Celebrating Five Years of Institution Building (2009-14)

11:45 am  Prayer meeting and tributes to Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer

Hon’ble Mr. Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer
(1915 - 2014)

Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer left this world a few days ago with a void that cannot be filled! Justice Iyer’s contribution as a judge and as a humanist is truly unparalleled. Such was his belief in the power of humanity that he has a restless soul. He was reading, writing and speaking all the time agitated about the violations of human rights anywhere. His words reflected the larger purpose of law and justice in any society and he was constantly addressing the fundamental problem of access to justice in the Indian society.

Justice Iyer will have a very special place in the life of our nation. He has travelled a distance that only a few can dream, but in this journey, he has so profoundly touched the lives of many in ways that have left them with an indelible impression about the power of humanity and justice. Justice Iyer led his life fulfilling the Gandhian vision of removing "every tear from every eye".

12:00 noon  The Right to Information: A Means to Realise Human Rights

SPEAKER

Mr. Venkatesh Nayak
Programme Coordinator
Access to Information Programme
Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative

Mr. Nayak is a member of Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative and an RTI Activist. He is the reason behind the landmark ruling by the Central Information Commission stating that the exemption under the RTI would not apply until a minister approved a policy i.e. the deliberations leading up to it are in the public domain. He had requested the DoPT to place the draft Public Interest Disclosure and Protection of Informers Bill on its website. When the DoPT did not respond, he took up the matter with the CIC arguing that this was violative of the RTI Act.

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