

Re- In the matter of a report titled ' Sting Operation Ke Baad Parshado Me Macha Hadkamp', appearing in 'Nav Bharat Times' dated 7.12.2011

And

In the matter of inquiry u/s 7 read with 2(b) of the Delhi Lokayukta and Upalokayukta Act, 1995 in respect of the conduct of Municipal Councillors involved

ORDER

Attention of the Lokayukta has been drawn to a report titled ' Sting Operation Ke Baad Parshado Me Macha Hadkamp', authored by the City Correspondent, New Delhi as it appeared in the issue dated 7th December, 2011 of 'Nav Bharat Times', a national Hindi Daily. As per the report, a sting operation carried out and telecast by a TV Channel has exposed involvement of the Municipal Councillors stated to be belonging to the BJP as well as Congress Party, who have been involved in facilitating illegal and unauthorized construction for illegal gratification.

As per the press report, in the sting operation shown by the TV Channel, these Councillors were recorded as demanding illegal gratification ranging from Rs. 2 to 10 lacs. One of the Councillor's husband was also found to be participating in the negotiation. Some of the Councillors claimed that part of the illegal gratification has to be sent to Municipal Engineers.

The BJP President stated that the above was a setback for the party and expressed the Party's intention and resolve to have the matter investigated and if the facts reported and shown in sting operation are found to be correct, then stern action would be taken against the Party Councillors and they would not be provided ticket in coming elections.

The Congress Party spokesman Sh. Jitender Kochhar is reported to have said, after seeing the report in sting operation, that if the involvement of its councillors was found in illegal gratification and construction, then strict action

would be taken and these people would be expelled from the party, claiming that the Congress was committed to be intolerant to corruption.

As per the press report, this is only the tip of iceberg and there are many other Councillors who could be caught if such sting operations are done.

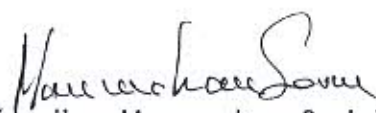
In case the allegations in the report are correct, a case for inquiry under section 7 read with section 2(i) (b) of the Delhi Lokayukta and Upalokayukta Act, 1995 is disclosed against the 8 Councillors for their conduct.

Accordingly, in these circumstances, the Editor and City Correspondent of the 'Nav Bharat Time's, New Delhi Edition are required to produce the complete records of any interview notes and other notings, recordings in relation to the above matter or other material in their possession on which the above report was authored. The Noticee namely Editor and City Correspondent are required to appear before this forum and produce the aforesaid material on or before **19th December, 2011 at 12.00 noon.**

Additionally, it would be expedient and in the interest of justice to issue notice to the Managing Editor and Correspondent of the Channel IBN 7, FC-7, Sector -16A, Noida, UP, who carried out and telecast the above sting operation, to appear and produce the original recordings of the sting operation along with true recorded copy of the same on or before **19th December, 2011 at 12.00 Noon** for facilitating the proposed inquiry in the matter.

WS The provision of this Act, including those of the inquiry under section 18 are in addition to any other enactment or rule of law in force.

Ordered accordingly.


(Justice Manmohan Sarin)
Lokayukta

Dated: 7th December, 2011
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