
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

English Together

Homosexuality now legal in India



This is not a word-for-word transcript

Tejali

नमस्कार मित्रांनो! Hello and welcome to English Together, असा शो जिथे आपण चर्चा करतो निरनिराळे विषय आणि त्यासंबंधित शब्दांची. मी तेजाली आणि माझ्यासोबत आहे टॉम आणि फिल.

Tom

Hi everybody, I'm Tom. Welcome once again to English Together!

Phil

And I am Phil, Today we are going to talk about an important event in Indian history!

Tom

We certainly are!

Phil

Hello Today we are going to talk about an important event in Indian history!

Tom

We certainly are!

Tejali

Yes, आजचा विषय आहे समलैंगिकता. कलम 377 मध्ये काही बदल करून भारताच्या सर्वोच्च न्यायालयाने समलैंगिक संबंध कायदेशीर केले. आजच्या भागातला आपला प्रश्नही त्यासंदर्भातच आहे. किती देशांत समलैंगिकता हा गुन्हा मानला जातो? तुमचे पर्याय आहेत,

- a) 51 देश
- b) 71 देश
- c) 101 देश

Tom

So, what's the feeling in India following this **landmark decision**?

Tejali

Landmark decision म्हणजे ऐतिहासिक निर्णय. In general, the mood is very positive. I think this is seen as a landmark decision for civil liberties. **Civil liberties** म्हणजे नागरी स्वातंत्र्य, नागरी मुक्तता, not just for gay people, but for all people!

Phil

So, it looks like the topic of homosexuality is **out of the closet** in India.

Tejali

To be honest, Phil, I'm not sure we should use the expression '**out of the closet**'. To be **out of the closet** म्हणजे व्यक्तीने समाजापासून लपवलेल्या गोष्टी सार्वजनिकरित्या स्वीकार करणे. Gay activists and supporters have not been hiding, they have been very public!

Phil

Yes, a very good point! We often use the term '**out of the closet**' in a positive way, though. In fact, we often just say 'out'. If something or someone is 'out', this is a cause for celebration! People are generally happy that something is common knowledge and can be acknowledged more freely – like the issue of **homosexuality**.

Tejali

Homosexuality म्हणजे समलैंगिकता. यातल्या 'homo'चा अर्थ आहे सारखं. म्हणजे 'homosexuality' चा अर्थ होतो, समान लिंगाच्या दोन व्यक्तींमधील संबंध; ज्याला आपण **same-sex attraction** म्हणजे समलिंगी व्यक्तींमधील आकर्षण असंही म्हणतो.

Tom

Let's listen to today's news clip from BBC News Marathi. The speaker, Sameer, talks what it was like growing up gay in India. How did he deal with his feelings?

Sameer

So growing up in India was, you know, I always had the feelings of same-sex attraction, but I didn't know the word, so it was a very confusing stage that you grow up in because, you know, surrounding you, you don't see a lot of, you know, examples or role models or anyone who is in a same-sex relationship. So

I always felt like OK maybe I am the only who has these feelings of, you know, attraction for same-gender and I thought that one day it will just go away.

Tejali

समीरच्या लहानपणीच्या या कथेत दोन गोष्टी '**in the closet**' होत्या, त्या म्हणजे समीरची स्वतःची ओळख आणि एकूणच समलैंगिकता. It's sad that he thought his feelings needed to go away one day.

Tom

Hopefully the issue will become more widely spoken about now same-sex relationships have become **decriminalised**.

Tejali

To decriminalise म्हणजे दोषमुक्त करणे. Decriminalisation is a big step, but I think there is still a lot of progress that we need to make.

Phil

Do you think that things need time to **normalise**?

Tejali

Yes definitely! To normalise म्हणजे परिस्थिती सामान्य होणे. Think about Sameer from the news. Only 20 or 30 years ago homosexuality was completely taboo, **taboo** म्हणजे निषिद्ध. This is a big social change.

Tom

So do you think that **discrimination** will still occur?

Tejali

Discrimination म्हणजे भेदभाव. I think will. I think some people will still be discriminated against. Even on social media we can find discriminatory posts. Some are suggesting that homosexuality is an illness.

Phil

Hmm. I suppose a law can be overturned in a day, but **homophobic** attitudes may take longer to disappear.

Tejali

Yes, exactly. **Homophobic** हे homophobia चं विशेषण आहे. **homophobia** म्हणजे समलैंगिक लोकांबद्दलचा तिरस्कार, राग, एकूणच नकारार्थी भावना. This is why people also want to see **anti-discrimination laws**. **Decriminalisation** is just the start for many people! They want true equality, त्यांना समानता हवीये.

Tom

And, speaking of criminalisation and decriminalisation, here's the answer to today's quiz! There are 71 countries in the world where homosexuality or being gay remains illegal.

Tejali

And thankfully India is no longer one of them!

Phil

Right! Let's focus on the positives! Hopefully, children won't have to grow up as Sameer did, feeling confused and in the dark about their own sexuality.

Tejali

To be in the dark about something म्हणजे एखाद्या गोष्टीबद्दलचं अज्ञान असणे. Hopefully lots of people will feel a little less in the dark from now on! तुम्हाला काय वाटतं या **the landmark decision** बद्दल, या ऐतिहासिक निर्णयाबद्दल? आमच्या फेसबुक ग्रुपवर नक्की सांगा. आजच्या भागातले आणखी काही महत्त्वाचे शब्द आहेत... **civil liberties** म्हणजे नागरी स्वातंत्र्य, नागरी मुक्तता, **to be out of the closet** म्हणजे आपल्याबद्दलची गोपनीय गोष्ट सार्वजनिकरीत्या स्वीकारणे, **homosexuality** म्हणजे समलैंगिकता, **same-sex** म्हणजे समान लिंग, **decriminalize** म्हणजे दोषमुक्त करणे, **normalize** म्हणजे परिस्थिती सामान्य होणे, **taboo** म्हणजे निषिद्ध, **discrimination** म्हणजे भेदभाव, **equality** म्हणजे समानता. मानवी हक्क आणि समानता यांची लढाई अशीच चालू राहिल. पुन्हा भेटू English Togetherच्या पुढच्या भागात, Bye.