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Mr. Omprakash Parihar
Advocate on Record, Supreme Court of India
P-4A, 2nd Floor, Jangpura Extn.
New Delhi 110014

Dear Sir,

Sub: Your request for consent to initiate proceedings for criminal contempt under Section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 read with Rule 3(c) of the Rules to Regulate Proceedings for Contempt of the Supreme Court of India, 1975

I am receipt of your request for permission to initiate action by way of criminal contempt against Shri Rajdeep Sardesai.

I have gone through the tweets as well as the contents of your contempt petition in some detail. The petition adverts to five tweets allegedly published by Shri Sardesai on his twitter page. I am proceeding on the basis that the tweets referred to have in fact been made.

I have given careful consideration to the tweets. I find that the statements made by Shri Sardesai are not of so serious a nature as to undermine the majesty of the Supreme Court or lower its stature in the minds of the public. The reputation of the Supreme Court as one of the great pillars of our democracy has been built assiduously over the last 70 years. Trifling remarks and mere passing criticism though perhaps distasteful are unlikely to tarnish the image of the institution.

In these circumstances I do not find any warrant for initiation of proceedings for criminal contempt. I accordingly decline consent.

Yours truly,

K.K. Venugopal
Attorney General for India