The Hindu's Readers' Editor to deliver Press Day lecture on November 16th

"Reconciling freedom and accountability: A case for self-regulation"

Eminent journalist and Readers' Editor of *The Hindu* – Mr AS Panneerselvan will deliver the keynote address on the above theme on the occasion of National Press Day on November 16th under the auspices of the Mass Communication & Journalism Department at the time and venue mentioned below. As a part of the programme, there shall be a question and answer session at the end of the lecture which would be open for the public.

Time 3 p. m. onwards,

Venue: Screening hall, MCJ Dept.,

This was the day on which the Press Council of India started functioning as a moral watchdog to ensure that not only did the press maintain the high standards expected from this powerful medium but also that it was not fettered by the influence or threats of any extraneous factors. This day is symbolic of a free and responsible press in India.

We invite all the esteemed members of the TU family and others interested for attending the programme

A brief note on the appointed speaker:

Mr. Panneerselvan is a renowned journalist and Executive Director of Panos South Asia and took over as *The Hindu*'s Readers' Editor in 2012, the 134th anniversary of the daily. With wide experience in both print and television journalism, Mr. Panneerselvan has been a member of the steering committee of the Global Forum for Media Development since its inception in 2008 and is an Advisory Panel Member of the Knight International Journalism Fellowships. He was a Reuters Fellow at the University of Oxford in 1998. He has lectured on media and journalistic ethics at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London; the University of Oxford; the University of Leiden; and the Asian College of Journalism.

The Readers' Editor is the independent, full-time internal ombudsman of *The Hindu*. The key objectives of this office are - to institutionalize the practice of self-regulation, accountability, and transparency; to create a

new visible framework to improve accuracy, verification, and standards in the newspaper; and to strengthen bonds between the newspaper and its millions of print platform and online readers.

It may be mentioned that *The Hindu* is the only newspaper in India that has institutionalized the office of the Readers' Editor, an independent internal news ombudsman functioning with clearly formulated Terms of Reference modelled on those of *The Guardia*, London.

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(Abhijit Bora),

HoD, MCJ Dept.