

News

A website that sells lawyer neckbands featuring fictitious ratings from senior advocates, CJIs, and Supreme Court judges



The website Lawkart appears to have removed the wonderful "reviews" when a lawyer from Pune posted about it on LinkedIn and it went viral.

The legal community recently took notice of Lawkart, an online store that sells "Premium Cotton" lawyer neckbands for ₹499, after a lawyer pointed out that it had glowing but phony reviews from a number of legal experts, including Chief Justices of India, senior attorneys, and Supreme Court judges.

Ankur Jahagirdar, a lawyer from Pune, said in a widely circulated LinkedIn article that the neckband's pricing seemed excessively costly.

He added, "But that's not the fun part," to his post.

"The website's critiques of the neck band are the most entertaining aspect. The critics? Among them are Justices SA Bobde, DY Chandrachud, Arun Mishra, BR Gavai, and Rohinton Nariman. He noted that all of these phony reviews essentially follow the same formula.

Prior Chief Justices of India (CJIs) SA Bobde, DY Chandrachud, UU Lalit, and NV Ramana, current CJI BR Gavai, former Supreme Court judges Justices Deepak Gupta, Hrishikesh Roy, RF Nariman, Arun Mishra, Madan Lokur, and Kurian Joseph, as well as current Supreme Court judges Justices Surya Kant and Vikram Nath, were among the "reviews" on the website as of October 30.

An further **"judge"** even anonymously supported his "brother judge's" review.

The senior attorneys who served as "reviewers" included former Attorney General of India KK Venugopal, Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta, and Senior Advocates Harish Salve, Mukul Rohatgi, Rakesh Dwivedi, Indira Jaising, Menaka Guruswamy, Colin Gonsalves, Anand Grover, Abhishek Singhvi, Kapil Sibal, P Chidambaram, Dushyant Dave, and more.

The website even went so far as to display evaluations that were three to four months old and were written by top attorneys Fali Nariman, Soli Sorabjee, and Ram Jethmalani. This was initially published by India Today.

The website apparently included reviews from political figures like a "Yuva Sena Chief," Raut Sanjay and Aaditya Thackeray, Sharad Pawar, Ajit Pawar, Sachin Pilot, Omar Abdullah, Mehbooba Mufti, Farooq Abdulla, Shashi Tharoor, and Ghulam Nabi Azad, among others, so those who were not associated with the legal profession were also not spared.

However, these reviews appear to have been removed off the homepage that shows the neckband product that LawKart.com sells (at a "discounted" price of ₹499, instead of ₹1,799!), after they performed a little too well and attracted criticism from legal circles.

You can still view the removed reviews by going to an old webpage that has been archived.

There were 268 reviews for the neckband that was advertised on October 30. As of today (November 4), there are 147 reviews for the only neckband product that is currently being promoted on the website.

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