

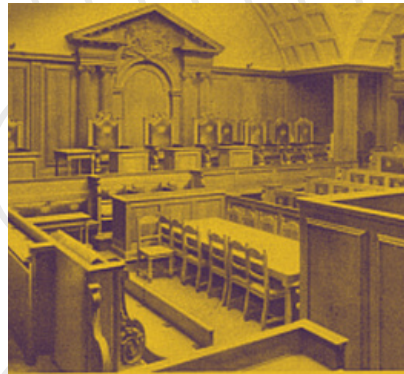
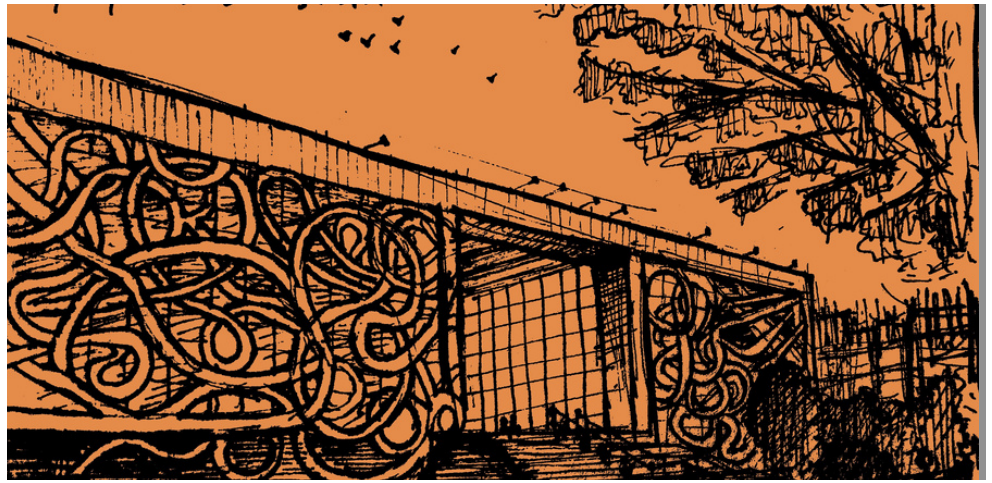
# The Crime & Justice Gazette

DECEMBER, 2023

ISSUE 12

*“When, how citizens are policed is not curtailed, when colonial offences like blasphemy and sedition are retained, when people continue to be unnecessarily processed by the criminal justice system under the bills, the colonial spirit remains”.*

*-Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy*



Celebrating Four Years of  
GCRCJS

Colonial Reeds in  
India and its  
Strongholds



Recent Developments  
in Criminal Law,  
Crossword & much  
more

# MESSAGE FROM THE CENTRE-HEAD

---

*“May the human souls keep on enlightening themselves through knowledge and experience.”*

It is my utmost pleasure to write this message in the twelfth edition of the Crime and Justice Gazette, a newsletter by the GNLU Centre for Research in Criminal Justice Sciences. Truth, courage & bravery, these qualities stand must for every criminal case that is to be instituted, investigated and tried.

Our Hon’ble Director Sir, Prof Dr. S. Shanthakumar, who laid the foundation of this centre, in September 2019, made its mandate clear that GCRCJS should bring out study, research, and training in every aspect of criminal justice and the present Newsletter, is one step ahead in the same direction.

This is the result of the hard work of our student team, which has infinite zeal and never-ending motivation. I wish the team every success and also hope that this newsletter will fill the gap of information in the field of criminal laws for its readers. My best wishes to whoever has made this newsletter a reality, to the editors, to every team member as contributors, and every reader, who will let us know improvements and enable further excellence in this endeavor.

**Prof. (Dr.) Anjani Singh Tomar**  
Professor of Law  
Head, Academic Affairs  
Head, Center for Research in Criminal Justice Sciences



# MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM

---

The GNLU Centre for Research in Criminal Justice Sciences, since its establishment, has been a pioneer in inculcating the culture of research and analysis in the field of criminal justice and criminal law. Since its inception in 2019, the Centre has successfully managed to conduct several activities such as competitions, discourses, webinars, conferences, workshops, etc. in the field of criminal law. GNLU Centre for Research in Criminal Justice Sciences is committed to shape diverse and unique perspectives in the area of criminal law through the lens of academic research and to bring the debates and discussions regarding issues of significance in the aforementioned area to a forefront.

Owing to this vision and commitment of ours, we hereby present to you the twelfth edition of “The Crime & Justice Gazette” that aims to bring to you a mix of pieces revolving around the contemporary issues on Criminal Law, an exclusive spread of the various activities that we as a centre have undertaken as well as other fun activities for your perusal. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our Hon'ble Director Sir, Prof Dr. S. Shanthakumar, our Faculty Convenor, Prof. Dr. Anjani Singh Tomar, for their unwavering support, as well as for believing in us and encouraging us to put the best of our efforts into the growth of the centre. We would also like to thank the student editorial team of the centre for their support in the creation of the eleventh edition of the newsletter!

**DISCLAIMER :** *The authors' opinions expressed in the newsletter are their own, and neither GCRCJS nor GNLU is responsible for them. The case briefs solely summarize the current state of the cases' verdicts or orders, and do not cover anything with respect to future proceedings or appeals. The newsletter is only for internal circulation in GNLU and will be available only on the GCRCJS official webpage at a later date.*

# CONTRIBUTORS

---



## Convenor

Aditya Dalal

## Editor-In-Chief

Bhanupratap Singh Rathore

## Managing Editors

Snigdha

Varunesh Renganathan

## Executive Editors

Aditya Garg

Akanksha Rai

Sahil Kriplani

## Newsletter Design

Vinayak Malhotra

Kavya Tomar

## Social Media and Outreach

Kavya Tomar

Sanjana Kothari

## Content Contributors

---

Bhuvaneshwari V

Maithreyi Muthukrishnan

Ira Joshi

## Copy Editors

---

Akanksha Rai

Aditya Garg

Sahil Kriplani

Kriti Kabra

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	<b>Preface</b>
2	<b>Celebrating Four Years of GCRCJS: A Journey of Excellence in Criminal Law</b>
4	<b>Recent Developments in Criminal Law</b>
8	<b>Colonial Reeds and their Stronghold in India</b>
11	<b>Reformation in the Criminal Justice System</b>
13	<b>Guest Session on Abortion Laws in India</b>
15	<b>Webseries Review: Vettai</b>
18	<b>Crossword</b>



---

## Preface

---

As we celebrate the fourth anniversary of the GNLU Centre for Research in Criminal Justice Sciences, we reflect upon the immense journey we have undertaken in pursuit of a fair and equitable society. Our mission has always been to illuminate the complex web of crime, justice, and the interconnected issues that define our world. The feature article that anchors this edition explores the intricate landscape of crime legislation, pushing the boundaries of inquiry to discern whether recent reforms are genuinely transformative or merely cosmetic. "Rewriting Crime Laws - Breaking Colonization or Just a Makeover" takes a critical look at the profound implications of our evolving legal framework on marginalized communities and the broader criminal justice ecosystem.

Within these pages, you will find a thought-provoking array of articles that navigate the intricate corridors of justice.

Furthermore, our commitment to inclusivity leads us to discuss "Crime and Protecting Queer People," recognizing the unique challenges faced by LGBTQ+ individuals within the criminal justice system and the imperative for change.

The Crime and Justice Gazette has always strived to be more than just a source of information; it is a platform for discourse, innovation, and change. As part of our anniversary celebrations, we present the tireless efforts of the Centre. Recent legal developments highlight the Supreme Court's stance on the standard of proof to prove insanity, stating that it is only through the perspective of a prudent person. Additionally, the Gujarat High Court's decision to allow the medical termination of pregnancy for minor rape victims and the focus on criminal action against offenders of solid waste management rules mark crucial strides in our legal landscape.

In our "Leisure Section," we invite you to take a brief respite from the intensity of the legal world and enjoy a selection of compelling narratives, reviews, and creative works that embody the diversity of our readership, including a review of the web series 'Vettai.'

This fourth anniversary edition embodies our commitment to a more just and compassionate society. We invite you to engage with the content, question, debate, and ultimately join us in the quest for a brighter, more equitable future. Thank you for being part of this incredible journey.

Happy Reading!



## CELEBRATING FOUR YEARS OF GCRCJS: A JOURNEY OF EXCELLENCE IN CRIMINAL LAW

Varunesh Renganathan , On behalf of  
Team GCRCJS

The GNLU Centre for Research in Criminal Justice Sciences (GCRCJS) recently celebrated its fourth anniversary, marking a significant milestone in its journey since its establishment in 2019. This remarkable occasion was graced by the presence of the founding convenor, Mr. Mayank Gupta, and former convenors, Mr. Nihal Deo and Ms. Ashika Jain, as well as faculty members of the centre, Dr. Saira Gori and Dr. Marisport and it was also graced by Prof (Dr.) Thomas Mathew. The event brought together members of the centre and enthusiastic students to commemorate this achievement.

GCRCJS was founded with a clear mission: to promote research and analysis in the dynamic field of criminal law. Over the past four years, it has lived up to this mission by creating a conducive research environment that explores various facets of criminal science. The centre's unwavering commitment to advancing knowledge and fostering academic discussions in this field has been commendable.

One of the distinctive aspects of GCRCJS is its collaboration with the Police Academia Interaction Forum, a pioneering platform established by the Gujarat Police in partnership with GNLU. This platform facilitates academic interactions between academicians and police personnel, aiming to bridge the gap between theory and practice in criminal justice. This synergy contributes to knowledge exchange and innovation in the field.

At its core, GCRCJS aspires to build a network of professionals, including academicians, researchers, activists, lawyers, and others, who can collectively contribute to the development of criminal justice sciences. This collaborative approach is essential for addressing the complex and ever-evolving challenges within criminal law.

One of the standout achievements of GCRCJS is "The Crime & Justice Gazette," a newsletter that has gained popularity among the university. The newsletter goes beyond the surface, providing new perspectives on various topics through its articles and blogs, encouraging critical thinking and enriching the discourse on criminal law. In addition to legal content, the newsletter includes reviews of highly acclaimed movies, web series, and books related to crime and criminal law, combining entertainment and education for an enriched reading experience. Moreover, it engages readers with games and riddles related to criminal law, adding an element of fun and challenge to the reading experience.

As we reflect on the achievements of GCRCJS over the past four years, we can only anticipate a future filled with even greater contributions. With our continued commitment to advancing the field of criminal law, one can expect to see more innovative research, insightful publications, and meaningful interactions that further strengthen the ties between academicians, professionals, and the public.



## CELEBRATING FOUR YEARS OF GCRCJS: A JOURNEY OF EXCELLENCE IN CRIMINAL LAW

---

This remarkable journey of GCRCJS is a testament to the power of collaboration, knowledge sharing, and dedication to academic excellence. Cheers to GCRCJS and the remarkable strides it has taken in the realm of criminal justice sciences. The future undoubtedly holds promising developments that will continue to shape and influence the world of criminal law.

Cheers to GCRCJS and its remarkable journey!







## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CRIMINAL LAW

Bhuvaneshwari V

### 1. Standard of Proof to prove Insanity is Only 'Reasonable Doubt' : Supreme Court acquits man accused of killing his Grandfather

The Supreme Court in the case of Rupesh Manger (Thapa) vs State of Sikkim allowed the appeal and acquitted a man who had been sentenced to life imprisonment under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code by the High Court of Sikkim. The court stated that the standard of proof required to prove lunacy or insanity is that of "reasonable doubt."

In the trial court, the evidence on record was carefully considered. This evidence included medical records that certified that the accused had a depressive disorder with psychotic tendencies and was clinically under the influence of the psychotropic drug Lorazepam.

The Supreme Court held that the High Court had reversed the acquittal and convicted the appellant primarily by reappreciating the evidence on record and not on account of any perversity which disturbed the settled law on the matter.

In adjudicating the matter, the court also placed reliance on an earlier judgment wherein the court categorically observed that the burden on the accused to prove his plea of insanity is that of the preponderance of probability.

*"It is the collective responsibility of the person concerned, the Court and the prosecution to decipher the proof qua insanity by not treating it as adversarial."*

It is understood from the series of judgments and statements made by the court that the burden of proof so placed upon the accused should not become unsurpassable but rather should be provided to the extent of a prudent man to satisfy the conditions under Section 84 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

## **2. Gujarat HC directs PI to take necessary steps on urgent basis for medical termination of pregnancy of a minor rape victim.**

Hon'ble Justice Samir J. Dave referred to the Skanda Purana, "*Nasti matrusama chaya, nasti matrusama gatihi. Nasti matrusamam tranam, nasti matrusama prapa*" with the objective of emphasizing the value of motherhood and orally remarked that parents should not force a minor girl to opt for abortion.

This case, XYZ v. State of Gujarat, is in relation to a plea filed in the Gujarat HC by a 16-year-old rape victim's elder sister seeking termination of a pregnancy spanning 17 weeks. Subsequently, a medical panel submitted a report outlining the condition of the patient as being high-risk. The report stated that the failure of termination would be an added risk to the morbidity and mortality of the minor girl.

After due consultation with the victim's family, the bench took reference of a Supreme Court judgment and passed directions to the concerned hospital to take the necessary steps for the procedure and additionally also directed the relevant police inspector to take the "necessary steps on an urgent basis, so that the procedure of medical termination of the victim girl could be undertaken and concluded within a period of one week."

The court further emphasized exercising necessary care, sensitivity, and caution to facilitate a smooth medical procedure given the age, mental health, and physical health of the victim.

## **3. It is the responsibility of both the prosecution and the judges handling POCSO cases to be well versed with the provisions of this special enactment – Bombay HC**

The Bombay High Court, in the case of Rodu Bhaga Wagh v. State of Maharashtra & Anr. deemed the imposition of a lesser punishment as a "glaring flaw" in cases related to the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. This statement was made in reference to a case where a 64-year-old man was convicted of attempting to rape a 10-year-old girl under Section 18, along with Sections 4 and 6 of the POCSO Act, which address penetrative assault and aggravated penetrative assault, respectively. Section 42 of the POCSO Act specifies that when an offender is found guilty under both the Indian Penal Code and the POCSO Act, the punishment should be the greater of the two. Before the 2019 amendment, the punishment under Section 4 was a minimum of 7 years, extendable to life imprisonment, and under Section 6, it was rigorous imprisonment for a minimum of 10 years, also extendable to life imprisonment along with a fine.

Section 18 of the POCSO Act states that an attempt to commit an offence should be punished with a term of imprisonment that can extend up to one-half of the imprisonment for life or one-half of the longest term provided for that offence. Based on these relevant sections, the prescribed punishment of a 3-year rigorous imprisonment is significantly less severe than the minimum punishment described in the Act.

Hon'ble Justice Bharati Dangi, referred to a Supreme Court decision regarding the imposition of a life imprisonment sentence, emphasizing that a court cannot impose a punishment lower than the prescribed minimum. Furthermore, the court pointed out that both the State and the Special Public Prosecutor appeared to be passive observers in the flawed execution of the legislation.

The bench then addressed the issue of accountability in the event of miscarriage of justice. In response, the court instructed the appellant to submit an appropriate affidavit detailing the actions to be taken if the Special Prosecutors fail to identify such significant errors in implementing the provisions. Additionally, the court directed the State to outline its intended course of action when such glaring discrepancies are brought to its attention in an affidavit.

#### **4. Extrajudicial Confession cannot be given greater credibility because it is available to the public at large – Supreme Court**

The Supreme Court, in the case Dinesh B.S v. State of Karnataka while considering an appeal, thoroughly examined the case facts and the evidence presented that led to the conviction of two individuals under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code, read with Sections 112 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code, resulting in their sentencing, including life imprisonment.

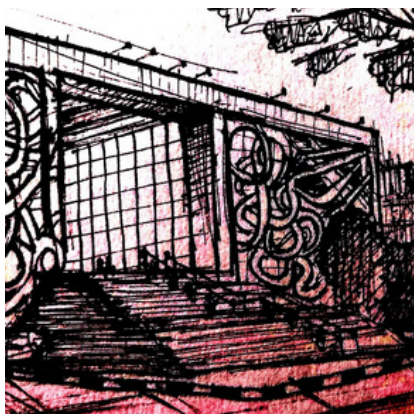
In its judgment, the bench scrutinized the evidence that formed the basis of conviction by the Karnataka High Court. The primary factor behind the conviction was the testimony of a correspondent from a Kannada Daily newspaper. This correspondent stated that, in his capacity, he visited the district jail and conducted interviews with both the accused individuals, during which they made statements that implied their involvement in the incident in question.

Upon careful examination of the correspondent's testimony, it was revealed that the interviews were actually conducted by the Sub-Editor of the newspaper and overheard by the correspondent. Strikingly, the Sub-Editor was never presented as a witness during the trial. The High Court noted that the accused had made an extra-judicial confession that it carries greater credibility because the information is made to the public at large.

The Senior Counsel for the appellants in the Supreme Court case quoted Mark Twain: *“If you don't read the newspaper, you're uninformed. If you read the newspaper, you're misinformed”* to support his submission that the High Court had erred by laying much credibility to newspaper reports.

The Supreme Court accepted the counsel's submissions and emphasized that, in established legal practice, newspaper reports can only be considered as secondary evidence. A newspaper is not a document referred to in Section 78(2) of the Indian Evidence Act for proving allegations of fact. As a result, the court acquitted both appellants due to insufficient evidence.





## COLONIAL REEDS AND THEIR STRONGHOLD IN INDIA

---

Maithreyi

In 2023 CE, India, a queer person has to cover up who they are, like one would hide a wound, to avoid being seen as gay, to save themselves from the bullying which countless teens suffer all over the country, the bullying which has killed so many.

But keep in mind the same country as your location, and go back a couple of centuries, and you will find that the situation wasn't always the same. Trans people from the days gone were celebrated as the harbingers of good luck; people wanted them to bless their newborns.

The criminalisation of homosexuality began on Indian soil with the arrival of the British. Ancient India was seen to be accepting of queerness, as seen in temple sculptures, texts like the Jaimini Brahmana, the Kamasutra, or even various mythological tales from various writers across a wide span of centuries.

Then came the medieval period, when we lost a lot of our history to various foreign rulers, and when the British took over India, they also enforced their Victorian puritanical values upon us. The Western church viewed homosexuality and transgenderism as sins, and the same idea was also instilled by the British in India.

Under the Chairmanship of Lord Macaulay, the colonial criminal law code, the Indian Penal Code of 1860, was introduced. There was a discussion to include the crimes pertaining to the concept of 'unnatural lust' in the Code, wherein the British intended to include homosexuality and bestiality under the same category, but that was rejected by the Law Commission of India. However, even though our Indian lawmakers could prevent such terminology from entering our books, the British, with their aim of 'modernizing India' still did add Section 377 to the Indian Penal Code, and thereby criminalized homosexuality, as they believed it was right for a civilized society to do.

The historic judgement delivered by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of Navtej Singh Johar & Ors. versus Union of India in 2018 led to the beginning of the reversal of archaic colonial mindset by decriminalising homosexuality and amending a portion of section 377 of Indian Penal Code, 1860. Thus this judgement was the first step in the right direction.



However, we may now have a new criminal code, as the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (hereinafter referred to as “The Bill”) has been introduced in the parliament, and if the Bill is passed, then it shall replace the Indian Penal Code, 1860. The purpose of bringing in this new Bill, as said in the statement of objects and reasons by our Home Minister Mr Amit Shah, is to “revamp the Criminal Legal Structure in the country and make it more suitable to the current setting than the colonial IPC.”

However, the new Bill seems to be falling short of the aforesaid purpose, when it comes to doing away with the colonial influence on queer rights.

The Bill states that one of its objectives is to make various offences gender-neutral, yet that hasn't been followed through consistently. In this Bill, there is no provision for rape against men, which is a hate crime that gay men especially face. For example, one such scenario being where people make fake dating profiles on gay dating apps like Grindr and lure gay men to hotels and abuse them. This overlooking of protection of men from rape is only going to further worsen this problem.

Section 18 of The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act of 2019 provided the punishment for sexual abuse of a trans person, with a penalty of a minimum of 6 months, which may go up to a period of 2 years. Four years later, the proposed Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita has classified gender into three categories- male, female, and transgender. However, this classification, when read with the failure to mention trans people under the provisions which punish rape (section 64 of the BNS), leads to the lack of protection of trans people from the crime of rape, as it now only covers cis women. Thus, there is again a regression in our legal framework.

These lacunas aside, what the new Bill has done is bring back the colonial term “unnatural lust”, which the Law Commission had rejected during the initial drafting the Indian Penal Code. This term is used in Section 38 of the Bill and it discusses the right to private defence in case of assault with the intent of gratifying unnatural lust and then in Section 138 of the bill, which penalizes the crimes and gives the punishment in case pertaining to kidnapping or abduction, which may put the victim in danger of being subjected to the unnatural lust of any person.

Although the decriminalisation of homosexuality still stands in this Bill, through the usage of archaic terms such as unnatural lust, which were initially intended to be homophobic, and the failure of the bill to provide a clear definition of what all it constitutes, will most certainly culminate in the harassment and vilification of the homosexual gay community. Such terminology will lead to the propagation of negative stereotypes, malicious case laws against the members of the queer community, etc.

In the last ten years, The Indian Penal Code, 1860, by way of a series of amendments such as the changing of Section 377, had slowly become inclusive and protective of the queer community. But the recently introduced bill’s oblivious and harmful terminology and several lacunas will only lead to a sense of entitlement to the common public in their attack against queer rights.

Ultimately, the enactment of the Bill laden with careless mistakes will lead to a domino effect ending in the regression of all the progress that the queer community fought for and earned over the last few decades. Thus, the legal system has a long way to go to truly throw off the chains of colonialism.



## REFORMATION IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Hon'ble Justice Nisha Thakore  
Judge, Gujarat High Court

The Guest Lecture on “Reformation in the Criminal Justice System: Understanding the principles of Parole, Furlough and Restorative Justice in India” delivered by the esteemed judge of Gujarat High Court, Hon'ble Ms. Justice Nisha M. Thakore was quite enriching. The lecture aimed to encourage the practical aspects related to law through a discussion and analysis on the Reformatory Criminal Justice System in India. Justice Thakore provided a comprehensive insight into the intricate aspects of parole and furlough within the Indian judicial system. Parole and furlough, she emphasized, are pivotal instruments in the pursuit of restorative justice. The speech offered an overview of the fundamental principles and regulations governing these practices, with a specific emphasis on their application in the state of Gujarat.



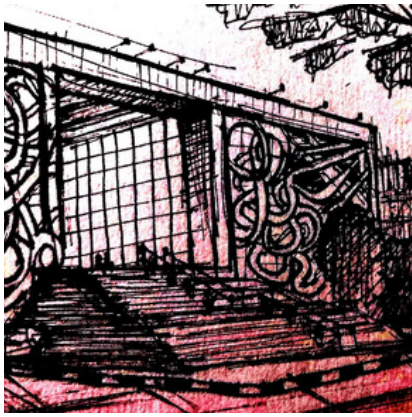
She highlighted that a key challenge in the application of parole and furlough is the absence of uniformity. Each case being unique in nature entails a nuanced evaluation of circumstances. This disparity becomes even more apparent in cases as complex as the Gujarat bomb blast, where the stringent enforcement of laws like the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in Maharashtra adds a layer of complexity. In such instances, constitutional guidance is often sought for clarity, yet the ultimate decision rests with the state.



Hon'ble Justice Thakore also shared the practical experiences from her time on the bench, emphasizing that individuals serving sentences for minor offenses, often hailing from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, may be unaware of available mechanisms or lack the means to access these benefits. Despite the challenges and the lack of uniformity in their application, parole and furlough remain invaluable tools for preserving familial bonds and instilling hope in the incarcerated.

Justice Nisha Thakore madam's insights provided a deeper understanding of the intricacies of these processes, providing practical and real understanding of such experience in courts, making the session quite meaningful and enriching.





## GUEST SESSION ON ABORTION LAWS IN INDIA

By Aishwarya Bhati,  
ASG, Government of India



The Guest Lecture Session by Ms. Aishwarya Bhati taken on 5th August 2023 on the topic “A Stride towards Equality: Discussing the Legality and Limits of Abortion Laws in India” was a great success!

Aishwarya Bhati boasts an illustrious legal career spanning an impressive 22 years at the Bar. Her exceptional legal expertise was officially recognized when she was appointed as the Additional Solicitor General of India on June 30, 2020. In March 2019, the Supreme Court of India designated her as a Senior Advocate, a well-deserved honor in acknowledgment of her significant contributions to the legal profession. Prior to her designation as a Senior Advocate, Bhati served as the Advocate-on-Record of the Supreme Court of India for a notable 13 years.

Ms Bhati has passionately fought for rights for women, children and people with disabilities, sustainable environmental laws and has also been a crusader advocate for anti-tobacco litigation. She has led from the front, the rights of women officers of the Indian Air Force, Indian Army and Indian Navy for at-par consideration for permanent commission and command positions. She has been instrumental in leading the battle against the mighty tobacco industry on issues of larger pictorial warning, plain packaging and stronger tobacco regulation.

In August 2022, she assisted the Supreme Court in X v. The Principal Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare & Anr. where a 25-year-old unmarried woman sought to terminate her 24-week pregnancy, which was not allowed under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act. In September 2022, the Supreme Court widened the scope of the rules to allow unmarried women to terminate pregnancy.

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati has articulated that the stipulated categories of women eligible for abortion between 20 to 24 weeks, as outlined in the Rules, are not contingent upon their marital status. Instead, these categories are designed to address the specific vulnerabilities of the individuals involved.

*“The seven categories have been created in the Rules for extremely vulnerable women. That is not contingent upon matrimonial status,”* asserted ASG Aishwarya Bhati.

This statement was made during the consideration of a petition lodged by a 25-year-old unmarried woman, who sought permission to terminate her 24-week pregnancy resulting from a consensual relationship. The Delhi High Court had previously denied her request for the same relief.

Ms. Bhati noted that the amendments to India’s Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act were path breaking. *“The constitutional courts have ironed out small issues with the act and the rules in a seamless manner,”* she said.

In her opinion, the country’s constitutional courts shine because of India’s dynamic outlook towards law. She quoted in the session *“Constitutional rights are like empty vessels; every generation has to fill them with their own wisdom.”*





## WEB SERIES REVIEW : VETTAI

Varunesh Renganathan

Genre: Crime Drama

Review:

### **"Vettai": A Multifaceted Dive into Crime, Corruption, and Personal Turmoil**

The underbelly of Singapore's bustling metropolis forms the stage for "Vettai," a meticulously crafted Singapore Tamil language police procedural drama that meticulously dives into the intricate world of law enforcement. The essence of the drama revolves around a specialized unit, the Intelligence Branch 5 (IB5), shrouded in secrecy, dedicated to unraveling the enigmatic puzzle of cold cases, often entwined within the Indian community and among Indian immigrants.

This clandestine unit operates as a covert force, functioning under the radar of public knowledge, veiled from the prying eyes of the masses. Their expertise lies in the investigation of long-forgotten, complex cases, where shadows of doubt and unanswered questions loom large. The team's pursuit of justice transcends the conventional precincts of law enforcement, delving into the heart of unsolved mysteries, where justice has long evaded the grasp of conventional investigative procedures.

"Vettai" isn't merely a tale of investigations and resolutions; it's a profound exploration of cultural nuances, societal challenges, and the veiled struggles of a community seeking closure. The series' resonance lies in its ability to portray the unit's tireless endeavors to seek justice where others have failed, resonating beyond the boundaries of law enforcement into the realm of cultural understanding and empathetic storytelling.

In the heart-pounding hostage situation, the stark realities of their profession collide with their personal vulnerabilities, forging a gripping exploration of their characters.



Mugi, the seasoned officer, confronts the unrelenting weight of past failures, his every move shadowed by a haunting sense of responsibility for the previous mission's tragic outcome. His abrasive exterior, a defense mechanism shielding his inner turmoil, exposes the fragility of a man torn between duty and the demons of his past.

Shan, once the team's affable and approachable member, finds himself trapped in a quagmire of guilt and seclusion after the hostage crisis. His descent into an antisocial shell paints a vivid portrait of a man grappling with the aftermath of trauma, his isolation mirroring the isolation of his anguish.

Meera, a pillar of resilience and determination, navigates the labyrinth of high-stakes investigations while juggling personal entanglements. Her unyielding pursuit of justice doesn't come without its costs, as the tensions between professional obligations and personal desires weave a complex tapestry that challenges her ideals and loyalties.

Shiva's transition to the Special Investigations Department is not merely a career shift but a crucible of trust and integrity. His inherent sense of duty and moral compass are put to the test in a new environment, as he grapples with the complexities of earning trust while maintaining his ethical grounding.

Seelan, the esteemed Chief DSP, embodies the overarching leadership now sidelined by the attempt on his life. His comatose state symbolizes the vulnerability of even the most experienced officers, serving as a constant reminder of the risks they face in the line of duty.



Raksha's existence is a tale of two opposing worlds, where familial bonds clash with the moral obligations she upholds. Her brother's entanglement with the drug empire forces her into a stark reality, propelling her towards the unlikely role of a hitwoman. The depth of her character is not just in the actions she takes but in the emotional turmoil that ensnares her, torn between preserving family ties and standing for what she perceives as right. Her journey unfolds as a poignant exploration of sacrifice, love, and the blurred lines between right and wrong.

Within the intense hostage situation and the subsequent investigations, personal conflicts, romantic entanglements, and guilt-ridden pasts intersect, creating a multifaceted narrative that amplifies the intricacies of each character's journey. The tapestry of camaraderie, once a source of strength, is now woven with threads of vulnerability and resilience, portraying a team united by a shared mission while navigating the labyrinth of their individual struggles.

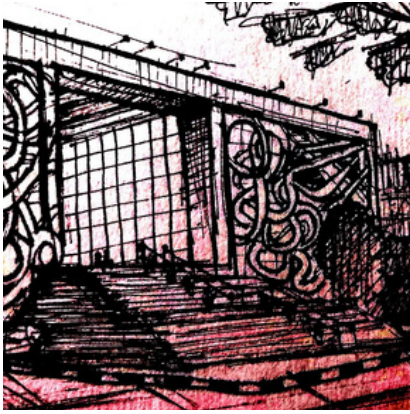
Character development is the cornerstone of "*Vettai*." Each officer is depicted grappling with personal demons while unwaveringly committed to cracking cases. The introduction of new team members, alliances, and rifts adds layers of complexity to the series.

"*Vettai*" immaculately captures the tension of police investigations, the intricacies of legal battles, and the ethical dilemmas faced by officers entrenched in a web of corruption. Its direction and script craft a compelling journey, keeping audiences riveted in each episode.

As the series unfolds, the aftermath of this intense event leaves an indelible mark on each officer, shaping their choices, decisions, and interactions. The hostage situation is not just an inciting incident but a transformative moment that etches the emotional landscape for the riveting character arcs that follow, setting the stage for a series that interlaces the professional and personal in an intricate and compelling manner.

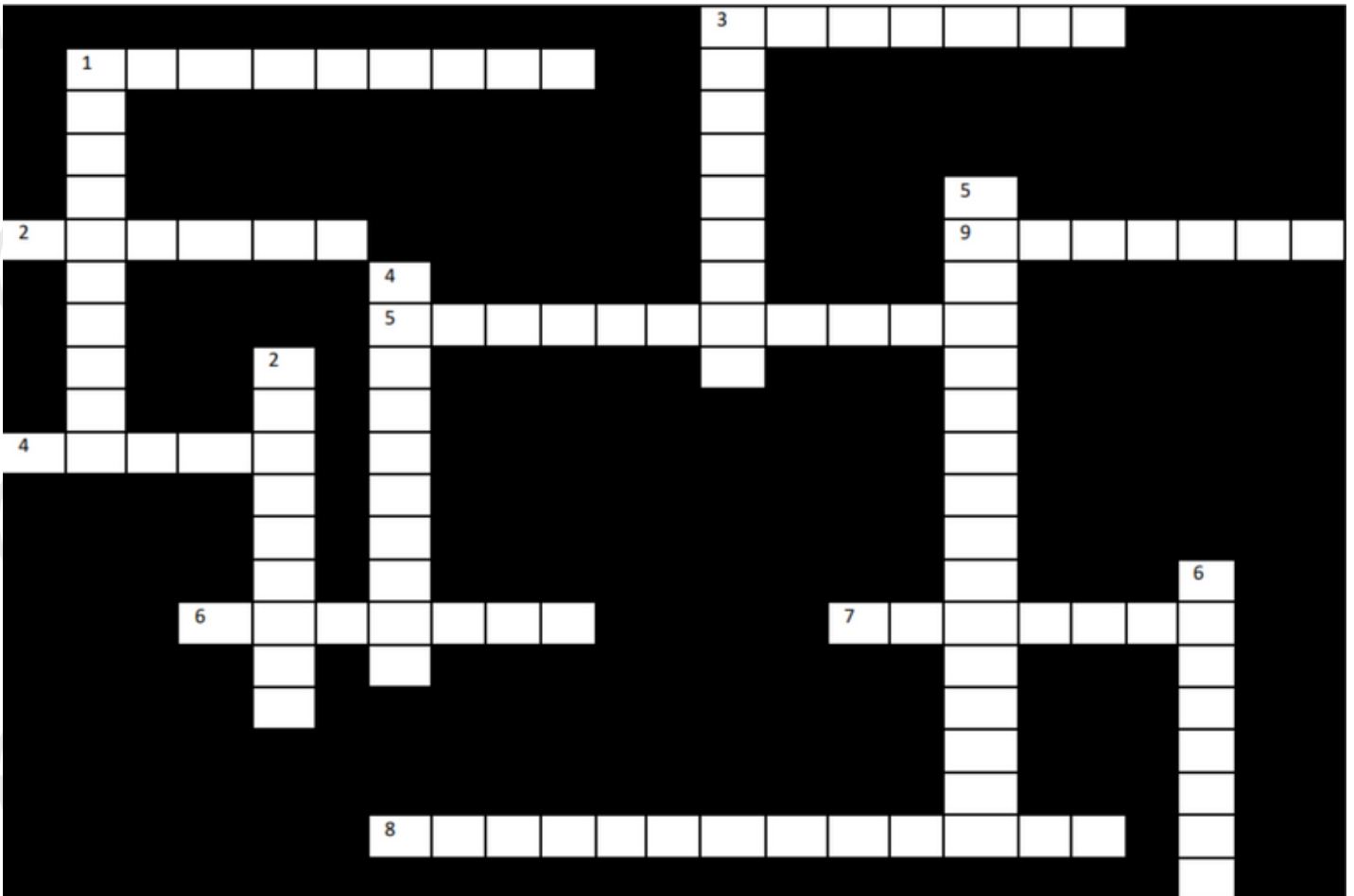
However, amidst its brilliance, "*Vettai*" isn't devoid of shortcomings. The complexity of the plot might occasionally overwhelm casual viewers, demanding a significant investment to fully grasp the interwoven storylines. Additionally, certain character arcs might feel rushed or underdeveloped due to the vast scope of the narrative.

In conclusion, "*Vettai*" emerges as an engaging and profoundly compelling crime drama that intricately interweaves the personal and professional lives of law enforcement officers. Its masterful storytelling, intricate character dynamics, and exploration of systemic corruption make it a must-watch for enthusiasts of the crime drama genre. "*Vettai*" offers an intriguing glimpse into the underbelly of crime and the relentless pursuit of justice, captivating audiences with its compelling narrative depth and complexity.



## CROSS WORD

Ira Joshi



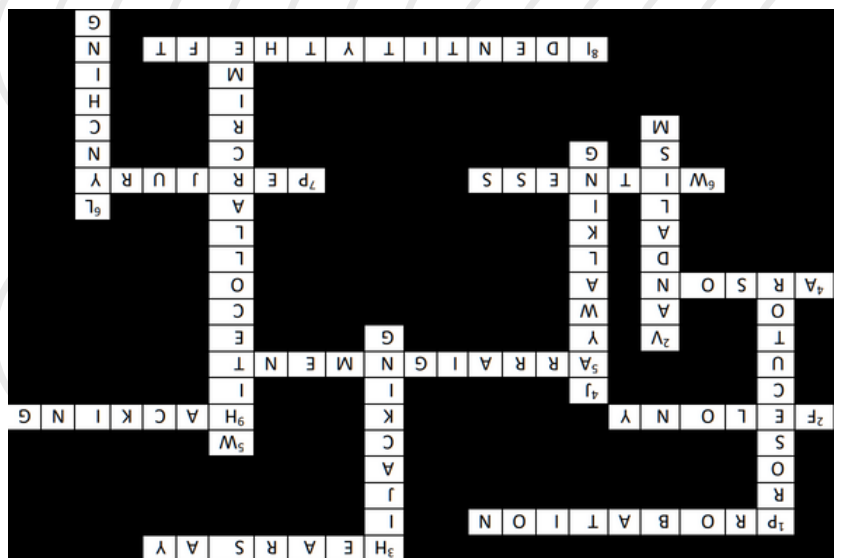
### Across:

1. A period of supervision for an offender ordered by a court during sentencing
2. Misconduct serious enough to be punishable by death or by imprisonment for more than one year
3. Section 3 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872- Information which has not been obtained through direct means; not admissible in court
4. Maliciously setting fire to property
5. Process of formally reading the criminal charges against the accused
6. Someone who saw an event happening, usually a crime or an accident
7. The act of lying under oath
8. Stealing someone's personal information
9. Compromising network security and digital devices to gain access to the same

## Down:

1. Representative of the government bringing charges against an accused in a criminal trial
2. Deliberate damage to someone else's property- usually depicted in movies as spray painting public property
3. Unlawful seizure of aircrafts or vessels
4. Crossing the road from places where traffic passes from; not from a zebra-crossing
5. Non-violent crime usually because of greed or economic volatility
6. Public killing of someone without proper procedure established by law, usually by an angry mob

## Solution



- Across:
1. Prosecutor
  2. Felony
  3. Hearsay
  4. Arson
  5. Arraignment
  6. Witness
  7. Perjury
  8. Identity theft
  9. Hijacking
- Down:
1. Prosecutor
  2. Vandalism
  3. Hijacking
  4. Jaywalking
  5. White collar crime
  6. Lynching





GNLU Centre for Research in Criminal Justice Sciences (GCRCJS)  
Gujarat National Law University  
Attalika Avenue, Knowledge Corridor, Koba,  
Gandhinagar - 382 426, Gujarat, INDIA



[gcrejs@gnlu.ac.in](mailto:gcrejs@gnlu.ac.in)



[www.gnlu.ac.in](http://www.gnlu.ac.in)



[gnlu\\_gcrejs](https://www.instagram.com/gnlu_gcrejs)



[linkedin/gcrejs](https://www.linkedin.com/company/gcrejs)