



VIDYAVARDHAKA SANGHA (R.)  
**VIDYAVARDHAKA LAW COLLEGE**

SHESHADRI IYER ROAD, MYSURU-01

**IQAC**

Cordially Invites you All to

**Sri. N. Nanjgowda (NNG) First Memorial Lecture**

On

**50 years of Basic Structure Doctrine: Revisiting Kesavananda Bharati case**

**Inaugural Address by**

**Hon'ble Mr. Justice H. N. Nagamohan Das**

Former Judge, High Court of Karnataka  
Bengaluru

**Presided by**

**Sri. Gundappa Gowda**

Hon'ble President, Vidya Vardhaka Sangha®, Mysuru

**Guests of Honour:**

**Er. P. Vishwanath**

Hon'ble Secretary, Vidya Vardhaka Sangha ® Mysuru

**Sri Shrishaila Ramannavar**

Treasurer, Vidya Vardhaka Sangha ® Mysuru

**Sri. Shivalingaiah**

Chairman, CMC, Vidya Vardhaka Law College, Mysuru

**Dr. Deepu. P**

Principal

**Prof. K.B.Vasudeva**

Director of Legal Studies

**Prof. N. Sathish Gowda**

**Dr. N. Ananda Gowda**

Donors

Date : 7th February 2024, Wednesday Time : 10-30 a.m.

Venue : Sri. P. M. Chikkabaraiah Hall

*All are Cordially Invited*

*Management, Teaching, Non-Teaching Staff and Students*

*&*

*Smt. Kamalakshi Nanjgowda & Family members*

Smt. Kamalakshi & the Family members have instituted  
Cash Prize Award for Students securing Highest Score in  
Constitutional Law and for organising  
“ NNG Memorial Lecture ” Every Year



## **VIDYAVARDHAKA LAW COLLEGE**

Sheshadri Iyer Road- Mysuru-01

Alumni Association

Report

On

**SRI. N, NANJEGOWDA(NNG) FIRST MEMORIAL LECTURE ON**

**50YEARS OF BASIC STRUCTURE DOCTRINE: REVISITING KESAVANANDA BHARATI CASE**

On 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 10:30am at Sri. P.M. Chikkaboraiiah Hall, Our College Alumni Sri. N. Nanjegovda (NNG) First Memorial Lecture on 50 years of basic structure doctrine: revisiting Kesavananda Bharati Case was organized. This programme inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice.H.N. Nagamohan Das, Former Judge, High Court of Karnataka, Bengaluru was the Chief guest.

In the inaugural address chief guest pointed out the The concept of 'basic structure' came into existence in the landmark judgment in Kesavananda Bharati vs State of Kerala case (1973) 50 years ago. The Basic Structure Doctrine is a cornerstone of the Indian Constitution, which has been instrumental in ensuring the preservation of the fundamental principles of democracy and protecting the rights of citizens. Its establishment in the Kesavananda Bharati case is a testament to the strength and resilience of India's democratic institutions and the judiciary's commitment to upholding the Constitution. The basic structure doctrine is a highly controversial pluralist judicial creation that has been accepted by all branches of the government and the people of India. Kesavananda Bharati case curtailed unlimited parliamentary sovereignty and started a new interpretive enterprise by recognizing the basic identity of the Constitution, which may not be destroyed by any amendment. The basic structure doctrine has become a thriving aspect of constitutional judicial review. In Kesavananda Bharati Case (1973). the Supreme Court overruled its judgment in the Golak Nath case. It upheld the validity of the 24th Amendment Act and stated that Parliament is empowered to abridge or take away any of the Fundamental Rights. At the same time, it laid down a new doctrine of the 'basic structure' (or 'basic features') of the Constitution. It ruled that the

constituent power of Parliament under Article 368 does not enable it to alter the 'basic structure' of the Constitution. This means that the Parliament cannot abridge or take away a Fundamental Right that forms a part of the 'basic structure' of the Constitution.

The chief guest also highlighted that, The ruling was the result of a petition by Kesavananda Bharati, the head of a Hindu monastery in Kerala's Kasargod district, challenging the state government's land reform acts that would result in the institution losing its holdings. The Kesavananda Bharati ruling was the culmination of a power struggle between Parliament and the Supreme Court that began with an earlier case. In 1967, the Supreme Court had ruled in the case of Golak Nath vs State of Punjab that Parliament could not amend the Fundamental Rights laid down in the Constitution. The Golak Nath verdict was perceived as a political decision, buttressed by the candidature of Chief Justice of India K Subba Rao – who had authored the majority judgement – as the Opposition's candidate for the presidential election in 1967. He also refuted the point that the Constitution is anti-democratic. Quoting Justice Kapadia from the famous case of M. Nagaraj in which he said every part of the constitution has a feature, but some features are essential which gives the constitution its identity and we are using basic structure doctrine to fulfil our present needs and basic structure doctrine will never go but will get changed according to time. After the speakers completed a short question-answer round happened in which some thoughtful questions were asked by the audience and satisfactory responses were given by the speakers.





In this programme Smt. Kamalakshi & Family members donated 5 lacks rupees cheque to our college and instituted cash prize award for students securing highest score in constitutional law and for organising “NNG Memorial Lecture” Every Year on this occasion.



This programme presided by Sri. Gundappa Gowda Hon,ble President, VV Sangh, Mysore and this programme witnessed by Er. P. Vishwanath Hon’ble Secretary, VV Sangh, Sri Shrishaila Ramannavar, Treasurer, VV Sangha, Smt. Kamalakshi and Family members , teaching and non-teaching staff & students were witnessed .