

Dear _____.

Greetings from Maharashtra Palliative Care Network (MPCN), Forum for Medical Ethics Society (FMES), Narotam Sekhsaria Foundation (NSF) and ELICIT!

We are organizing a public meeting on the recent Supreme Court Judgement and we would like to invite you for the same.

Supreme Court Judgement:

The recent Supreme Court (SC) judgement has decided in favor of passive form of euthanasia as per which an individual can draw up a "living will" (Advance Directive provided by the patient) and accordingly decide upon the intensity of the course of treatment or termination of the same. The judgment is on the grounds of Article 21 of the Indian constitution, which deals with Right to Life and Liberty.

The issue of **Right to Life** and **Liberty** as a subject is of interest to varied disciplines, including medicine, palliative care, law, human rights practitioners, and indeed civil society as a whole. The proposed meeting will provide a platform for diverse opinions and help us collectively draw implications of the judgment.

Discussion:

A Panel discussion has thus been arranged involving medical professionals specializing in critical care, palliative care, law, hospital and health care administration, human rights practitioners, and faith based organisations.

It is envisaged that the panel will critically analyze different dimensions of the judgement as against previous similar judgments and arrive at recommendations on how the law may be sharpened/ made actionable. Also, from a common person's perspective, it would be useful to debate as to whether this law is genuinely empowering and its significance to all stakeholders concerned. Challenges foreseen in implementation will be highlighted, especially from the perspective of health and palliative care providers.

We look forward to an enriching discussion with your participation!

Copy of detailed judgement can be accessed at:

http://sci.gov.in/supremecourt/2005/9123/9123_2005_Judgement_09-Mar-2018.pdf

Leni Chaudhuri
NSF & MPCN

Dr. Armida Fernandez
SNEHA & MPCN

Roop Gursahani
ELICIT & MPCN

Dr. Sunita Bandewar
FMES

**PUBLIC MEETING ON SUPREME
COURT JUDGMENT**

**DATE: 6TH APRIL 2018
TIME: 3 PM TO 6 PM**

**VENUE: CHOKSI AUDITORIUM
COMPLEX. LECTURE HALL. 2ND
FLOOR GOLDEN JUBILEE BLOCK.
TATA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, PAREL.**

**LOCATION: [https://goo.gl/maps/
GmBtNqqB2Pm](https://goo.gl/maps/GmBtNqqB2Pm)**

Speakers on the Panel

ItS r. no.	Name	Title	Organisation
1	Dr. Farhad Kapadiya	Consultant Physician, Intensivist	Hinduja Hospital
2	Dr. Mary Ann Muckaden	President IAPC and Senior Consultant, Oncology and Palliative care	Tata Memorial Centre Mumbai
3.	Dr. Nagraj Huilgol	Chief Radiation Oncologist & President	Nanavati Hospital Society for Right To Die with Dignity.
4	Mr. Nirav Shah	Solicitor; Partner	DSK Legal
5	Ms. Dhvani Mehta	Senior Resident Fellow	Vidhi Aid
6	Fr. Stephen Fernandez.	National Secretary	Catholic Bishops Conference of India.
7	Dr. Sudeep Gupta	Deputy Director, ACTREC	Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai
8	Dr. Tarang Gianchandani	CEO	Jaslok Hospital, Mumbai
9	Mr. Gautam Khanna (TBC)	CEO	Hinduja and Head, Hinduja College of Nursing.
10	Dr. Sanjay Nagral	Consultant Surgeon & Head of the Dept. of General Surgery	Jaslok Hospital, Mumbai. KB Bhabha Municipal General Hospital, Bandra, Mumbai
11.	Dr. Anant Phadke	Physician and Public Health Activist	Senior Advisor Sathi-CEHAT Jan Swasthya Abhiyan
12.	Dr. Santosh T Soans	President Pediatrician & Intensivist, Prof. & H.O.D.	Indian Association of Pediatricians A. J. Institute of Medical Sciences

Organizers:**1. Maharashtra Palliative Care Network:**

Maharashtra Palliative Care Network is a recently formed group of over 15 organizations and individuals who have come together to work for the cause of Palliative Care in Maharashtra. The group consists of doctors as well as non-medical professionals drawn from civil society, NGOs, foundations, and leading hospitals. Individuals spearheading the network bring with them the highest level of dedication, experience, and passion for the cause of palliative care.

The network aims to strengthen Palliative Care services in Maharashtra by bringing their collective experience and skills to complement the government's efforts.

2. Forum for Medical Ethics Society (FMES), Mumbai:

Founded in 1993 by a group of medical practitioners disillusioned by unethical medical practice, it evolved into a wider umbrella group for individuals from diverse backgrounds interested in bioethics. FMES publishes Indian Journal of Medical Ethics (IJME), the only indexed and peer reviewed leading journal on bioethics in India and South Asia.

3. Narotam Sekhsaria Foundation (NSF):

The Narotam Sekhsaria Foundation (NSF) enables non-profit organisations and social entrepreneurs to make a positive, lasting and sustainable impact on society. Established in 2002 with an endowment from the philanthropist Mr. Narotam Sekhsaria, the Foundation (NSF) supports socially committed individuals and organisations to work towards the change they want to see.

Unlike the traditional charity based approach, the foundation has adapted a more responsive, and strategic approach through all civil society initiatives that it supports, in different portfolios such as health, education, livelihoods, governance and civic issues, art and culture and youth and urbanization.

4. ELICIT:

In 2015, a group of professionals from three national medical associations of intensivists, palliative care physicians and neurologists came together to form End of Life Care in India Taskforce (ELICIT).

ELICIT is a move from the group of doctors to initiate a self-propagated task force in response to the challenging context surrounding the provisioning of End of Life Care (EoLC) in the Indian context. The task force intends to address the issues of provisioning EoLC while working in the following areas:

- Comprehensive legislation for EoLC
- Public awareness on EoLC
- Capacity building of medical fraternity
