

Tackling hate speech

As there are no laws on hate speech as such, India needs a political and pedagogical solution to the menace

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THULASI K. RAJ, KALEESWARAM RAJ



A speech by a Bishop belonging to the Syro-Malabar Church in Kerala has caught attention for the wrong reasons. Mar Joseph Kallarangatt, the Bishop of Pala, a small city in Kerala, coined the term 'narcotic jihad'. He accused a few Muslim groups of giving Catholic girls narcotics or wooing them with the aim of religious conversion or of taking them to terrorist camps abroad. The speech aimed at a particular religion has a divisive tone.

This controversy has occasioned intriguing questions about hate speech regulation. It is important to consider — philosophically and morally — what justifies prohibiting hate

