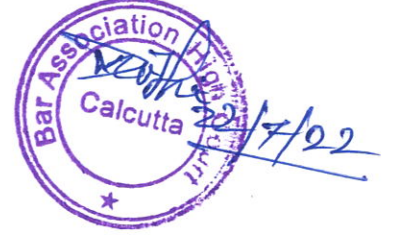


22 July 2022

To
The Hon'ble Secretary
Bar Association
High Court, Calcutta



The Calcutta High Court is one of the oldest High Court in the Country and is one of the three Chartered High Courts to be set up in India. The Hon'ble Court enjoys the distinction of having a rich cultural heritage and has seen exceptional legal luminaries and Judges practising and sitting in it. As on date, the Hon'ble Court still enjoys the privilege of having exceptional judicial minds, who discharge the pious duty of dispensation of justice in a free and fair manner with impeccable integrity, unimpeachable independence and moral values embodied to their core to prevent any compromise.

Today, in a certain turn of events, we, members of the Bar Association, High Court at Calcutta, one one of the largest association of lawyers in the Country are deeply pained and have been thus compelled to come together to preserve and uphold the heritage and reputation of our High Court and the Judiciary therein, which is attempted to be tainted by a certain set of individuals who are in a powerful position by being in politics and believe that their political privilege, by virtue of affiliation to the Bharatiya Janata Party, surpasses the dignity of the Courts and allows them to comment, attack and make scurrilous, contumacious and contemptuous remarks against our Hon'ble High Court and its Judges.

On 20 July 2022, a Writ Petition was filed by the President of the Howrah District(Rural) of the Bharatiya Janata Party seeking for directions on the State of West Bengal to accord necessary permission for conducting a meeting of BJP on 21 July 2022 since the police authorities had apparently not responded to the petitioner's request. Upon extensive hearing, the Hon'ble Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya had passed an order allowing the petitioner to hold the meeting, subject to certain directions, in connection with the Writ Petition thereby disposing off the matter. Subsequently, for reasons unknown, the BJP decided to call off the meeting.

However, later in the evening, Suvendu Adhikari of the BJP, who is also the current Leader of the Opposition in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, had conducted a press conference which was widely circulated wherein he chose to make contemptuous statements and scurrilous attacks against the Hon'ble Court High Court at Calcutta. The transcript of the statements made by Suvendu Adhikari and its translation, is provided herein below:

...এই রাজ্জে আর কথাও কেও এই দিন সমাবেশ করতে পারবেন না। এই প্রথম নজির তৈরি করা হল এবং কারজত হাই কোর্ট কে দিয়ে যে সব শর্ত দেওয়া হয়েছে, এই গুল সভা করার পক্ষে নয়, সভা করার বিপক্ষে। কিন্তু বিজেপি বিশ্বের সর্ব বৃহৎ পার্টি, আঠেরো টা রাজ্য চালায়, দেশ চালায়, তাই বিজেপির সভার আনুমতি মহামান্য উচ্চ আদালত দিল না, সেই ব্লকটি হয়ত

উচ্চ আদালত নেন নি। অশ্বখামা হত ইতি গজ। এটাই হচ্ছে আসল উদ্দেশ্য তাই আজকের এই প্রেস কনফারেন্স এর মধ্যে দিয়ে আমরা আমাদের যে প্রতিবাদ মিছিল এবং খাতিপূরন, এই কর্মসূচি কালকে আমরা করছিনা...

...No one can assemble anywhere in this state on this day. This is the first time such a precedent has been set, and effectively, through the High Court, the conditions which have been laid down are not conducive/favourable to host a meeting. It is against hosting a meeting. However, BJP is the world's largest political party, which runs 18 states and also runs the country. That is possibly the reason why even the Hon'ble High Court did not risk not giving permission to the BJP to host its meeting. Aswathama hoto iti gojo (meaning: something that appears to be true, but in-fact is not or has a hidden meaning). This is the real purpose, and that is why through this press conference we are declaring that our protest rally is hampered and we are not hosting the meeting tomorrow...

The speech of Suvendu Adhikary is not only shocking but reeks of high headedness and portrays stark disregard for our Hon'ble Court and its integrity.

By the aforesaid speech, Suvendu Adhikary has attempted to showcase to the public at large that our Hon'ble Court is susceptible to the BJP since it the BJP is the "largest political party" and "runs the country". Suvendu Adhikary has gone ahead to state, expressly and through insinuations, that our High Court is "afraid" of the BJP and that orders would not be passed against BJP since our High Court is not ready to take such "risks".

It is rather shocking that a person in a position of privilege or power yield the confidence or rather the audacity to make such contemptuous remarks undermining the entire judicial system, more particularly our Hon'ble Court, freely, and devoid of any fear and respect for the judiciary.

By making such statements, Suvendu Adhikari has not only portrayed the ideology of the BJP, but has also attempted to lower the authority of the Hon'ble Court by showcasing to the public that the BJP runs our Hon'ble High Court. The statements made by Suvendu Adhikari not only scandalise the Hon'ble Court but the same is also an attack on the Judges of the Hon'ble Court, and is a calculated attempt to undermine the authority of the Hon'ble Court and public confidence in its administration of justice since the Order passed by the Hon'ble Court on 20 July 2022 was not as per Suvendu Adhikari's liking.

Such attempts to demean, denigrate and make scurrilous remarks on the Hon'ble Court ought to be nipped in the bud, failing which persons such as Suvendu Adhikari shall only deem fit that they are above the law and shall continue to further make a mockery out of the judicial system.

As members of the Bar, we therefore beseech that each and every member of the Bar Association should come together in this endeavour to protect and uphold the dignity of our Hon'ble Court and the Hon'ble Judges therein.

We thus request you to forthwith take appropriate action as deemed expedient in this regard.

Diplab Gmbs

Shiladitya Banerjee

Dipankar Mahata

Deadip K. Maity

Dipa Bhattacharya

Atanu Ghosh.

Anamuk Mukherjee.

Ananta

Satya G. Banerjee.

~~Razak A. Sami.~~

Debonish Choudhury

Shikha P. Choudhury

Pritha Paul

Biswajit Datta

Sudhansu

Bhaskar Banerjee

Mahmud Subhan Miah

Murkid Alam

Sourav Mukherjee

Aindrila Bose.

Soum Chatterjee

Anrita Mitra

Anrita M. Chatterjee.

Zareen A. Khan

Kavita Bhattacharya

Sujit Gupta

Trinu Mishra

Syuntika Ray

B. Basu. (Baisali Basu).

Ananda Debel Sarkar

Tuli Sinha

Sangeeta Dutta.

Swapan Bopai

Tanuj Kumar Mondal

Pratibha Bose

Anita Deb jana.

DEBWANI DOUGLASSA.

Jaydip Barua

SK Hossain Ah

Parvej Anam.

Manoj Kumar Jana

Vaishali Jaiswal

Anita Tewari

Maithrayee Mahata

Devi Priya Mishra

Bidyut Kumar Ray -

Shaila Afrin

Rafat Jahan.

Narayan Prasad Agarwal

Rajyasree Mukherjee

Suenchi Saha

Saptarshi Chakraborty

Shigda Saha

Mamun Roy

Kushal Das

Debanila Mukherjee

Rupsha Chakraborty

Kushal Biswas

Pinaki Chatterjee

Neelam Singh

Charmi

Quintumish

Subhra Nag

Kausik Chandra Gupta.

Biman Mallick

Rama Haldar

Pradeep Kumar Ray

Arunava Maiti

Jyoti B

Ramesh Chandra

Tapaswini Das

Ms. Manan Khan

Parasmita

Tanmay Roy

Sayan Datta.

Subhojit Choudhury

Tharun Biswas.

~~Debjani Saha~~

Imtiaz Ahmed.

Bramita Banerjee.

Sh. Saadullah

Md. Adil Badr

Sobhan Gani

Md. Azib Badr

Parvaz Badr

Md. Lurhan Uddin

Partha Sarathi Sen Ghorai

Neelanjana Ghosh

Pdsh Ch Mazhar

Manoranjan Maitra

Mainak Gupta

Aarjav Baidya

Suyata Das

Prakash Mishra

Smita Saha

Samatan Panja.

Topas Manna

Disha Saha

Anita Gaur.

Atulya Sinha

Tanzila Mallick

Paramita Sahu.

Kalpita Paul

Kanchan Roy

Shakti Shuman

Danyal Ahmad

Ashad Alam

Roshma Chatterjee

Rishona Shaha

Rick Choudhury

Maya Datta

Anir Chakraborty

Sanjukta Samanta

Bratati Ray Choudhury.

Sangeeta Roy.

Molly Saha

Anujit Sarkar.

Ta Par Ku Knade

Debabrata Mondal
Mahmud Dutt Biswas
Aniket Mibra

K.H. Hossain.

Susanto B.
Harika Pandit.

Bray

Lipika Chatterjee

Ninupam Dhal

Chandra Prakash
Dipankar Ghosh

Suprabhat Bhattacharya.

Dinakar Pathak

Rekha Debbari.

Suman Mukherjee

Purnima Ghosh

Kunal Ganguly

Dipankar Datta

Subhjit Choudhury

Madhura Sarda
Anand Kumar

Sekhar Mustapha

Anand Kumar

Pras Bhattacharya

Kakali Naskar

Rajendra Kumar Dasgupta

Supratim Das

Md. Zakir Hossain

~~Pranab Kumar~~ Prantik

Prantik

Anindya Sundar Chatterjee

Anurata Santra

Satish Kumar Haldar

Rita Datta

Kum Kum Mitra
Abhijit Bera

Suman Ghosh

Manoj Kumar

Sumanta Chatterjee

Sankar Dasgupta

Tapendul Nandi

Uttam Dasgupta

Tapas Kumar

Tapas Kumar

Tapas Kumar

Susmita Chatterjee

Dipankar Ganguly.

Debjit Kundhoo

Samrat Paul,
Rajat Kr. Saha

Keya Subradhar

Himadri Ghosh Ghosh

Saptarshi Guha

Sayanti Santra
Jays Jans .

Abir Hossain

M. Sultana