

Court No. - 43

Case :- CONTEMPT APPLICATION (CRIMINAL) No. - 12 of 2022

Applicant :- In Re Honble High Court

Opposite Party :- Shri Umesh Gupta (Advocate)

Counsel for Applicant :- Suo Moto, Sudhir Mehrotra

Counsel for Opposite Party :- Sanjay Kumar Dubey

Hon'ble Ashwani Kumar Mishra, J.

Hon'ble Shiv Shanker Prasad, J.

Notices were issued in the present contempt application to Sri Umesh Gupta, Advocate on 1.8.2022. The contemnor has appeared and has filed his affidavit in response to the notice.

When the matter is taken up today, an application is filed by Sri Sudhir Mehrotra, learned counsel representing the Court, annexing therewith a communication of the concerned Judge reporting an incident in the court premises on 13.8.2022 during the conduct of National Lok Adalat. It is alleged that during the course of proceeding in the National Lok Adalat about 50 lawyers led by Secretary of the Bar Association, Hathras, namely Radha Madhav Sharma with Sri Tarun Varshneya, Sri Viri Singh, Sri Manoj Sharma, Sri Rukendra Saraswat and Sri Umesh entered the court premises, abused the judicial officer and also assaulted lady litigants, who were present during the course of National Lok Adalat.

In the facts of the case we take suo moto cognizance in the matter, as it would be difficult for the justice dispensation system to function where lawyers' act in such unruly manner so as to not only misbehave with judicial officers but also assault the litigants.

Let notices be issued calling upon Sri Radha Madhav Sharma, Sri Tarun Varshneya, Sri Viri Singh, Sri Manoj Sharma, Sri Rukendra Saraswat and Sri Umesh as to why they be not punished for committing criminal contempt on account of their unruly act in the court premises on 13.8.2022 during National Lok Adalat while proceedings were going on in Misc. Case No.363 of 2021 (Vikas Kumar Vs. Pooja). The contemnor Umesh Gupta having joined and participated in the unruly act of committing contempt is also given notices to submit response in respect to the incident and his reply in respect of previous incident would be considered while examining his defence in respect of the subsequent incident. Sri Umesh Gupta will also remain present before the Court alongwith other

contemnors, on the next date fixed.

Considering the seriousness of accusations made against the aforesaid lawyers, we invoke our jurisdiction under Chapter XXIV Rule 11(2) of the Allahabad High Court Rules and prohibit Sri Radha Madhav Sharma, Sri Tarun Varshneya, Sri Viri Singh, Sri Manoj Sharma, Sri Rukendra Saraswat and Sri Umesh from practicing at District Court, Hathras, till the next date fixed in the matter i.e. on 19.10.2022.

List on 19.10.2022.

Order Date :- 27.9.2022

Anil