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Memorandum of Writ Petition
(Filed Under Article 226 of the Constitution of India)
(Special Original Jurisdiction)
**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATHI**

W.P.NO. _____ OF 2020

BETWEEN:

The High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati,
High Court Buildings, Nelapadu, Amaravati,
Rep. by its Registrar General,
Sri.B.Rajasekhar, Aged about 58 years,
S/o.Late Venkata Rao,
Currently Working as Registrar General (FAC),
High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati.

... PETITIONER

AND

1. State of Andhra Pradesh,
Represented by its Secretary,
Department of Law and Legislative Affairs,
Velagapudi, Secretariat Buildings, Amaravati.
2. State of Andhra Pradesh,
Rep. by its Principal Secretary,
Department of Home,
Velagapudi, Secretariat, Amaravati.
3. The Director General of Police,
State of Andhra Pradesh, Police Headquarters,
Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh.
4. Additional Director General of Police,
CID, Cyber Crime Cell, AP Police,
Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh.
5. The Superintendent of Police,
CID, Cyber Crime Cell, AP Police,
Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh.
6. The Station House Officer, CID P.S., Cyber Crime,
AP Police, Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh.
7. The Union of India,
Rep. by its Secretary to the Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block, New Delhi-110001.
8. The Union of India,
Rep. by its Secretary to the Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block, New Delhi.

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9. The Union of India,
Rep. by its Secretary to the Ministry of Electronics and
Information Technology (Govt. of India),
Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003.
10. Twitter Inc. (Company incorporated in USA),
C/o. Jeremy Kessel 1355 Market Street Suite 900, San
Francisco, California, New Mexico, USA,
Rep. by its Grievance Officer.
11. Twitter Communications India Private Limited,
Having its Registered Office at C-20,
G Block, Near Mca Bandra Kurla Complex,
Bandra (E) Mumbai- 400051,
Rep. by its Authorised Signatory/ Nodal Officer.
12. Facebook Inc.
1601, Willow Road, Menlo Park, California, 94025,
Rep. by its Grievance Officer.
13. Facebook India Online Services Pvt Ltd.,
A Company Incorporated in India,
With its Regd Office at Unit Nos. 1203 and 1204, Level 12,
Building No.20, Raheja Mindspace, Cyberabad, Madhapur,
Hitech City, Hyderabad-500081,
Rep. by its Authorised Signatory/ Nodal Officer.
14. Instagram, Inc.
1601, Willow Road, Menlo Park, California,
New Mexico, USA- 94025,
Rep. by its Grievance Officer.
15. Whatsapp Inc.
1601, Willow Road, Menlo Park, California,
New Mexico, USA,
Rep. by its Grievance Officer.
16. Google LLC.
1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View,
California, New Mexico, USA,
Rep. by its Grievance Officer.
17. Youtube LLC
901, Cherry Avenue, San Bruno, California,
New Mexico, USA,
Rep. by its Grievance Officer.
18. Google India Pvt Ltd
(Incorporated Under the provisions of Companies Act 1956),
Having its Regd Office at No.3, RMZ Infinity Tower E, 4th Floor
Old Madras Road, Bangalore 560016,
Represented by its Authorized Signatory/ Nodal Officer.

19. The Union of India,
Rep. by its Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice,
4th Floor, A-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, Delhi 110001.

...RESPONDENTS

The address for service of all notices summons and process on the above named petitioners is that of his counsel Mr.N.Ashwani Kumar (11879), Advocate, Standing Counsel for High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravathi, 4th Floor, Sumana Towers, Door.No.48-17-9/2 (3F-401), Road No.2, Nagarjuna Nagar Colony, NTR Road, Vijayawada- 520008.
PHONE:- 9052219194.

For the reasons stated above, it is prayed that this Hon'ble Court in the interests of justice be pleased to issue an appropriate writ or order or direction more particularly in the nature of nature of "Writ of Mandamus",

A. To declare the action of the Respondent Nos.2 to 6 in failing to act progressively and to take necessary action and to invoke the appropriate provisions of law, as mandated, pursuant to the registration of FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020, and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 on the file of Respondent No.6 against the said offenders, as being illegal, arbitrary and unconstitutional, and in violation of provisions of Criminal Procedure Code and Information Technology Act, 2000, and

B. To declare the action of the Respondent Nos.7-9 & 19, more particularly, Respondent Nos.9 & 19, in failing to act against the Respondent Nos.10 to 18, where under the social networking platforms are being utilised and abused for creating ill-will and hatred against the Petitioner herein in the mind and eye of the

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Public, as being illegal, arbitrary, unconstitutional and in violation of provisions of IPC, Cr.P.C. and I.T.Act, 2000, thereby securing protection to the Judiciary, and

C. To declare the action of the Respondent Nos.7 to 9 and 19 in failing to frame guidelines for the intermediaries in compliance of Section 79(2)(c) read with Section 87(2)(zg) of the Information Technology Act which authorises the Respondent Nos.7 to 9 and 19 to prescribe guidelines to intermediaries, thereby securing certain protection to the Judiciary, and

D. Consequently, in the alternative, transfer the investigation in FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020 and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 to any other competent investigating Agency under the supervision and control of Respondent No.7, or direct the Respondent Nos. 2 to 5 to act progressively and take necessary steps pursuant to the registration of said FIRs and

E. Consequently, to direct Respondent Nos.7 to 9 to frame guidelines for the intermediaries in compliance of Section 79(2)(c) read with Section 87(2)(zg) of the Information Technology Act which authorises the Respondent Nos.7 to 9 to prescribe guidelines to intermediaries,

F. Consequently, to direct the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 to devise self-regulatory framework to prohibit the posting of defamatory, incriminatory and abusive contents on their respective platforms with respect to Judiciary in India, and

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G. Consequently to direct the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 to forthwith remove all such posts/ comments/ tweets/ videos and those contents which are defamatory, incriminatory and abusive in nature pertaining to this Hon'ble Court as reported in the said FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020 and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 on the file of Respondent No.6, in consultation with the Petitioner herein and further desist and cease any such posts/ comments/ tweets/ videos and those contents which are defamatory, incriminatory and abusive in nature pertaining to this Hon'ble Court, and

H. Pass such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case.

AT AMARAVATHI
Dated:- 26.05.2020

N Ashwani Kumar
COUNSEL FOR THE PETITIONER

Bar and
Bench

DISTRICT :: GUNTUR

IN THE HIGH COURT OF
JUDICATURE OF ANDHRA
PRADESH
AT AMARAVATHI

W.P.NO. OF 2020

MEMORANDUM OF WRIT PETITION

Filed On: 26.05.2020

Filed by:

N.ASHWANI KUMAR (11879)
ADVOCATE
COUNSEL FOR THE PETITIONER

(Standing Counsel for High Court of
Andhra Pradesh at Amaravathi)

Bar and
Bench

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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATHI**

W.P.NO.

OF 2020

Annexure – I

Sl.No.	Date	Event	Page and Para
1.	16.04.2020 18.04.2020	Writ Petition is filed aggrieved by the action of the Respondents, more particularly, Respondent Nos.3 to 6 in failing to take immediate and necessary action and the steps thereto, as mandated under law pursuant to the registration of FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020, and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 on the file of Respondent No.6 for offences of Sections 505(2) and 506 of IPC against the offenders, and the Respondent Nos. 7-9, more particularly, Respondent No.9, in failing to act against the Respondent Nos.10 to 18, where under the social networking platforms are being utilised and abused for creating ill-will and hatred against the Petitioner herein in the mind and eye of the Public, and for other consequential reliefs. The above Writ Petition is preferred by the administrative side of this Hon'ble Court.	Para. 2 Page.
2.	23.05.2020	It is submitted that the Petitioner herein being the Hon'ble High Court, one of the three pillars of democracy, off-late had come under scathing attack from a section of social media circles, with the recent one, being unprecedented on 23.05.2020, where under the social media circles were agog, commenting unabated on the three Judgments delivered by this Hon'ble Court, which is incriminating and defamatory in nature, attracting the provisions of IPC and IT Act, 2000.	Para. 4 Page.
3.	16.04.2020 18.04.2020	It is submitted that in response to the said e-notices, the Respondent No.12 replied requesting for formal legal process for any records that is issued from a court of competent jurisdiction and as such, letters of request for mutual legal assistance are being prepared by the Respondent Nos.5 & 6 to comply with the demands made by Respondent No.12. Since then, the Petitioner was not informed or put on notice in respect of any progress made in the investigation undertaken in FIR.Nos. 16 and 17 dated 16.04.2020 and 18.04.2020 respectively. It is relevant to submit herein that the FIRs conveniently fail to mention provisions of IT Act, 2000, and Section 153A of IPC, which is attracted <i>prima facie</i> .	Para. 7 Page.
4.	22.05.2020	Be that as it may, this Hon'ble Court during its course of business, delivered three Judgments/ pronounced three Orders on 22.05.2020, which allegedly triggered the trolls into an overdrive to comment, attack and taint this Hon'ble Court, which amounts to sheer intimidation and brow-beating this Hon'ble Court. In spite of registration of two FIRs attracting offences of IPC, the same does not deter the trolls and netizens from attacking the Judiciary, which amounts to	Para. 9 Page.

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		defamation and contempt of court. Hence, the above Writ Petition, with reliefs sought as against Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 and also against Respondent Nos. 7 to 9, since, the Ministry inter-alia, seeks to promote e-Governance and enhance role of the Nation in Internet Governance. Further, it is also the nodal ministry for policy matters relating to information technology, the internet and matters relating to Cyber laws, administration of the IT Act and other IT related laws. It is submitted that as such, the Ministry is also responsible for ensuring that arbitrary and illegal actions of an intermediaries, such as Respondent Nos.10 to 18 do not result in the infringement of the fundamental rights and violation of any of the statutory laws of the Nation.	
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ANNEXURE-II

Under Article 226 of Constitution of India

AT AMARAVATHI
Dated:- 26.05.2020*Nashwanikumar*
COUNSEL FOR THE PETITIONERBar and
Bench

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATHI

W.P.NO. OF 2020

BETWEEN:

The High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati,
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Rep. by its Registrar General,
Sri.B.Rajasekhar, Aged about 58 years,
S/o.Late Venkata Rao,
Currently Working as Registrar General (FAC),
High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati.

... PETITIONER

AND

1. State of Andhra Pradesh,
Represented by its Secretary,
Department of Law and Legislative Affairs,
Velagapudi, Secretariat Buildings, Amaravati.
2. State of Andhra Pradesh,
Rep. by its Principal Secretary,
Department of Home,
Velagapudi, Secretariat, Amaravati.
3. The Director General of Police,
State of Andhra Pradesh, Police Headquarters,
Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh.
4. Additional Director General of Police,
CID, Cyber Crime Cell, AP Police,
Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh.
5. The Superintendent of Police,
CID, Cyber Crime Cell, AP Police,
Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh.
6. The Station House Officer, CID P.S., Cyber Crime,
AP Police, Mangalagiri, Andhra Pradesh.
7. The Union of India,
Rep. by its Secretary to the Ministry of Home Affairs,
North Block, New Delhi-110001.
8. The Union of India,
Rep. by its Secretary to the Ministry of External Affairs,
South Block, New Delhi.
9. The Union of India,
Rep. by its Secretary to the Ministry of Electronics and
Information Technology (Govt. of India),
Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003.



10. Twitter Inc. (Company incorporated in USA),
C/o.Jeremy Kessel 1355 Market Street Suite 900, San
Francisco, California, New Mexico, USA,
Rep. by its Grievance Officer.
11. Twitter Communications India Private Limited,
Having its Registered Office at C-20,
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Bandra (E) Mumbai- 400051,
Rep. by its Authorised Signatory/ Nodal Officer.
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Rep. by its Grievance Officer.
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Rep. by its Grievance Officer.
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(Incorporated Under the provisions of Companies Act 1956),
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Represented by its Authorized Signatory/ Nodal Officer.
19. The Union of India,
Rep. by its Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice,
4th Floor, A-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, Delhi 110001.

...RESPONDENTS



AFFIDAVIT

I, B.Rajasekhar, Aged about 58 years, S/o.Late Venkata Rao, Currently Working as Registrar General (FAC), High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati, having sworn to the Affidavit in the presence of an Advocate, at Amaravati, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state on oath as follows:

1. I am the Registrar General (FAC) and authorized and designated to represent Petitioner herein and as such well acquainted with the facts of the case.
2. The above Writ Petition is filed aggrieved by the action of the Respondents, more particularly, Respondent Nos.3 to 6 in failing to take immediate and necessary action and the steps thereto, as mandated under law pursuant to the registration of FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020, and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 on the file of Respondent No.6 for offences of Sections 505(2) and 506 of IPC against the offenders, and the Respondent Nos. 7-9, more particularly, Respondent No.9, in failing to act against the Respondent Nos.10 to 18, where under the social networking platforms are being utilised and abused for creating ill-will and hatred against the Petitioner herein in the mind and eye of the Public, and for other consequential reliefs. The above Writ Petition is preferred by the administrative side of this Hon'ble Court.
3. Brief Facts of the case are as follows.



4. It is submitted that the Petitioner herein being the Hon'ble High Court, one of the three pillars of democracy, off-late had come under scathing attack from a section of social media circles, with the recent one, being unprecedented on 23.05.2020, where under the social media circles were agog, commenting unabated on the three Judgments delivered by this Hon'ble Court, which is incriminating and defamatory in nature, attracting the provisions of IPC and IT Act, 2000.

5. It is respectfully submitted that the Petitioner herein on 16.04.2020 registered/ lodged complaint with the Respondent No.5 against some unknown persons who had posted defamatory material against a learned Hon'ble Judge of the Hon'ble High Court of Andhra Pradesh, making wild, baseless and untenable statements in his account of Twitter (arrayed as Respondent Nos.10 & 11) and sought for immediate action, more particularly, to trace the said culprits, and to take steps for removal of defamatory material in the said Twitter account, which insults the Judiciary, amounting to grave abuse of the free speech and expression and access to social media. Pursuant to the said complaint, FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020 for offences attracting Sections 505(2) and 506 of IPC, naming three persons as Accused.

6. Since, the said defamatory comments on platforms provided by Respondent Nos.10 to 18 continued unabated, the Petitioner once again, on 18.04.2020 registered/ lodged complaint. The said complaint was received and the same was registered as FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 for offences attracting Sections 505(2) and 506 of IPC, naming four persons as Accused. The statement of the deponent were




recorded on 01.05.2020 as part of investigation, and the relevant material was submitted by the deponent to the Respondent No.6. While, the Petitioner was awaiting information of the progress of the investigation, since, the same concerns the image of the Judiciary, which is one of the three pillars of this democratic Nation; the Respondent No.5 vide letter dated 13.05.2020 communicates to the Petitioner herein that e-notices were sent to the Nodal Officers of Respondent Nos.10 and 12, to furnish the registration particulars of the Facebook accounts of the Accused persons, to establish their identity and to access the IP logs of their respective accounts. Further, request was made as under Section 79(3) (b) of the IT Act, 2000 to delete the incriminating posts and comments made by the accused persons and also to preserve the same as under Section 67-C of IT Act, 2000 for the purpose of investigation.

7. It is submitted that in response to the said e-notices, the Respondent No.12 replied requesting for formal legal process for any records that is issued from a court of competent jurisdiction and as such, letters of request for mutual legal assistance are being prepared by the Respondent Nos.5 & 6 to comply with the demands made by Respondent No.12. Since then, the Petitioner was not informed or put on notice in respect of any progress made in the investigation undertaken in FIR.Nos. 16 and 17 dated 16.04.2020 and 18.04.2020 respectively. It is relevant to submit herein that the FIRs conveniently fail to mention provisions of IT Act, 2000, and Section 153A of IPC, which is attracted *prima facie*.



8. It is relevant to mention herein that the tweets/ posts/ comments and videos have travelled beyond mere offensive speech, encompassing speech which is insulting, derogatory, discriminatory, provocative or even such that it incites and encourages use of violence or results in violent backlashes. The said comments and posts are disturbing the harmony and order in society at large, amounting to hate speech, which is of heinous type of hate crime causing direct physical and psychological harm to the Institution and its believers.

9. Be that as it may, this Hon'ble Court during its course of business, delivered three Judgments/ pronounced three Orders on 22.05.2020, which allegedly triggered the trolls into an overdrive to comment, attack and taint this Hon'ble Court, which amounts to sheer intimidation and brow-beating this Hon'ble Court. In spite of registration of two FIRs attracting offences of IPC, the same does not deter the trolls and netizens from attacking the Judiciary, which amounts to defamation and contempt of court. Hence, the above Writ Petition, with reliefs sought as against Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 and also against Respondent Nos. 7 to 9, since, the Ministry inter-alia, seeks to promote e-Governance and enhance role of the Nation in Internet Governance. Further, it is also the nodal ministry for policy matters relating to information technology, the internet and matters relating to Cyber laws, administration of the IT Act and other IT related laws. It is submitted that as such, the Ministry is also responsible for ensuring that arbitrary and illegal actions of an intermediaries, such as Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 do not result in the infringement of the fundamental rights and violation of any of the statutory laws of the Nation.



10. It is submitted that Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 are online social networking and micro-blogging websites, with active users all over the world, and about 60 – 70 million users in India. Over the years, the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18, more particularly, Respondent Nos. 10-15 and 17 have emerged as one of the largest media of communication across the world and in India, as well. At the outset, it is submitted that though the said Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 are private entities, they discharge public function, i.e., dissemination of and access to information, and as such, are amenable to the jurisdiction of this Hon'ble Court as under Article 226 of the Constitution of India.

11. On legal advise, it is respectfully submitted that the above Writ Petition raises important questions regarding the nature, scope and applicability of fundamental rights to an Institution, which is one of the three pillars of this Democratic Nation, and specifically, it raises the issue of whether multi-national corporations/ companies, discharging a public function by serving millions of users, while making profit, are amenable to constitutional scrutiny for their actions.

12. On legal advise, it is respectfully submitted that under Article 226, A Writ can be issued to "any person or authority", including private bodies; it can be issued for the enforcement of fundamental rights or "for any other purposes". The words "any person or authority" used in Article 226 are not to be confined only to statutory authorities and instrumentalities of the State. They may cover any other person or body performing public duty. A Writ can be issued for the performance of a



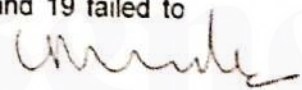
public duty that may be imposed by statute, charter, common law, custom or even contract. Reliance is placed on the Judgment reported in (1989) 2 SCC 691 [Andi Mukta Sadguru Shree Muktajee Vandas Swami Suvarna Jayanti Mahotsav Smarak Trust v. V.R.Rudani], and (2015) 16 SCC 530 [Janet Jeypaul v. SRM University]. An activity/function of a body can be said to be a public function, for the purposes of scrutiny by a Writ Court when it seeks to achieve some collective benefit for the public or acts in furtherance of social or economic affairs in the interest of the public. Reliance is placed on the Judgments reported in (2005) 6 SCC 657 [Binny Ltd. v. Sadasivan] and (2015) 3 SCC 251 [BCCI v. Cricket Association of Bihar].

13. It is humbly submitted that the internet has proved its potential to empower, educate and create global communities. It offers the means for any individual to participate in a free flow of information and ideas with others across the world. Social media includes web-based sites for social networking and micro-blogging, through which users can create communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, etc. Unlike any other medium of communications, such as radio, television and printed publications, which are based on one-way transmission of information, platforms, such as Twitter, facilitate participatory information sharing and collaboration. Users are not passive recipients, but active publishers of information. By enabling individuals to exchange information and ideas instantaneously and inexpensively across national borders, social media sites allow access to information and knowledge that was previously unattainable, and in fact, portraying the image of the Nation on the World canvas. Therefore, since, these websites and



online messaging platforms are serving as a medium for the citizens to communicate and exchange their grievances, concerns and ideas, it serves as a source of news and information and as such, amounts to performing public function and is amenable to the jurisdiction of this Hon'ble Court as under Article 226.

14. It is respectfully submitted with absolutely "no holds barred" reach and access to the netizens and with no restrictions or guidelines framed for conducting one-self on the online platforms, the same is put to gross abuse of access, leading to maligning individuals and institutions formed and carved by the Constitution of India. While, the individuals can refute, deny and voice their opinion either in defence or offence, unfortunately, the institutions, more particularly, the Judiciary is left rudderless and defenceless. At the outset, the question that is raised in the above Writ Petition, the unabated criticism of this Hon'ble Court, with trolls conveniently accessing the Respondent Nos. 10 to 15 to comment using unparliamentary and unpardonable language of their choice, and the Respondent No.17 available to voice opinions (visual media), which can be viewed and commented upon. There seems to be no guidelines or limits placed on criticism on the three pillars of the State, more particularly, the Judiciary. With the availability of Law Of Contempt, does the said mechanism suffice for initiating necessary action in view of the technology outburst and causes of action, traversing beyond borders. Infact, in the instant case, the posts/ tweets/ comments and audio & visual contents prima facie attract the offence of Section 153A of the IPC, but, unfortunately, none of the State Agencies, neither the Respondent Nos. 1 to 6 nor Respondent Nos. 7 to 9 and 19 failed to




invoke Section 153A of IPC against the said trolls. More particularly, in the instant case, both of the FIRs registered fail to invoke Section 153A of IPC and provisions of IT Act, 2000.

15. On legal advise, it is submitted that the constitutional position of the Judiciary is independent and fundamentally different, with the Judiciary being an independent pillar of estate, constitutionally mandated to exercise the judicial authority of the State fearlessly, and impartially. The doctrine of separation of powers mentions the Judiciary to stand on equal footing with the Executive and Legislative, but in terms of political, financial or military powers, it cannot hope to compete. It is in these terms by far, the weakest of the three pillars, with no ground to defend or voice its opinion; yet its manifest independence and authority are essential. Having no constituency, no purse and no sword, the Judiciary must rely on moral authority. Without such authority, it cannot perform its vital function as the interpreter and protector of the Constitution of India, the arbiter in disputes between the organs of the State and ultimately, as the conscience and watchkeeper of the basic structure of the Constitution.

16. It is submitted that the Judiciary, particularly, the Courts have over the years developed a method of functioning, a self-discipline and a restraint which, although, it differs from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, has a number of essential characteristics. The most important is that Judges speak in Court and only in Court. They are not at liberty to defend or even debate their decisions in public. It requires little imagination to appreciate that the alternative would be chaotic. More over, as a matter



of general policy, all judicial proceedings are conducted in open court, to which every body has free access and can witness the process of its resolution. All decisions of judicial bodies are as a matter of course announced in public; and, as a matter of virtually invariable practice, reasons are automatically and publically given for judicial decisions in contested matters. All courts of any consequence are obliged to maintain records of their proceedings and to retain them for subsequent scrutiny. Ordinarily, the decisions of Courts are subject to appeal and review at the higher level, which is again debated and judgment is pronounced publicly. This manner of conducting the business of the Courts is intended to enhance public confidence, it is the people of this nation who have to believe in the integrity of their Judges, otherwise, without such trust, the Judiciary cannot function dispassionately. And where the Judiciary fails to discharge its duties, the rule of law takes an automatic death. Because of the importance of preserving public trust in the Judiciary and because of the reticence required for it to perform its arbitral role, special safeguards have been in existence for many centuries to protect the judiciary against vilification, and one of the protective devices is to deter disparaging remarks calculated to bring the judicial process into disrepute. Infact, when a case is reserved for orders either by the Learned Trial Judge or by the Hon'ble Judge of the High Court, till the same is pronounced, unnecessary comments are made on the various social media groups under the supervision of Respondent Nos. 10 to 18, which affects psychologically and mindset of the concerned.



17. Therefore, there exists a positive obligation on the State to aid the exercise of the rights as under Article 19 (1) and accordingly, invoke the restrictions as under Article 19 (2); given that most of the communication services over the internet are operated and maintained by private companies, the private sector has gained unprecedented influence over access to information. It is necessary and just that the Respondent Nos. 1 to 9 act immediately, as its fundamental duty, to restrain and restrict the users and netizens from continuing with the unabated and unprecedented attack on this Hon'ble Court on the platforms of Respondent Nos. 10 to 18. The various comments on the platforms of Respondent Nos. 10 to 15 and excerpts of the comments made on the visual media platforms of Respondent Nos. 16 to 18 are enclosed to the above Writ Petition as material papers. The failure of the Respondent Nos. 1 to 9 & 19 to cease and desist the social media platforms, i.e., the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18, constrains the Petitioner herein to file the above Writ Petition

18. It is submitted that Section 79(2)(c) read with Section 87(2)(zg) of the Information Technology Act authorises the Respondent Nos. 7 to 9 to prescribe guidelines to intermediaries, however, no guidelines to that effect have been laid down. Further, the privacy policies of the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 also do not lay down any protective or restrictive measures towards such vilification. Thus, in the absence of statutory remedy, the Petitioner herein invokes Article 226 in the absence of effective alternative remedy, for a relief of direction to the Respondents Nos. 10 to 18 to immediately cease and desist the various



users who are causing disrepute to the Judiciary, particularly, the Petitioner herein.

19. It is reliably learnt that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India had sought for the Central Government to frame rules to regulate hate speech, fake news, defamatory posts and anti-national activities on social media platforms, and to protect the "sovereignty of the State, privacy of an individual and prevention of illegal activities", granted three months to file an affidavit. The government stated that there had been an exponential increase in such messages and posts and greater control of the internet and social media platforms were needed to help protect national security. Therefore, since its an emerging field, and while, the Law Commission is seized of the issue concerning the Hate Speech in the current circumstances, it is just and necessary that the extra-ordinary jurisdiction of this Hon'ble Court is invoked.

20. It is respectfully submitted that unless or until this Hon'ble Court directs the Respondent Nos.10 to 18 to immediately remove/ take down the tweets/ posts/ comments/ audios & videos concerning this Hon'ble Court uploaded or posted over last few weeks, and to further direct the Respondents to cease and desist any tweets/ posts/ comments/ audios & videos concerning this Hon'ble Court henceforth, otherwise, the Petitioner will be put to irreparable loss, grave injustice and injury. The balance of convenience lies in favour of the Petitioner, and prima facie case is made out for grant of the interim relief. Thus, unless urgent orders are passed, the Petitioner will be put to irreparable loss and injury.



21. Against the said action of the Respondents, Petitioner has no other alternative remedy than to approach this Hon'ble Court under Article 226 of the Constitution of India.

22. The Petitioner has not filed any other Writ Proceedings before any other court or Authority praying the same relief sought for in this Writ Petition.

23. The alternative or inconsistent pleas if any are taken without prejudice to each other and the Petitioner reserve the right to raise additional grounds/pleas at the time of hearing.

24. Therefore, it is prayed that this Hon'ble Court in the interests of justice be pleased to issue an appropriate writ or order or direction more particularly in the nature of nature of "Writ of Mandamus",

A. To declare the action of the Respondent Nos.2 to 6 in failing to act progressively and to take necessary action and to invoke the appropriate provisions of law, as mandated, pursuant to the registration of FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020, and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 on the file of Respondent No.6 against the said offenders, as being illegal, arbitrary and unconstitutional, and in violation of provisions of Criminal Procedure Code and Information Technology Act, 2000, and



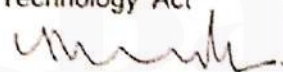
Bar and Bench

B. To declare the action of the Respondent Nos.7-9 & 19, more particularly, Respondent Nos.9 & 19, in failing to act against the Respondent Nos.10 to 18, where under the social networking platforms are being utilised and abused for creating ill-will and hatred against the Petitioner herein in the mind and eye of the Public, as being illegal, arbitrary, unconstitutional and in violation of provisions of IPC, Cr.P.C. and I.T.Act, 2000, thereby securing protection to the Judiciary, and

C. To declare the action of the Respondent Nos.7 to 9 and 19 in failing to frame guidelines for the intermediaries in compliance of Section 79(2)(c) read with Section 87(2)(zg) of the Information Technology Act which authorises the Respondent Nos.7 to 9 and 19 to prescribe guidelines to intermediaries, thereby securing certain protection to the Judiciary, and

D. Consequently, in the alternative, transfer the investigation in FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020 and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 to any other competent investigating Agency under the supervision and control of Respondent No.7, or direct the Respondent Nos. 2 to 5 to act progressively and take necessary steps pursuant to the registration of said FIRs and

E. Consequently, to direct Respondent Nos.7 to 9 to frame guidelines for the intermediaries in compliance of Section 79(2)(c) read with Section 87(2)(zg) of the Information Technology Act



Bar & Bench

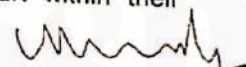
which authorises the Respondent Nos.7 to 9 to prescribe guidelines to intermediaries,

F. Consequently, to direct the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 to devise self-regulatory framework to prohibit the posting of defamatory, incriminatory and abusive contents on their respective platforms with respect to Judiciary in India, and

G. Consequently to direct the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 to forthwith remove all such posts/ comments/ tweets/ videos and those contents which are defamatory, incriminatory and abusive in nature pertaining to this Hon'ble Court as reported in the said FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020 and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 on the file of Respondent No.6, in consultation with the Petitioner herein and further desist and cease any such posts/ comments/ tweets/ videos and those contents which are defamatory, incriminatory and abusive in nature pertaining to this Hon'ble Court, and

H. Pass such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case.

25. Pending disposal, in the interim it is respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court in the interest of justice be pleased to direct the Respondent Nos.10 to 18 to cease and desist such posts/ comments/ tweets/ videos and those contents which are defamatory, incriminatory and abusive in nature pertaining to this Hon'ble Court within their



respective operations within the territorial limits of India in respect of their online social media platforms, and pass such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court deems fit and proper in the circumstances of the case.

26. Pending disposal, in the interim, it is respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court in the interest of justice, be pleased to direct the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 to forthwith remove all such posts/ comments/ tweets/ videos and those contents which are defamatory, incriminatory and abusive in nature pertaining to this Hon'ble Court as reported in the said FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020 and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 on the file of Respondent No.6, in consultation with the Petitioner herein and further desist and cease any such posts/ comments/ tweets/ videos and those contents which are defamatory, incriminatory and abusive in nature pertaining to this Hon'ble Court, and pass such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court deems fit and proper in the circumstances of the case.

27. Pending disposal, in the interim, it is respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court in the interest of justice, be pleased to direct the Respondent Nos.2 to 6, 7 to 9 and 19 to forthwith identify the offenders, their IP address and take necessary steps as mandated under Cr.P.C, in pursuance of FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020 and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020, and pass such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court deems fit and proper in the circumstances of the case.

Solemnly affirm and signed
On this 25th Day of May, 2020.

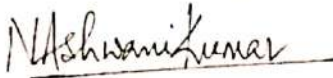
Before me
Advocate :: Amaravathi

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR
High Court of Andhra Pradesh

Deponent
REGISTRAR GENERAL
High Court of Andhra Pradesh

VERIFICATION

I, B.Rajasekhar, Aged about 58 years, S/o.Late Venkata Rao, Currently Working as Registrar General (FAC), High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati, having sworn to the Affidavit in the presence of an Advocate, at Amaravati, as such acquainted with the facts do hereby verify and state the contents of the affidavit and the prayer filed in support of the Writ Petition are true to my personal knowledge, information and based on legal advice believed to be correct. Verified on this the 25th Day of May, 2020.


COUNSEL FOR THE PETITIONER


DEPONENT



B. RAJASEKHAR
REGISTRAR GENERAL

AMARAVATI,
Dt: 16.04.2020.

To
The Superintendent of Police,
Cyber Crimes - CID,
Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh.

Dear Madam,

SUB:-Complaint regarding posting of defamatory material in the Twitter (social networking site) against Hon'ble Sri Justice M. Satyanarayana Murthy, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh by (1) Kondareddyhanireddy YSRCP shared by Sudheer Pamula and (2) Mani Annapureddy on 15.04.2020 in Gunturmahanagaram group – Regarding.

-o0o-

As directed, I am to inform you that some unknown persons in the name of Kondareddyhanireddy YSRCP has posted defamatory material against Hon'ble Sri Justice M. Satyanarayana Murthy, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh in Twitter in telugu which has been shared by Sudheer Pamula which reads as follows:

"the Judge by name Mallavolu Satayanarayana Murthi who has given the judgment today in A.P. High Court deprived the poor people to get English Medium Education. He was appointed by Chandrababu. There is a rumour that he is the one who is also dealing with the case of Election Commissioner"

I am also to inform you that another post has been posted by Mani Annapureddy in telugu in Twitter account which reads as follows:

"A caste Judge written a judgment in English that English Medium Schools should not be run in the State. Days are not too far for these kind of stupids that they will be slapped with cheppals. Black coat thieves are not entitled for Honour"

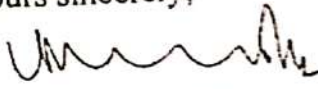
Bar
and
Bench

::2:: 2

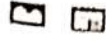
I have been directed by Hon'ble The Chief Justice to request you to register a case under appropriate Section of Law, investigate into the matter, trace out the culprits, furnish their names and other particulars and take steps for removal of defamatory material in the Twitter account, as the same is nothing but an insult to the Judiciary. You are also requested to furnish a report to the High Court with regard to the action taken in order to take further steps in this regard.

I am enclosing the photocopies of defamatory material which has been posted in the Twitter account.

Yours sincerely,


REGISTRAR GENERAL 16/4/20.

3



9:40 AM

← Kondareddyghanireddy Ysr...

**Kondareddyghanireddy Ysrcp**

...

Yesterday at 9:02 PM •

ఈరోజు ఏపీ హైకోర్ట్ లో పేదలకి ఇంగ్లీష్ మీడియం లో
చదువులు చెప్పే అవకాశాన్ని దూరమా చేసిన తీర్పు
ఇచ్చిన హైకోర్ట్ జడ్జి ఇతనే, మల్లవోలు సత్యనారాయణ
మూర్తి... ఇతనిని అప్పాయిన్మెంట్ చేసింది చంద్రబాబు..

ఎన్నికల కమిషనర్ కేసు కూడా ఈయన గారు
చూస్తున్నారు అని వార్తలు వినిపిస్తున్నాయి



Like



Comment



Share



Write a comment...

Translation :

This is the Judge by name Mallavolu Satyanarayana Murthy who has given the judgment today in A.P.High Court depriving the poor people to get English medium education. He was appointed by Chandrababu.

It is being rumored that he is the one who is also dealing with the case of Election Commissioner.

Bar and
Bench



9:39 AM



gunturmahanagar...



Sudheer Pamula shared a post.



Yesterday at 10:43 PM · 🌐



Kondareddyghanireddy Ysrcp



Yesterday at 9:02 PM · 🌐

ఈరోజు ఏపీ హైకోర్ట్ లో పేదలకి ఇంగ్లీష్ మీడియం లో
చదువులు చెప్పే అవకాశాన్ని దూరమా చేసిన తీర్పు
ఇచ్చిన హైకోర్ట్ జడ్జి ఇతనే, మల్లవోలు
సత్యనారాయణ మూర్తి.....



3

6 Comments.



Like



Comment



Share



Mani Annapureddy

3 hrs • 5

Follow

రాష్ట్రంలో ఇంగ్లీష్ మీడియం
పెట్టటానికి వీల్లేదని ఇంగ్లీషులో
తీర్పు రాసిన కుల న్యాయమూర్తి.
ఇలాంటి వెధవలు చెప్పు దెబ్బలు
తినే రోజులు దగ్గర్లోనే ఉన్నాయి.
నల్లకోటు దొంగలు ఇక ఎంతమాత్రం
గౌరవానికి అర్హులు కాదు.

See Translation



Like



Comment



Share

Translation :

The caste Judge, who wrote the judgment in English that English Medium schools should not run in the State. Days are not too far when this kind of stupids are going to be slapped with chappals. The black coat thieves are no longer entitled to be honoured.

Bar
and
Bench



B.RAJASEKHAR
REGISTRAR GENERAL

AMARAVATI,
DT:17.04.2020

To
The Superintendent of Police,
Cyber Crimes-CID,
Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh.

6

Respected sir,

SUB: Complaint regarding defamatory and scandalous material posted in the Social Networking site face book/twitter against the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court who delivered judgments in English Medium Education in Government Schools - Regarding.

REF: Complaint dated 16.04.2020 sent to the Superintendent of Police, CID, Cyber Crimes, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravathi.

-00-

In continuation to the complaint dated 16.04.2020 sent to you, as directed by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, I am to inform you that unknown persons in the name of Aadarsh Pattepu and Mani Annapureddy, Abhishek Reddy and Siva Reddy posted defamatory and scandalous material in the Social Networking site face book/twitter against the Judges of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, who delivered the judgment in a case relating to English Medium Education in Government schools.

I am to inform you that today i.e., on 17.04.2020 some more postings have been made in the social networking sites (facebook/twitter) in Telugu and some portion of the same is translated hereunder:

"The Judges are interfering with the development of poor children and they should be removed. The material also shows that there is a Big mafia going on and English Medium schools in Andhra Pradesh is a big business and annual turnover is more than Rs.10,000 crores. Crores of rupees have changed hands to get the judgment. They have to see as to how Sisupala was punished".

(The copy of the material which has been posted in the social networking sites is enclosed.)

I am directed by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice to request you to register a case under appropriate section of law and investigate into the case. You are also requested to trace out the culprits who have posted the defamatory and scandalous material and inform the details to the High Court at the earliest along with your report.

Yours sincerely,

(B.RAJASEKHAR) 17/4/20

Encl: Copies of the matter containing the defamatory and scandalous material with English translation.

Copy to : The Addl. Director General of Police, CID, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh.

7

20:15 4G 100%

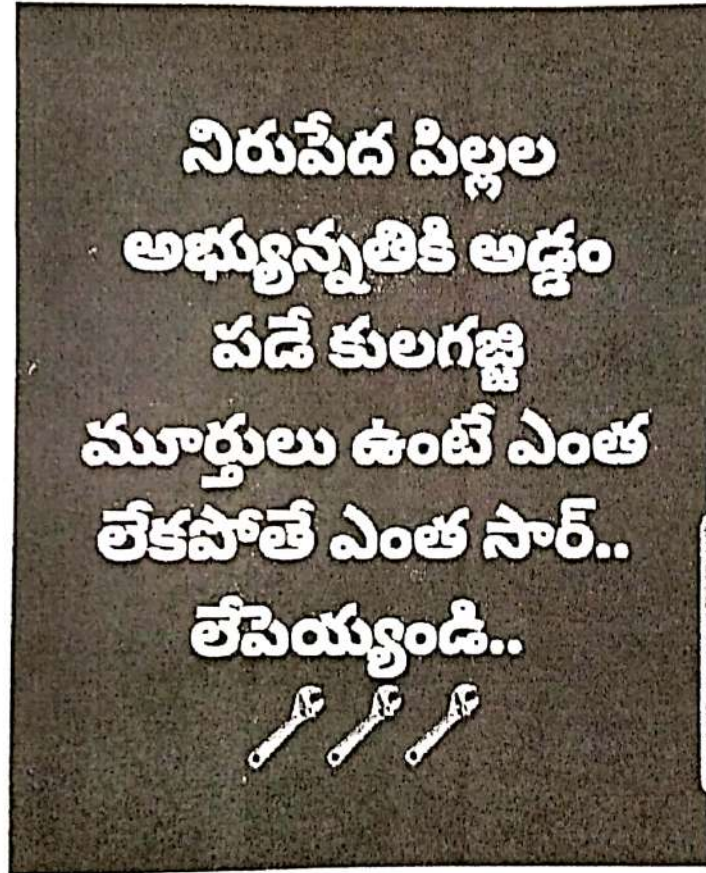
16%



Aadarsh Pattapu

7 hrs • 0

...



46

5 comments • 1 share



Like



Comment



Share



Scanned with CamScanner

8

■ **Ann Arrington,** 1992

- 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655



Rambhotta

January 1 (Monday) 2019

gement on my petition over
in ap high court today.

Party	Candidate	Votes
R	Mr. Ayres Rutherford	2,839
D	Mr. H. H. Dunbar	1,702
Pro	Mr. H. H. Dunbar	1,702
Pro	Mr. H. H. Dunbar	1,702



You
today at 9:30 AM



9

2016-07-21 15:15:15
Sabjohn Shaik and 46 others >



Maheswar Pallaprola

ఎలా

6 h Like Reply



Aadarsh Pattapu ఎలా



Maheswar Pallaprola Aadarsh Patt...



Siva Reddy L.

All transfer. Game start.. shortly..

6 h Like Reply



Abhishek Reddy

Opposition tdp kadhu kamma
media & judge lu !

2 h Like Reply




Write a comment .



10

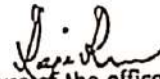
10

		FIRST INFORMATION REPORT (Under Section 154 Cr. P.C)			A.P.P.M. Order 470 Form No:	
1.	Dist: GUNTUR	P.S: CID, A.P., AMARAVATHI, MANGALAGIRI	Year: 2020	FIR No: 16/2020	Date: 16.04.2020	
2.	i. Act:		Sections: U/s 505(2) & 506 IPC			
3.	(a) General Diary Reference:	Entry No: Vol - I			Time: 23:00 hrs	
	(b) Occurrence of Offence:	Prior to 16-04-2020				
	(c) Information received at the Police Station:	16-04-2020 at 23:00 hrs			G.D. Page No. 141	
4.	Type of Information:	English typed complaint				
5.	Place of Occurrence:	Amaravathi & other places				
	(a) Direction and Distance from P.S.	25 Kms towards west.				
	(b) Address:	Amaravathi & other places				Beat No: NIL
	(c) In case outside limit of this Police Station:	The name of P.S.: NIL				District: NIL
6.	Complainant/Informant. B.Raja Sekhar, Registrar General, High Court of AP.					
	Cell No. -					
	(a) Father's Name: -					
	(b) Date, Year of Birth / Age: -					
7.	(c) Nationality: - Indian					
	Details of known /suspected / unknown /accused with full particulars.					
	1) Kondareddy Dhamireddy, YSRCP (Twitter Account)					
	2) Mani Annapareddy (Twitter Account)					
8.	3) Sudheer Pamula of gunturmahanagar and some others.					
	Reasons for delay in reporting by the Complainant/Informant: Nil					
	Particulars of properties involved: (Attach separate sheet, if required): Nil					
	Total value of properties involved: - Nil					

Scanned with CamScanner

Scanned with CamScanner

11.	Inquest Report / Un-Natural Death case No., if any: -- Nil
12.	F.I.R. Contents (Attached complaint report): On 16-04-2020 at 23:00 hrs received a English typed report from Sri B.Raja Sekhar, Registrar General, High Court of AP stating that, as directed some unknown persons in the name of Kondareddy Dhanireddy YSRCP has posted defamatory material against Hon'ble Sri Justice M.Satyanarayana Murthi, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh in Twitter in Telugu which has been shared by Sudheer Pamula which reads as follows: " The Judge by name Mallavolu Satyanarayana Murthi who has given the judgment today in AP High Court deprived the poor people to get English Medium Education. He was appointed by Chandra Babu. There is a rumour that he is the one who is also dealing with the case of Election Commissioner." And further another post has been posted by Mani Annapureddy in Telugu in Twitter account which reads as follows: " A caste Judge written a judgment in English that English Medium school should not be run in the state. Days are not too far for these kind of stupids that they will be slapped with cheppals. Black coat thieves are not entitled for honour" and requested to registrar a case and investigate into the matter and take steps to find out the culprits, remove defamatory material and furnish their names to the High Court, enclosed photo copies of defamatory material. The original complaint enclosed herewith.
13.	Action Taken: Received a English typed report submitted by Sri B.Raja Sekhar, Registrar General, High Court of AP submitted on 16-04-2020 at 23:00 hrs and as per the instructions issued by the ADGP, CID., AP., Mangalagiri proceedings vide C.No.1827/C-75/CID/2020, dated:-16.04.2020, a case vide Cr.No.16/2020 U/s 505(2) & 506 IPC was registered in CID, Head Quarters PS, Mangalagiri, A.P. Original FIR with copies of enclosures forwarded to The Hon'ble VI th Addl. Junior Civil Judge Court, Guntur and copy of FIR sent to the I.O. S.Antonyraj, Inspector of Police, CCPS, CID Head Quarters, AP, Mangalagiri for investigation.
14.	F.I.R. read over to the Complainant / Informant, admitted by him to be correct and a copy of FIR given to the Complainant / informant on free of cost.
15.	Date and Time of dispatch to the Court: 17-04-2020 at 11:00 hrs


 16/4/2020
Signature of the officer-in-charge,
Police Station with
Name: Sri M.Raja Rao, DSP, CID, AP.

Number, If any: DSP - 3025
Senior Executive Officer
C.I.D., A.P., Mangalagiri.

Report received through special messenger
Hence signature not obtained

Signature / Thumb Impression of the
Complainant/Information

12

		FIRST INFORMATION REPORT			A.P.P.M. Order 470 Form No:
		(Under Section 154 Cr. P.C)			
1.	Dist: GUNTUR	P.S: CID, A.P., AMARAVATHI, MANGALAGIRI	Year: 2020	FIR No: 17/2020	Date: 18.04.2020
2.	i. Act:		Sections: U/s 505(2) & 506 IPC		
3.	(a) General Diary Reference:	Entry No: Vol - I			Time: 12:00 hrs
	(b) Occurrence of Offence:	Prior to 18-04-2020			
	(c) Information received at the Police Station:	18-04-2020 at 12:00 hrs			G.D. Page No. 145
4.	Type of Information:	English typed complaint through e-mail (to cybercrimes-cid@ap.gov.in).			
5.	Place of Occurrence:	Amaravathi & other places			
	(a) Direction and Distance from P.S.	25 Kms towards west.			
	(b) Address:	Amaravathi & other places			Beat No: NIL
	(c) In case outside limit of this Police Station:	The name of P.S.: NIL		District: NIL	
6.	Complainant/Informant. B.Raja Sekhar, Registrar General, High Court of AP. Cell No. -				
	(a) Father's Name: -				
	(b) Date, Year of Birth / Age: -				
	(c) Nationality: - Indian				
7.	Details of known /suspected / unknown /accused with full particulars. 1) Aadarsh Pattapu 2) Mani Annapureddy 3) Abhishek Reddy 4) Siva Reddy and some others.				
8.	Reasons for delay in reporting by the Complainant/Informant: Nil				
9.	Particulars of properties involved: (Attach separate sheet, if required): Nil				

Created: 17 Nov 2020 A 17:20:00 Cyber Crime PS, CID, AP

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=f7ba20d1b0&view=pt&scat

M Gmail

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10.	Total value of properties involved: - Nil
11.	Inquest Report / Un-Natural Death case No., if any: -- Nil
12.	F.I.R. Contents (Attached complaint report): On 18-04-2020 at 12:00 hrs received a English typed report from Sri B.Raja Sekhar, Registrar General, High Court of AP through e-mail stating that, in continuation to the complaint dated 16.04.2020 sent to you, as directed by the Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court of AP, inform that unknown persons in the name of Aadarsh Pattepu and Mani Annapureddy, Abhishek Reddy and Siva Reddy posted defamatory and scandalous material in the Social Networking site face book / twitter against the judges of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, who delivered the judgment in a case relating to English Medium Education in Government Schools. On 17.04.2020 some more posting have been made in the social networking site (facebook/twitter) in Telugu and some portion of the same is translated hereunder. 1. The Judges are interfering with the development of poor children and there is no difference if they continue or not. Remove them. 2. English Medium Schools is a big business in Andhra Pradesh and annual turnover is more than Ten Thousand Crores. Major portion of the business is carried on by ex-TDP Minister Narayana, Sri Chaitanya institutions and Guntur Bashyam Schools. The institutions are benami institutions of Chandrababu Naidu. Crores of rupees have changed hands to get the above judgment. 3. We have to wait and see the count down as to how Sisupala was punished. 4. All transfer game start shortly. 5. Opposition is not TDP but it is Khamma Media and Judges and requested to register a case under appropriate section of law and investigate into the case. Further requested to trace out the culprits who have posted the defamatory and scandalous material and inform the details to the High Court. The original complaint enclosed herewith.
13.	Action Taken: Received a English typed report submitted by Sri B.Raja Sekhar, Registrar General, High Court of AP on 18-04-2020 at 12:00 hrs through e-mail and as per the instructions issued by the ADGP, CID, AP, Mangalagiri proceedings vide C.No.1828/C-75/CID/2020, dated -17.04.2020, a case vide Cr.No.17/2020 U/s 505(2) & 506 IPC was registered in CID, Head Quarters PS, Mangalagiri, A.P. Original FIR with copies of enclosures forwarded to The Hon'ble VI th Addl. Junior Civil Judge Court, Guntur and copy of FIR sent to the I.O. S.Antonyraj, Inspector of Police, Cyber Crimes Police Station, CID Head Quarters, AP, Mangalagiri for investigation.
14.	F.I.R. read over to the Complainant / Informant, admitted by him to be correct and a copy of FIR given to the Complainant / Informant on free of cost.
15.	Date and Time of dispatch to the Court: 18-04-2020 at 14:00 hrs

Signature of the Officer-in-Charge,
Police Station Mangalagiri
Name: Sri M Raja Sekhar, DSP, CID, AP.

Number, if any: DSP - 3025

Report received through e-mail
Hence signature not obtained

Signature / Thumb impression of the
Complainant/Informant

Cr.No. 16/2020 & 17/2020 of Cyber Crime PS, CID, AP

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/07ik~f7ba20JSh0&view=pt&scar...

M Gmail

14

D. RAJASEKHAR <registrargeneralaphc@gmail.com>

Cr.Nos.16/2020 & 17/2020 of Cyber Crime PS, CID, AP
2 messages

Cyber Crimes CID AP <cybercrimes-cid@ap.gov.in>
To: registrargeneralaphc@gmail.com

Wed, Apr 29, 2020 at 10:54 AM

Respected Sir,

I submit that I am the Investigation Officer in Cr No 16/2020 & 17/2020 of Cyber Crime PS, CID, AP which pertains to the report given by you regarding the posting of defamatory material in the social networking sites against Hon'ble Sri Justice M Satyanarayana Murthy, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh.

With regard to the above, I request you to kindly give me an appointment, at your convenience to enable me to examine you. I may kindly be intimated the date and place to meet you, sir.

Thanking you, Sir.

Yours faithfully,

(S Anthony Raj)

Inspector of Police

CCPS, CID, AP

Mangalagiri

B. RAJASEKHAR <registrargeneralaphc@gmail.com>
To: Cyber Crimes CID AP <cybercrimes-cid@ap.gov.in>

Wed, Apr 29, 2020 at 5:31 PM

Sir,

Hon'ble Registrar General informed that the Investigation Officer in Cr.No.16 of 2020 and 17 of 2020 can meet the Registrar General in between 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on all working days in the High Court.

(Quoted text hidden)

..

From

P.S. to Registrar General

HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

Bar and Bench

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CASE DIARY**PART-II**

Cyber Crime Police Station

Cr.No. 16/2020

CID, A.P, Mangalagiri

Offence U/s Sec 505 (2) & 506 IPC.

Date and Place of Examination: On 01-05-2020, in the O/o the Registrar General of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravathi, Nelapadu, A.P.

Statement of Sri B. Raja Sekhar, Registrar General, High Court of AP, Amaravathi, Nelapadu, Andhra Pradesh.

"I am the Registrar General of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh. On 15-04-2020, three persons namely 1) Kondareddy Dhanireddy YSRCP 2) Mani Annapureddy, 3) Sudheer Pamula had posted defamatory material against Hon'ble Sri Justice M.Satyanarayana Murthy, Judge, High Court of Andhra Pradesh in their Facebook accounts pertaining to a judgment delivered in a case relating to English Medium Education in government Schools. In fact, the judgement was not delivered by Hon'ble Sri Justice M. Satyanarayana Murthy.

Kondareddy Dhanireddy had made the following defamatory and disparaging posting in his Facebook account in telugu and the translation of it in English is as follows -

"The Judge by name Mallavolu Satyanarayana Murthi who has given the judgement today in A.P. High Court deprived the poor people to get English Medium Education. He was appointed by Chandra Babu. There is a rumour that he is the one who is also dealing with the case of Election commissioner"

The above posting made by Kondareddy Dhanireddy was shared by Sudheer Pamula in a Facebook group "guntumahanagaram" on the same day i.e., 15-04-2020.

Mani Annapureddy had made a posting in Telugu in his Facebook account whose translation in English is as follows:

"A caste Judge written a judgment in English that English Medium Schools should not be run in the State. Days are not too far for these kind of stupids that they will be slapped with cheppals. Black coat thieves are not entitled for Honour"

As such, on the directions of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, I lodged a report against the above three persons so that a case under appropriate Section of Law be registered against them, to investigate into the matter, trace out the culprits, furnish their names and other particulars and take steps for removal of defamatory material in the Twitter account, as the same is nothing but an

Bar
&
Bench

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insult to the Judiciary. I also requested the police to furnish a report to the High Court with regard to the action taken in order to take further steps in this regard and I also enclosed the three photo copies of defamatory material which has been posted in the Twitter account. The three accused persons had made the incriminating comments in their Facebook accounts but in my original report to the Police, I had mentioned it as Twitter accounts".

CASE DIARY

PART-II

Cyber Crime Police Station

Cr.No. 17/2020

CID, A.P. Mangalagiri

Offence U/s Sec 505 (2) & 506 IPC

Date and Place of Examination: On 01-05-2020, in the O/o the Registrar General of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Amaravathi, Nelapadu, A.P.

Statement of Sri B.RajaSekhar, Registrar General, High Court of AP, Amaravathi, Nelapadu, Andhra Pradesh.

"I am the Registrar General of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh. On 17-04-2020, the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh had directed me to lodge a report against AadharshPallapu, Mani Annapureddy, Abhishek Reddy and Siva Reddy who posted defamatory and scandalous material in the Social Networking site Facebook/Twitter against the Judges of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh who delivered the judgment in a case relating to English Medium Education in government Schools. Earlier, on 16-04-2020, as per the directions of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, I gave a report to the Superintendent of Police, Cyber Crimes, CID, AP against some persons who had also committed the above stated offence, for necessary legal action.

On 17.04.2020, some more scandalous and defamatory postings were made in the social networking site (Facebook/twitter) in Telugu by the above cited four persons and the English translation of those incriminating postings is as follows -

1. The Judges are interfering with the development of poor children and there is no difference if they continue or not. Remove them. (Posted by AadharshPallapu in his Facebook account)
2. English Medium Schools is a big business in Andhra Pradesh and annual turnover is more than Ten thousand Crores. Major portion of the business is carried on by ex-TDP Minister Narayana, Sri Chaitanya Institutions and Guntur Bashyam Schools. The institutions are benami institutions of Chandrababu Naidu. Crores of rupees have changed hands to get the above judgment. We have to wait and see the count down as to how Sisupala was punished. (Posted by Mani Annapureddy in his Facebook account)
3. All transfer game start shortly.(Commented by Abhishek Reddy on the posting of AadharshPallapu)
4. Opposition is not TDP but it is Kamma Media and Judges.(Commented by Siva Reddy on the posting of AadharshPallapu)

In view of the above disparaging posts and comments made by the above persons, on the directions of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, I sent an email, dated 17-04-2020 to the Superintendent of Police, Cyber Crimes, CID, Amaravathi, Andhra Pradesh

Bar and Bench

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DIARY

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With a request to register a case under appropriate Section of Law and investigate into the case and also to trace out the culprits who have posted the defamatory and scandalous material and to inform the details to the High Court at the earliest along with a report. I also enclosed the copies of the incriminating material (three printouts) posted by the above mentioned persons in the social networking sites along with the complaint".

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Bar and
Bench

Date: 13-05-2020

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To
The Registrar General,
High Court of Andhra Pradesh,
Amaravathi,
Andhra Pradesh.
Sir,

Subj: CID - Cyber Crime PS - Submission of Action taken Report
- Regarding.

Ref: 1. Cr.No.16/2020 U/s 505 (2) & 506 IPC of CID PS, CID,
AP, Mangalagiri.
2. Cr.No.17/2020 U/s 505 (2) & 506 IPC of CID PS, CID,
AP, Mangalagiri

With reference to the above subject, it is submitted that based on the reports of Sri B.RajaSekhar, Registrar General, High Court of AP, the two cases cited in the reference 2nd above were registered at CID PS, CID, AP, Mangalagiri on 16-04-2020 and 18-04-2020 respectively and the cases were entrusted to the Inspector of Police, Cyber Crime PS, CID, AP, Mangalagiri for investigation.

The Inspector of Police took up investigation in the two cases. During the course of investigation, the I.O. sent e-notices to the Nodal officers of Facebook Inc. and Twitter International Company to furnish the registration particulars of the Facebook accounts of the accused persons viz., (1)DhanireddyKondareddy S/o Tirumala Reddy, Mulapalle village, Reddicherla Panchayat, Komarole Mandal, Prakasham District (2) Mani Annapureddy, R/o USA (3) Sudheer Pamula, S/o Nanchandulu, R/o 3rd Line, Konda Venkatappaiah Colony, Guntur in Cr.No.16/2020 of CID PS, CID, AP and (1) Aadharsh Pattapu N/o Angalakuduru (V), Tenali (M), Guntur District., R/o 401, Greenspace Lotus, Puppala Guda, Manikonda, Hyderabad (2) Mani Annapureddy R/o USA (3) Abhishek Reddy R/o Bengaluru (4) Siva Reddy L R/o Hyderabad in Cr.No.17/2020 of CID PS, CID, AP to establish the identity of the accused persons and also to furnish the registration and accessing IP logs of the accounts of the accused persons to trace them. A request was also made U/s 79 (3) (b) of the IT Act, 2000 to delete the incriminating posts and comments made by the accused persons and also to preserve the same U/s 67-C of IT Act, 2000 for the purpose of the investigation.

In response to the e-notices, the authorities at Facebook Inc. gave a reply stating that they require formal legal process for any records that is issued from a court of competent jurisdiction and complies with the Stored Communications Act, 18 U.S.C. Hence, Letters of Request for Mutual Legal Assistance are being prepared to comply with the demands made by Facebook Inc. for obtaining the required data from them.

Further, during the course of investigation, some of the incriminating posts made by the accused persons which were available in their Facebook accounts were retrieved, printouts were taken and seized by the I.O. under a cover of mediator report duly attested by two mediators. I submit that efforts are being made to establish the antecedents of all the accused persons in this case.

I submit this report for favour of information.

Yours Sincerely,

epad 13/5/2020
(G.R. RAJHIKA)
Superintendent of Police,
Cyber Crime, CID,
AP, Mangalagiri.

B. RAJASEKHAR
REGISTRAR GENERAL



AMARAVATI
Date: 25-05-2020

ROC No. /SO-2020

To
Advocate General,
Government of Andhra Pradesh,
High Court of Andhra Pradesh,
At Amaravati.

Sub: Posting of defamatory, derogatory, scandalous and threatening statements in the social networking media against the Hon'ble High Court and the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court who delivered judgments recently – consideration.

I am to inform you that the Registrar (Judicial) of the High Court has received various e-mails in the Official e-mail account and mobile of Registrar (Judicial) with videos and postings in the social networking media. The material reveals the names of several persons including Mr. Nandigam Suresh, Mr. Amanchi Krishna Mohan, Mr. Metta Chandra Sekhar Rao, Mr. Gopala Krishna Kalanidhi, Mr. Kishore Reddy Darisa, Mr. Chandu Reddy, Mr. G. Sridhar Reddy, Mr. Jalagam Venkata Satyanarayana, Mr. Arjun Ganji, Mr. Sridhar Reddy Avuthu, Mr. Ramanjaneya Reddy, Mr. Satish Kumar, Mrs. Gowthami K, Mr. Linga Reddy, Dr. Ravi Kumar, Mr. Samir Rathod, Mr. Seenu P, Mr. Ramesh Gunta, Mr. Chiranjeevi and others, who in their interviews/speeches/postings attributed motives, caste and corrupt allegations to some of the Hon'ble Supreme Court Judges, Hon'ble High Court and Hon'ble High Court Judges in delivering orders/judgments including in Suo Motu PIL 124 of 2020, WP (PIL) 110 of 2020, WP (PIL) 101 of 2020, WP (PIL) 177 of 2019, WP (PIL) 183 of 2019 and WP 8185 of 2020. They posted abusive, life-threatening and intimidating postings against the Hon'ble Judges in social networking media.

I am to inform you that the video footages of Sakshi News reveal that Mr. Nandigama Suresh has commented that Mr. Chandra Babu Naidu is managing the High Court and came to know about the judgment 10 minutes before it is pronounced. Mr. Chandu Reddy tweeted that "total how many judges are there in the High Court, all those will be cut into pieces" and also tweeted that "Everyone shall be cut into pieces. All the Judges shall be kept in a room and a Corona patient shall be left with them" and Mr. Kishore Reddy Darisa in a facebook message stated that "All the High Court Judges are Bastards, they are good for nothing, except for sleeping with their wives. Let them arrest me and order for CBI enquiry", further there are identical and other abusive and intimidating messages in the social media. All these appear there is larger conspiracy against the Hon'ble Judges.

The contents in the video clipping also amount to Criminal Contempt for trying to Scandalise and lower the image of the Hon'ble Court and Hon'ble Judges.

2

I am to Inform you that previously when similar allegations were made against Hon'ble Sri Justice M.Satyanarayana Murthy, reports dated 16-04-2020 and 17-04-2020 have been lodged with cyber crimes Police. Communication has been received on 13.05.2020 in which the service provider company has refused to provide the I.P. address as they require formal legal process to be followed. They are taking recourse for it. The net recourse has even elapsed one month. No proceedings came to be initiated and, now, number of scandalous postings have been made; however, taking legal recourse is necessary.

I am to inform you that rule 5 (a) to (d) of AP High Court Rules provides as hereunder:


Rule 5. In case of contempt other than the contempt referred to in Rule 4, the High Court may take cognizance of the contempt and take action.

- (a) *suo motu*, or
- (b) on a petition made by the Advocate-General of the State of Andhra Pradesh, or
- (c) on a petition made by any person, and in the case of Criminal Contempt with the consent in writing of the Advocate-General of the State of Andhra Pradesh, or
- (d) on a reference made to it by a Court Subordinate to it in the case of any contempt of such Subordinate Court or on a motion made by the Advocate-General of the State of Andhra Pradesh in that behalf.

In view of the above, on behalf of the High Court, I request you to take up necessary steps by filing contempt proceedings in respect of the previous as well as the present defamatory, derogatory, scandalous and threatening postings and statements in the social networking media against the High Court as well as the Judges; otherwise, submit consent for initiating two (2) contempt proceedings by taking immediate action in this regard.

Your immediate response is expected.

With regards,


REGISTRAR GENERAL, 25/5.
High Court of Andhra Pradesh,
At Amaravati

Bar and Bench

May 26, 2020

Outlook

THE FULLY LOADED MAGAZINE

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

MAGAZINE ▾ INDIA CRICKET OPINION VIDEOS PHOTOS WORLD ENTERTAINMENT

HINDI BUSINESS MONEY TRAVELLER RESPONSIBLE TOURISM POSHAN TANDARUST PUNJAB

Home Website Society Reportage

Homemaker Trolls Madras High Court Judge On Facebook, Lands In Jail

Maha Laxmi was arrested for criticising the judge by name and posting the same on social media.



Outlook Web Bureau
22 November 2017



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218K followers



'Lockdown Has Failed. What's The Centre Planning Now?'
Rahul Gandhi Asks Modi Govt



India, China Armies Appear
Heading Towards Face-off In
Ladakh. Report



Illustration

Taking to Facebook to troll and criticise a High Court judge has landed a 40-year-old housewife from Vellore in jail.

Maha Laxmi, a 40-year-old homemaker active on Facebook, was arrested and remanded in Vellore Central prison for criticising a judge of the Madras High Court for his remarks against the Tamil Nadu government school teachers' strikes in September. 25 other people have been apprehended for the same, **reported** *The Indian Express*.

Government school teachers in Tamil Nadu had boycotted classes as part of their protest in September this year, demanding implementation of the seventh pay commission recommendations.

Justice N Kirubakaran had then stated that strikes by teachers were the reason why government school students scored low in NEET exams.

Outrage on social media followed by his remarks led him to call a report on the offensive materials circulating against him.

According to the report, Maha Laxmi was arrested for criticising the judge by name and posting the same on social media.

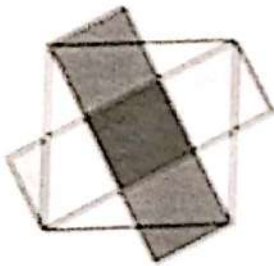
'Her post referred to the judge's name and personal details, and alleged personal motives for his anger against teachers. She was traced among many, including some 25 teachers and government staff, who are awaiting action from their respective departments before arrests,' the report quoted a senior police officer as saying.

In a separate incident, a 34-year-old man was detained for allegedly posting abusive comments against NCP chief Sharad Pawar and his MP daughter Supriya Sule. Police Tuesday detained Walchand Geete, a resident of Surendra Nagar in Dhantoli area of the city, for allegedly posting objectionable and abusive comments against Pawars by tagging their twitter accounts.

In May this year, a Karnataka Whatsapp group admin was arrested for sharing PM Modi's picture with 'obscene' content in a private chat.

In 2015, the Supreme Court struck down a controversial law, Section 66A of IT Act, allowing police to arrest people for comments on social networks and other internet sites.

Though the government defended the law, Justice RF Nariman ordered that "Section 66A is unconstitutional and we have no hesitation in striking it down."



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THE TELEGRAPH

The Telegraph

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News

Trolls who abuse judges on social media could be prosecuted, suggests Lord Chief Justice



The Telegraph - PUZZLES

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less to over
tizzles

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Lord Burnett. There is no doubt that it is dispiriting and intimidating for our judges' - JEFFREY VICTORIA-JONES for the

Follow

By Olivia Rudgard, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

25 APRIL 2018 • 3:43PM

Critics who abuse judges on social media should be put on trial, the Lord Chief Justice has suggested.

Lord Burnett of Maldon said the possibility of prosecuting online trolls was "should be looked at" but warned that it was often too difficult to find the identity of the person involved.

His comments come in the wake of abuse online of judges involved in the Alfie Evans case, in particular Mr Justice Hayden, the High Court judge who ruled in February that the terminally ill child's life support could be withdrawn.

A petition calling for the judge to step down and describing him as a "disgrace to our legal system" had received more than 14,000 signatures by Wednesday afternoon.

Lord Burnett told the Lords Constitution Committee that abuse "hurled at judges in the courtroom" was often shrugged off but in persistent cases "the contempt jurisdiction should be explored more fully".

Responding to a question from leading barrister Lord Pannick QC about using contempt of court laws to prosecute trolls, the head of the judiciary said: "The problem with many of the social media type abuse is that it's impossible immediately to identify who the abuser is."

"If people are thinking of
analysing them may be

"Inevitably if it's come through one of the
ordinary social media platforms it's often

the liberal media

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Bar and Bench

Bar

myself through what
might happen?"

discover identities behind pseudonyms.
But it's certainly something that should be
looked at.

"You will appreciate that occasionally the
police do become involved and they do take action, and also,
regrettably, it's been necessary on behalf of a handful of judges to take
civil action in our courts, to obtain appropriate orders restraining
people from doing things which are quite inappropriate.

"So we're alive to all those possibilities but I'm grateful to you for
highlighting the contempt one."

He said the abuse was "capable of undermining the rule of law because
it erodes confidence in an institution which doesn't deserve to have its
confidence eroded".

The Lord Chief Justice also said the abuse was contributing to a lack of
applicants for senior judicial positions.

"There is no doubt that it is dispiriting and sometimes genuinely
frightening for our judges.

"It is a factor which inevitably may play into the recruitment of judges.
Put crudely, if people are thinking of applying, particularly in some
jurisdictions, they may be asking themselves the question 'why should
I put myself through what might happen?'"

He added that judges on some tribunals and in the family courts were
particularly likely to receive abuse online.

Raising judicial morale was one of Lord Burnett's stated aims when he
became Lord Chief Justice in October last year.

In his first press conference in December he called for people to
recognise that "judges are human".

He told the Lords that the recruitment crisis threatened to undermine

Are you enjoying this extension?

E. Consequently, to direct Respondent Nos.7 to 9 to frame guidelines for the intermediaries in compliance of Section 79(2)(c) read with Section 87(2)(zg) of the Information Technology Act which authorises the Respondent Nos.7 to 9 to prescribe guidelines to intermediaries,

F. Consequently, to direct the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 to devise self-regulatory framework to prohibit the posting of defamatory, incriminatory and abusive contents on their respective platforms with respect to Judiciary in India, and

G. Consequently to direct the Respondent Nos. 10 to 18 to forthwith remove all such posts/ comments/ tweets/ videos and those contents which are defamatory, incriminatory and abusive in nature pertaining to this Hon'ble Court as reported in the said FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020 and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 on the file of Respondent No.6, in consultation with the Petitioner herein and further desist and cease any such posts/ comments/ tweets/ videos and those contents which are defamatory, incriminatory and abusive in nature pertaining to this Hon'ble Court, and

H. Pass such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case.

Date of Presentation: 26.05.2020

Representation: 26.05.2020

Date of filing: 26.05.2020

SINGLE/BENCH
SERVICE/NON-SERVICE
DEPT.: _____
Category Code and
Sub Category Code
Admission Court:
HIGH COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE OF
ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATHI
WRIT PETITION
(SPECIAL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)

W.P.NO. 916 OF 2020

DISTRICT :: GUNTUR

The High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati,
High Court Buildings, Nelapadu, Amaravati,
Rep. by its Registrar General,
Sri.B.Rajasekhar, Aged about 58 years,
S/o.Late Venkata Rao,
Currently Working as Registrar General (FAC),
High Court of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravati.

...Petitioner.

By:-

N.ASHWANI KUMAR (11879)
ADVOCATE
COUNSEL FOR THE PETITIONER

(Standing Counsel for High Court of
Andhra Pradesh at Amaravathi)

NATURE OF APPLICATION
(Under Art 226 of Constitution of India)

For the reasons stated above, it is prayed that this Hon'ble Court in the interests of justice be pleased to issue an appropriate writ or order or direction more particularly in the nature of nature of "Writ of Mandamus",

A. To declare the action of the Respondent Nos.2 to 6 in failing to act progressively and to take necessary action and to invoke the appropriate provisions of law, as mandated, pursuant to the registration of FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020, and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 on the file of Respondent No.6 against the said offenders, as being illegal, arbitrary and unconstitutional, and in violation of provisions of Criminal Procedure Code and Information Technology Act, 2000, and

B. To declare the action of the Respondent Nos.7-9 & 19, more particularly, Respondent Nos.9 & 19, in failing to act against the Respondent Nos.10 to 18, where under the social networking platforms are being utilised and abused for creating ill-will and hatred against the Petitioner herein in the mind and eye of the Public, as being illegal, arbitrary, unconstitutional and in violation of provisions of IPC, Cr.P.C. and I.T.Act, 2000, thereby securing protection to the Judiciary, and

C. To declare the action of the Respondent Nos.7 to 9 and 19 in failing to frame guidelines for the intermediaries in compliance of Section 79(2)(c) read with Section 87(2)(zg) of the Information Technology Act which authorises the Respondent Nos.7 to 9 and 19 to prescribe guidelines to intermediaries, thereby securing certain protection to the Judiciary, and

D. Consequently, in the alternative, transfer the investigation in FIR.No.16/2020 dated 16.04.2020 and FIR.No.17/2020 dated 18.04.2020 to any other competent investigating Agency under the supervision and control of Respondent No.7, or direct the Respondent Nos. 2 to 5 to act progressively and take necessary steps pursuant to the registration of said FIRs and