

## CMS Media Debate and Seminar

### “Does Media need a Lakshman Rekha?”

#### A Lakshman Rekha for Media

The concept of *Lakshman Rekha* refers to the need for an equilibrium between relationships and responsibilities of pillars of democracy. One of these pillars should restrain from going over board or not loose track of boundaries separating their functioning within the provisions of the Constitution, written and unwritten. *Lakshman Rekha* operates with certain accountability and also with certain concerns for the (effects) consequences of what is being done, or not being done today, on the larger values of freedom, objectivity, equity and ethics. *Lakshman Rekha* involves legal dimensions also. Most elected democracies in the world have one or other restraint on the operations of media even when they are relatively free from the Government's interference. In India, a free and independent media is inherent in the freedom of speech and even guaranteed by the Constitution under Article 19 (1) (a) but “subject to restrictions operating in a very narrow sphere”. It assumes that media is fair, free and responsible and operates under certain checks and balances, a hall mark of Indian Constitution.

#### Programme Schedule

**Date:** Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2008

**Venue:** CMS, Research House, Saket

<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>
9am-10am	Registration
10.00-10.10am	Welcome by PN Vasanti
<b>10.15am-1pm</b>	<b>Inter College Debate</b>
<b>2pm-5pm</b>	<b>Seminar</b> <b>Speakers invited are: Alok Mehta (Editor, Nai Duniya)</b> <b>Swami Agnivesh (Social Activist), Prashant Bhusan (Senior Advocate) and BV Rao (Group Editor, Zee News)</b>
5pm-5.30pm	Tea
5.30pm	Announcement & Distribution of Debate Prize

For Registration & Participation in debate Contact: Ms. Amrita Dasgupta, [amrita@cmsindia.org](mailto:amrita@cmsindia.org)