

Obituary



Justice Ramesh Chandra Lahoti

DOB : 1-11-1940

DOD : 23-3-2022

Tearful Homage : Late Justice Lahoti — A Messiah for Medical Professionals in India

Justice Ramesh Chandra Lahoti former Chief Justice of Supreme Court of India, passed away on 23rd of March 2022 who by virtue of his judgement in Dr Jacob Mathew¹ case bailed out all the doctors in India from unnecessary criminal prosecution.

There was a time, a dangerous trend was gradually picking up pace in India when doctors were being prosecuted based on the complaints of medical negligence by the aggrieved relatives of deceased patients. It would be a dooms day scenario for doctors in India had it not been for the historic judgement by the three-judge bench of Supreme Court of India, headed by the Chief Justice Lahoti who took a stand in the best interest of the society as well as doctors in India. Life of the doctors in India would have been miserable with innumerable criminal cases slapped on them and with them spending more time in the police station and courts rather than in the hospitals and clinics but for this landmark judgement passed in Dr Jacob Mathe vs State of Punjab (2004).

Who can forget the words of wisdom of Justice Lahoti in his famous judgement where Doctor Jacob Mathew was prosecuted by the State of Punjab for not able to provide oxygen to a terminally ill cancer patient at the moment of his demise? He said "No sensible professional would intentionally commit an act which would result in injury to the patient Human body and its working is nothing less than a highly complex machine..... Indiscriminate prosecution of medical professionals for criminal negligence is counter-productive and does no service or good to the society.....All that we are doing is to emphasize the need for care and caution in the interest of society; for, the service which the medical profession renders to human beings is probably the noblest of all, and hence there is a need for protecting doctors from frivolous or unjust prosecutions".

In the same judgement he went on to lay down certain guidelines for the future which should govern the prosecution of doctors by the State for criminal rashness or criminal negligence. This judgment made it a compulsory for the investigating officer to seek an independent and competent medical opinion preferably from a doctor in government service qualified in that branch of medical practice before registering an FIR against doctor for alleged professional negligence.

Justice Ramesh Chandra Lahoti (born 1 November 1940) was the 35th Chief Justice of India, serving from 1 June 2004 to 1 November 2005. He served as judge of the Supreme Court from September 12, 1998 till he was elevated to the post of Chief Justice. His passing away is a great loss not only to legal fraternity but also to the entire medical fraternity in India². It is the time for us the doctors to pay homage to this departed great soul who made our lives legally safe and respectable.

References :

- 1 Jacob Mathews vs State of Punjab & Anr--Appeal (CRL) 144-145 of 2004 SCC
- 2 <https://www.livelaw.in/top-stories/a-fearless-independent-judge-who-enriched-legal-jurisprudence-cji-ramana-pays-homage-to-late-justice-rc-lahoti-194875>

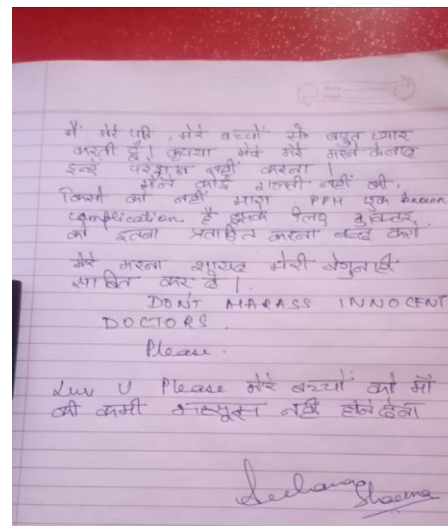
A young Gold Medalist Gynecologist Dr Archana Sharma committed suicide in Dausa, Rajasthan when a case of murder was filed against her under IPC 302, when a pregnant lady died due to a known complication of PPH during childbirth
#MedTwitter #Shame #Savedoctors



DR. ARCHANA SHARMA



Obstetrics and Gynecology (GOLD MEDALIST)



National IMA strongly condemns the action by police officers of Dausa, Rajasthan for their illegal action on **Late Dr Archana Sharma**.
 A patient unfortunately died due to PPH and thereafter lots of problems were created for the doctors.
 Dr Archana, senior Gynaecologist, died by suicide due to the illegal FIR filed under 302, harassment by political persons, demand of money and media trial.
 IMA demands immediate suspension of the concerned police officers and strict action on the trouble makers.
 We stand by the family of Dr Sharma.
 National IMA is in constant touch with Rajasthan IMA and will decide on further plan of action in next 24 hours.

Dr Sahajanand Prasad Singh
National President

Dr Jayesh Lele
Hony Secretary General



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Reference: *Actoprotectors are preparations that increase the mental performance and enhance body stability against physical loads without increasing oxygen consumption. 1. Brondino, Natascia, et al. "A systematic review and meta-analysis of Ginkgo biloba in neuropsychiatric disorders: From ancient tradition to modern-day medicine." Evidence-based complementary and alternative medicine 2013 (2013). 2. McKenna, D. J., K. Jones, and K. Hughes. "Efficacy, safety, and use of ginkgo biloba in clinical and preclinical applications." Alternative therapies in health and medicine 7.5 (2000): 70-86. 3. Oliyryk, Sergiy, and Seikwan Oh. "Actoprotective effect of ginseng: improving mental and physical performance." Journal of ginseng research 37.2 (2013): 144. 4. Lee, Chang Ho, and Jong-Hoon Kim. "A review on the medicinal potentials of ginseng and ginsenosides on cardiovascular diseases." Journal of ginseng research 38.3 (2014): 161-166. 5. Mol Nutr Food Res. 2007 Nov;51(11):1329-34. 6. Rahman, Khalid. "Garlic and aging: new insights into an old remedy." Ageing research reviews 2.1 (2003): 39-56. 7. Chacko, Sabu M., et al. "Beneficial effects of green tea: a literature review." Chinese medicine 5.1 (2010): 13. 8. Vinicius Cruzat, et al, Glutamine: Metabolism and Immune Function, Supplementation and Clinical Translation; nutrients, 23 October 2018

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