

हाईकोर्ट बार एसोसिएशन, इलाहाबाद

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Member of Governing Council

7523904421 **Udisha** Tripathi 6388808050 Km. Manisha Singh 9565675003 Kiran Singh 7052881294 Abhishek Mishra Avadhesh Kumar Mishra 9838545376 6394044935 Abhishek Tiwari Sachchidanand Yadav 9721611711 8726857233 **Dinesh Yadav** Ratnesh Kumar Pathak 9918806848 9450125256 Rajesh Shukla Sarveshwar Lal Srivastava 9451873706 Ved Prakash Ojha 8948171585 9793988770 Amarnath Tripathi 9415750568 **Brajesh Kumar Singh** (Sengar)

H.C.B.A. Ref. No.

Dated____24.03.2025

MINUTES OF GENERAL HOUSE DATED 24.03.2025

As per the notice dated 21.03.2025, the General House of the High Court 9936834032 Bar Association took place today at 01:15 P.M. in the Library Hall of the Association under the presidentship of Shri Anil Tiwari, Senior Advocate and the meeting was conducted by Shri Vikrant Pandey, Hony. Secretary of the Association. The General House was attended by Sarvsri Rajesh Khare (Senior Vice President), Agnihotri Kumar Tripathi, Akhilesh Kumar 9450635214 Mishra. Subhash Chandra Yadav, Niraj Tripathi, Nilam Shukla (Vice Presidents), Sumit Kumar Srivastava (Joint Secretary Administration). Abhijeet Kumar Pandey (Joint Secretary Library), Puneet Kumar Shukla (Joint Secretary Press), Anchal Ojha (Joint Secretary Women), Ran Vijay Singh (Treasurer), Udisha Tripathi, Manisha Singh, Kiran Singh, Abhishek Mishra. Avadhesh Kumar Mishra, Abhishek Tiwari, Sachchidanand Yadav, Dinesh Yadav, Ratnesh Kumar Pathak, Rajesh Shukla, Sarveshwar Lal Srivastava, Ved Prakash Ojha, Amarnath Tripathi and Brajesh Kumar Singh 'Sengar' (Members of Governing Council) and hundreds of lawyers gathered in the historical library hall. In the aforesaid meeting, following deliberations were made:-

1. The soul and conscious of nation is shocked. We were taken aback that Hon'ble Supreme Court has transferred Hon'ble Mr. Justice Yashwant Varmar to Allahabad High Court on the ground of his involvement in corruption wherein a huge sum of unaccounted money was found in his bungalow.

14th March, 2025 shall go down as the blackest day in the history of Indian judiciary and particularly the Allahabad High Court when a large stockpile of currency notes packed in sacks were recovered from the bungalow of justice Yashwant Varma judge Delhi High Court whose parent High Court is Allahabad High Court in burnt condition. Thanks to the Fire God Agnidev that a dark and murky world of judicial corruption was revealed to the aghast nation at large. The recovery of whopping amount of unaccounted money is merely a tip of an iceberg in which investigation is required by the investigating agencies. The very fact that cash was found within the premises of justice Varma's bungalow is fortified by the Latin maxin 'Resipsa loquitur' meaning 'the things speaks for itself'.

The High Court Bar Association records its appreciation of the honourable CJI for having instituted an in house enquiry by judges. The Association deliberated upon this recovery of cash pile from the bungalow of a sitting judge of a High Court. It is a cardinal principle of law that no one can be a judge in his own cause which has repeatedly been laid down by the apex court therefore, JUDGES JUDGING JUDGES and JUDGES APPOINTING JUDGES makes

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this in house enquiry questionable and is unacceptable to the legal fraternity. Why should there be a distinction or discrimination between bureaucrats and politicians on one side and judges on the other. Both should be subjected to the same criminal proceedings in the event of corruption charges. We can only hope and trust that this In house enquiry does not end in a cover up to save justice Varma. In no other country in the world judges judge judges or judges appoint judges which is happening only in India through a collegium system, and the weak executive continues to follow the same till date.

The Bar Association has already placed on record its strong opposition against the proposed transfer of the delinquent judge to the parent Allahabad High Court or its Lucknow Bench. The Allahabad High Court is not a dumping ground for corrupt and tainted judges which the Bar Association shall oppose tooth and nail.

After having considered the entire report which has been uploaded on the website of the Supreme Court and in particular the reply of Hon'ble Justice Yashwant Varma the Association rejects his reply and reiterates that appropriate criminal proceedings should be lodged against him by filing a first information report in the matter which should be investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation and the enforcement directorate.

Now that the skeletons have tumbled out of the cupboard of justice Yashwant Varma it shall be proper to scrutinise each and every judgment and order passed by Justice Varma since his elevation in the year 2014 and he should not be allowed to function on the judicial side or the administrative side. It does indeed unfortunate that Justice Varma continues to deny his role and is crying foul and frame up instead of stepping down with grace and dignity and let the law of the land take its own course.

'CAESAR'S WIFE SHOULD BE ABOVE SUSPICION'. It is not merely a trial of a petty criminal but the conduct of sitting High Court Judge which has shocked the nation and the functionality of the constitution is at stake. Therefore continuance of Justice Yashwant Varma any further is dangerous for the democracy as it eroded 'Public Faith' which is the only power available with judicial system. If faith gone, everything gone and nation will collapse.

The Bar Association is of a considered opinion that immediate steps should be taken for impeachment of the delinquent judge. It is apposite to state that after this incident the judiciary specially the High Court and Supreme Court may not be able to claim moral high ground. It is

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further discussed by senior lawyers that conduct in question does not pertain to any judicial function of Justice Varma and therefore, no protection is to be granted. The protection is given for due discharge of judicial duty.

We further place on record with full trust, respect and confidence in our judicial system which is manned by absolutely honest, dedicated and hardworking persons. We have full faith in our hon'ble judges. We must record that there are only few who are polluting this flow of judicial river and thus demand for strict action in accordance with the general law of this country by withdrawing all protections. The damage is caused not only to the public trust but also to the image of impartial justice which cannot be tolerated at all.

Therefore, the Bar Association passes the following resolutions:-

- The High Court Bar Association opposes any proposed transfer of justice Yashwant Varma to Allahabad High Court or its Lucknow Bench or to any other High Court.
- II. CJI should immediately permit the filing of FIR and investigation by the CBI, ED and other investigative agencies with full permission to the investigative agencies to apply the law of the land to every offender including the delinquent judge justice Yashwant Varma and if need be he should be taken into custody for questioning and interrogation with prior permission of CJI.
- III. CJI should immediately recommend to the government to draw impeachment proceeding against Justice Yashwant Varma.
- IV. The President of India and the Government of India should immediately take suitable steps to make the procedure quick, easy and transparent by including members of the civil society for impeachment proceeding.
- V. The judicial fraternity and even the public at large has been continuously questioning the administration by the collegium. The procedure of appointment of judges through collegium is not transparent. All eligible and competent persons are not considered rather consideration is limited to a very limited class of lawyers who are either from the family of judges or of influential lawyers or close to them. We strongly resolve that for ensuring and restoring the "FAITH OF COMMON PUBLIC OF INIDIA", the collegium system is required to be revisited so that a transparent system be introduced.

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VI.	We further resolve		-	See Street See Street

- VI. We further resolve that all the judgments delivered by Hon'ble Justice Yashwant Varma during his tenure of a judge at Allahabad High Court and Delhi High Court be reviewed in order to inspire confidence of people at large to regain "public faith" in judicial system. The manner in which, this is to be done, is to be decided by the Hon'ble Supreme Court as we have full trust in our judges.
- VII. We further resolve that vacant positions in Allahabad High Court may be filled up as early as possible as we are facing short of judges and for this reason again justice is being delayed and public faith is being affected.
- VIII. At this stage, a strong discussion started about "Uncle Judges Syndrome". Very senior membersof the Bar Association have doubted as the suspicion is raised about the impartiality of justice Varma, a further suspicion is raised and effect of "Uncle Judges Syndrome" cannot be ruled out. The General House with loud and clear voice raised that there should a proposal against the "Uncle Judges Syndrome" and the Supreme Court Collegium is requested to take immediate rectification in this regard. There is no need to repeat that even "Uncle Judges Syndrome" is causing a great damage to the 'public faith'.
 - IX. It is further resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to all Bar Associations of the country along with government so that the entire nation be aware about the plight of "People of India" which are the basically only injured party in all such situations. The proposal be sent to CJI and all judges of Hon'ble Apex Court for effective consideration and with request to intervention in the matter for restoring the faith of people in judicial system.
 - X. We further resolve to request the entire legal fraternity of India to raise their voice for the transparency in judicial system so that the basic structure of the constitution i.e. power of judiciary be implemented in all spares of human life including removal of corruption in judicial system. Our slogan is "Corruption Free Nation".
 - XI. It is remarkable that the Bar Association has received large number of emails and WhatsApp messages supporting our cause. It is also important to mention here that mails and messages are not only from lawyers rather from various sections of the society which creates further confidence in Association that we are pursuing the right cause. Let this resolution be sent to all those so that they may join our movement.

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2. Another matter is with regard to the listing of cases, regarding which, it is resolved that all fresh cases filed should be listed according to their date of filing despite this fact that the fresh cases filed earlier were passed over due to paucity of time or not taken up by the Hon'ble Court by any other reason. On the principle of first come first.

(ANIL TIWARI) Senior Advocate President

ANIL TIWARI

President

High Court Bar Association

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(VIKRANT PANDEY)

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Advocate Hony. Secretary

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