

Anti Land-Grabbing Action Committee

ಭೂಕಬಳಿಕೆ ವಿರೋಧಿ ಹೋರಾಟ ಸಮಿತಿ

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Sub: Requesting to take appropriate action in respect of Rs. 100 crores corruption scandal CD in possession of a sitting High Court judge, Justice Sri Ram Mohan Reddy.

Hon'ble Chief Justice,

It was widely reported in the newspapers that on 28th October 2015 , while hearing a revenue matter, Justice Sri Ram Mohan Reddy stated in the open Court that some members of the public have handed over to him a CD containing *podu* irregularities to the tune of Rs. 100 crores indulged into by Sri Raja Naik, Deputy Director of Land Records, Bangalore.

Of late, especially after the corruption scam in the institution of Lokayukta got exposed, faith of the public in the government and other investigation agencies have taken a beating. The very fact that the CD was handed over directly to a sitting judge strengthens this aspect. The failure on the part of the government to act on the reports of Sri V.Ponnuraj, Commissioner of Land Records in 2012 and the Upalokayukta in 2013 to take proper action against the said officer must have made the members of the public to hand over the CD directly

to the Hon'ble judge reposing extreme faith in the judiciary and expecting that the matter would not be buried.

Further, it was also reported that when the Additional Advocate General Sri A.S. Ponnanna, who was present during the hearing requested the Hon'ble Justice to hand over the CD to the government for further investigation, the Justice declined the same and told that he would release the contents of the CD only after his retirement. The stand taken by Hon'ble Justice Sri Ram Mohan Reddy is very surprising as even a common illiterate person in possession of an evidence connected to a crime is expected to hand it over to proper authorities. Corruption being a heinous crime, withholding crucial information relating to corruption and stating that it would be revealed at a later date by a sitting judge will surely cause serious damage to the faith of the public in judiciary.

Our Committee has been consistently fighting against land grabbing in Karnataka and is very much concerned about the contents of the CD as it is bound to throw more light upon the land grabbing by the powerful in connivance with the officers/officials.

Hence, we request Your Honor to take suo-moto cognizance of this important matter, and order an investigation into the irregularities mentioned in the CD. If, for any reason, suo-moto action is not possible, we request that the CD be handed over to the government with a

direction to get it properly investigated and that the High Court would monitor the investigation.

We sincerely hope that appropriate action would be taken at the earliest in this serious corruption related matter and more so to retain the faith of the public in judiciary.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

**(A.T.Ramaswamy)
Convener**

**To
Hon'ble Justice Sri S.K.Mukherji,
Acting Chief Justice ,High Court of Karnataka,
High Court Buildings,
Opp to Vidhana Soudha,Dr.Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bangalore – 560001.**

Copy to:

- 1. Sri John Micheal D'Cunha, Registrar General, High Court of Karnataka, High Court Buildings, Dr.Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-560 001. - for information.**
- 2. Sri Madhusudan R. Naik, Advocate General, Government of Karnataka, High Court Buildings, Dr.Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-560 001. – for information and with a request to take up the matter with the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Karnataka at the earliest.**

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