking to the changing scenario all around, we have strived hard to include quite large number of important pronouncements of National & International Courts. Numerous path-breaking judgments of Supreme Court and various High Courts in India, as well as those in England, America, European Union (E.U.) have been included in this edition which makes the work informative, updated and all comprehensive. Every care has been taken to introduce all newly emerging trends on the subject and this makes the present edition a valuable asset in the quest of learning.

The existing appendices have also been thoroughly revised and updated. Besides, several recent legislations have been included so as to provide a ready hand learning aid on the subject. To be infallible is the prerogative of divinity but to perform best is the glory of men. Striving hard to do the best at our end, this edition of “Law of The Press” is devoted to all our esteemed readers as a humble effort to bring the best on the subject.

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“Independence Day”
