Lawyer in 2020 riots case rapped for taking on SPP

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JAISON WILSON @ New Delhi

A Delhi court has disapproved 'wild and unsubstantiated allegations" levelled by an advocate appearing in a 2020 Delhi riots case against a Special Public Prosecutor, whom he accused of receiving cash from the Delhi Police in an underhand manner

Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat said that he does not want to meddle in the allegations levelled by Mehmood Pracha against Special Public Prosecutor (SPP) Amit Prasad while dealing with the case about the alleged larger conspiracy behind the 2020 Delhi riots.

The court noted that during the bail arguments of an accused on August 26, argument between Pracha. representing the accused Tasl-

eem Ahmed, and the SPP turned "acrimonious," resulting in an adjournment.

'However, the court deprecates the wild allegations without substantiation made against the prosecutor and particularly when it did not concern the merits of the case," the court observed.

Following the adjournment

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

A 27-year-old man was killed

while another sustained inju-

ries when they were hit by a

speeding car in the national

capital, following which the po-

lice arrested the driver of the

offending vehicle within 48 hours of the incident.

The deceased was identified

as Karan Gupta, resident of

Vishnu Garden. The injured

person was identified as Om-

kar Patle, resident of Raghu-

veer Nagar. He is currently un-

Deputy Commissioner of Po-

lice (New Delhi) Pranav Tayal

said that on November 26, a

Mandir Marg police station re-

dergoing treatment.

of the case, Pracha moved a preponement application, in which he again alleged that the Special Public Prosecutor had threatened to implicate him in this case, the judge noted.

He said that Special Public Prosecutor in his reply said that Pracha made specific personal allegations, including that the advocate conducted a

private investigation on him and found out that Prasad, in an underhand manner, took cash from the police.

"The court had tried its level best to cool down the tempers between counsel for the accused and the Special Public Prosecutor without any fruitful result." the order said.

About the issue of conflict of interest, the judge said that the accused, despite being aware of the allega-

tions of conflict of interest, insisted on being represented by advocate Pracha.

"Regarding this issue, whether it is a conflict of interest and is not allowed by Bar Council of Delhi regulations, the same is left open for the prosecutor or for the Bar Council of Delhi to consider or to initiate an action if deemed fit under their

Police identify culprit in hit & run

case which left 1 dead, 1 injured

HC relief for real estate firm owner facing ED case

Accused faces charges of siphoning funds collected from flat buyers

JAISON WILSON @ New Delhi

THE Delhi High Court has partly allowed the quashing of an Enforcement Directorate (ED) probe in a money laundering case against a real estate company director, who was accused of siphoning funds collected from flat buyers.

Justice Amit Sharma ordered that the agency cannot continue its investigation in a 2019 Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) as far as it concerned two FIRs registered in 2018 and 2019 as they have been quashed or compounded.

...the proceedings undertaken with respect to the said two FIRs qua the present petitioner in the present ECIR stand quashed," a recent order said.

In both the FIRs, the flat buyers alleged that despite payment of money made in 2006-07, they did not receive possession of the properties, as promised by the accused company, Uppal Chadha HiTech.

It was alleged that in his capacity as a director of the said firm, the petitioner was responsible for siphoning funds collected from the complainants.

However, during the pendency of the respective trials in the FIRs, the accused therein settled the dispute with the respective complainants amicably, the high court was told.

The accused were accordingly acquitted for offenses under



Centre's stand sought in plea against GPS device ban

The Delhi High Court has sought the Centre's response on a plea challenging a January 2023 order of the civil aviation ministry imposing a ban on carrying GPS devices on commercial flights. The high court issued notice to the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation on the petition which also sought a direction to the authorities to pay damages to the petitioner for "unlawful" seizure of his GPS device at Terminal 3 of the IGI Airport. A bench of Acting Chief Justice Manmohan and Mini Pushkarna granted the ministry four weeks to file its response and listed the matter for further hearing on April 2 next year. The court was hearing a plea challenging ban on GPS devices on commercial flights.

cheating, and breach of trust among other charges, by a magistrate court, it was informed.

On the other hand, the central agency submitted that only some of the complainants were settled and that another FIR with similar allegations was still pending, which was regis-tered by the EOW.

In the order, referring to Supreme Court judgements, Justice Sharma pointed out that once the FIR or predicate offence stands quashed, the offence of money laundering tied

to such a predicate offence cannot be prosecuted.

...Thus, in the considered opinion of this court, in the present case, there can be no prosecution under the PMLA with respect to the scheduled offences' in the first two FIRs,' the order read.

The court, however, stated that ED can continue its investigation in a third FIR by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) which was registered in 2021 and taken on record in the

Court expresses concern at forest dept event being held in wildlife sanctuary

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Delhi High Court

AGENCIES @ New Delhi

THE Delhi High Court on Thursday expressed its concern over the forest department's proposal to hold an event inside a wildlife sanctuary in the Southern Ridge next month and asked the authorities to show it was planned in accordance with the norms.

Justice Jasmeet Singh asked Delhi government counsel to place before the court the file relating to the proposal to hold the Valk with Wildlife' in Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary, observeing that the area may have wildlife whose location is not clear.

On Wednesday, the issue was flagged before the court by the amici curiae appoint-

ed in a case concerning conservation of the Ridge and removal of encroachment.

The government lawyer Thursday assured the court that the decision was taken "at the highest level" in compliance with all the norms and the object behind the event was to introduce the people to the flora and fauna in the sanctuary. Upon query, an official told the court while he cannot read-

ily provide the number of wildlife in the area, the sanctuary has several animals living there, including eight to nine leopards, spotted deer, hyenas, monitor lizards, etc.

Calling the event, which includes a 'cyclothon', a "very

haphazard exercise" Justice Singh raised concern over the lack of knowledge with respect to the number and location of the wild animals

The Delhi government counsel said the department has allowed people to apply for permission to join the event which was proposed to be held on December 9 and 10.

"Problem is with the number and the volume of people in a disorganised manner. You don't know the number of people (who would attend). You dont know where the animals are," the court said.

"We will have it on Monday. Show us compliance of all (laws)," the court told the Delhi government counsel.

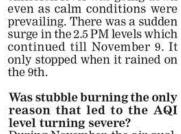
'SUSTAINABLE STEPS NEEDED TO DEAL WITH AIR POLLUTION'

UFRAN Beig, founder and project director of System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) run under the aegis of the Union government and now a chair professor at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) Bengaluru, spoke to Ifrah Mufti about the air quality of the national capital and what the government needs to do about it. Edited excerpts:

What was the contribution of stubble burning to the national capital's polluted air this year as compared to the last five years?

It was huge. It was nearly 44% this year, considered to be the highest so far. If we consider the fire counts in 2022 and 2023, the number declined last year and it has further declined this year. We have made a sensitive study in regard to preponing the stubble burning and finishing the harvesting by September so that it does not impact the air quality of Delhi since the winds are faster during that time. Stubble burning started late

this time when the cooler conditions were setting in and the emission level was going down even as calm conditions were prevailing. There was a sudden surge in the 2.5 PM levels which continued till November 9. It only stopped when it rained on





PLAIN SPEAK

CAQM measures are only a quick fix, which can reduce the peaks, but Delhi needs long term sustainable solutions instead of cosmetic solutions

Gufran Beig, Founder & Project Director, SAFAR During November, the air qual-

ity in general remains in the upper end of very poor while now in this month only, due to any source -- be it stubble burning, fire crackers anything else -- it was rising to severe level. Stubble burning has been adding fuel to the fire. It is not the only reason but had it not been there, the air quality may not have gone bad to this extent. It is not the only reason but one of the reasons responsible for bringing it to the peak.

Did the Delhi government take enough measures to check air pollution in Delhi, in your opinion? Did invoking GRAP make a difference? The government did take a lot

of measures like invoking GRAP 3 and 4. But the Delhi air quality problem is not a local problem; it is an airshed problem. Air shed is an approach where the air quality of some place is influenced by some particular reason - emissions, industries etc. - extended to air shed regions, thus the impact of these measures would be marginal. CAQM measures are only a quick fix, which can reduce the peaks, but Delhi needs long term sustainable solutions instead of cosmetic solutions.

This week's light rainfall on two consecutive days reportedly improved the air quality significantly but it still was 'very poor'. Can rain further help in improving the conditions?

Normally what happens is that when the rains are significant, they wash away the pollutants. If there is no significant rain and only drizzles, then it works adversely because water molecules just hang in the air. These hanging molecules will provide the surfaces for the particulate matter to multiply. Sufficient rainfall is required for improving the air quality it may worsen the situation otherwise.

With such a situation recurring every year, will Delhi NCR not get to see the winter sun for the last three months of the year?

We know the problem, we know the solution. There should be two things -- implement long term strategy on scientific feedback, rather than on political decisions. Secondly, Delhi NCR officials should sit together and strategize the plan and handle it at scientific level rather than making a political agenda.

Could Delhi govt have succeeded in its plan to induce artificial rains?

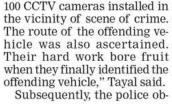
No. Firstly, cloud seeding is an expensive proposition. It has to be well thought of before executing it. For cloud seeding, you need to have a cloud. Then, you have to inject the cloud to liguidate it, only then it will pour. Another thing is all kinds of clouds can't give you rain. Normally such clouds are not found in this particular season.

garding an accident at Panchkuian Road. Acting on the call, a police team reached the scene, where it was learnt that the injured had been shifted to over bill argument the Lady Hardinge hospital. "Gupta was declared dead by A 38-year-old has been arrested

doctors while Patle was unable to give his statement because he was undergoing treatment," said the official. Accordingly, the police regis-

tered a case and started investigation by first inspecting the scene of crime. However, no eyewitnesses could be found.

"Despite absence of eyewitnesses and the injured victim



being unable to provide a state-

ment, the team didn't lose hope

and showed resilience while

meticulously analysing over

Club manager shot at

for shooting at a manager of a night club over an argument regarding discount applicable on the bill. The police said the accused allegedly called in 15-20 people who abused the manager of the Gurugram club. Later, a man fired 3-4 bullets at the manager who sustained injuries

on the leg from bullet wound.

Woman duped on pretext of pending electric bill

tained the ownership details of

the vehicle. The owner, one

Ganga Singh Hanspal, was

tracked down and interrogated

During interrogation, he ad-

mitted that he was driving the

vehicle at the time of the acci-

and later released on bail after

following due legal proce-

regarding the accident.

dures," Tayal said.

A woman was duped of ₹1 lakh on the pretext of pending electricity bills. After a complaint against the offenders on June 3, the accused were finally arrested on Wednesday. Claiming that electricity supply will be cut, the frauds manipulated the victim to call a mobile number. On doing so, she was redirected to a link that hacked her bank account.

Organical Home Finance | Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai- 400059, India Branch Office: 1st floor, Vishwakarma Complex, Plot No.17/18, Behind Yashoda Hospital, Koushombi, Ghaziabad- 201010 [See proviso to rule 8(6)] Notice for sale of immovable assets E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial

Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Symbolic Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder,

Sr. No.	Co Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Details of the Securedasset(s) with known encumbrances, if any (C)	Amount Outstanding (D)	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit (E)	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction (G)							
							1.	Vinod Kumar Maurya (Borrower) Kusum (Co-Borrower) Loan A/c No. LHGHZ00001355031	Khasra No.226/3 Mahluddinpur Kanavani Ghaziabad UP Ghaziabad Ghaziabad- 201012	Rs. 18,33,359/- November 20, 2023	Rs. 22,11,165/-		December 19, 2023 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM
											Rs. 2,21,120/-		
2.	Madan Lal Sharma (Borrower) Lalita Sharma (Co-Borrower) Loan A/c No. LHDEL00000356824	Plot No.6, Khasra No. 537/2, & 367 Nasirpur New No.22-D, III-k Ghaziabad-Ghaziabad	Rs. 11,58,478 - November 20, 2023	Rs. 43,74,000/-	11, 2023	December 19, 2023 02:00 PM- 03:00 PM							
				Rs. 4,37,400/-									

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link-/https://BestAuctionDeal.com) of our auction agency Globe Tech. The Mortgagors/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till December 18, 2023 before 05:00 PM else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, 1st floor, Vishwakarma Complex, Plot No 17/18, Behind Yashoda Hospital, Koushombi, Ghaziabad-201010 on or before December 18, 2023 before 04:00 PM. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit signed copy of Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, 1st floor, Vishwakarma Complex, Plot No 17/18, Behind Yashoda Hospital, Koushombi, Ghaziabad- 201010 on or before December 18, 2023 before 05:00 PM Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favorof "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd. – Auction" payable at Ghaziabad.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 022-69974300 or our Sales & Marketing

Partner NexXen Solutions Private Limited.

The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit https://www.icicihfc.com/

Authorized Officer Date : December 01, 2023 Place : Ghaziabad ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

'Inviting RSS secy for varsity event unconstitutional'

IFRAH MUFTI @ New Delhi

ACADEMIC council members of University of Delhi condemned the university's decision to invite RSS secretary Bharat Bhushan as the special guest on the occasion of inauguration of the Centre for Hindu Studies. Teachers stated that the unconstitutional conduct of the authority at the event confirms the growing apprehension that the centre will be used to further bigotry and communal division.

The issue came up during the academic council meeting on Thursday

"University and college official platforms are being consistently used to project spokespersons of a politically and ideologically partisan dispensation. Even the euphemism of "intellectual" is being dropped and the so-called chief guests are 'pracharaks' of the RSS, office bearers of Hindu outfits and other non-state actors who represent various illustrious sub-sects of the 'Sangh'." said one of the members.

The university, as a Central university, cannot deviate from the goals mandated by the Constitution," they added.

IFRAH MUFTI @ New Delhi VARIOUS academic council members of the University of Delhi on Thursday opposed the new promotion rules placed in

the academic council meeting. Academic council members stalled the meeting while protesting against the university's decision to follow the new CAS promotion criteria for the

teachers. The members opposed the decision, demanding withdrawal of the proposal. An associate profes-

sor at Kirori Mal College said, "The new promotion rules are opposed by the teachers on grounds that the university is violating UGC Regulations 2018 by proposing promotion rules which deviate from the regulations."

Moreover, the proposed changes would create a disparity between teachers who are

promoted according to the regulations and those who will be eligible as per the new regulations after July 1, 2024. Lastly, this is a retrospective implementation of changed publication rules for teachers who have already published as per provisions of UGC regulations for the purpose of promotion in near future.

DU teachers oppose new promotion

norms at academic council meeting

The academic council meeting had to consider the recommendations of the committee to frame the promotion guidelines for teachers of various departments of the university.

Mithuraaj Dhusiya, elected member of the academic council, said, "This is absolutely wrong; how can people in the same institution be promoted on the basis of the UGC Regulations 2018 and then formulate different rules for upcoming promotion aspirants?'

CAS promotion criteria

The CAS promotion criteria stipulates that a teacher shall be promoted if the they gets a 'satisfactory' or 'good' grade in the annual performance assessment reports in atleast four of the last five years of the assessment period and the promotion is recommended by a screeningcum-evaluation committee. Meanwhile, for promotion of

an assistant professor, who has completed three years of service in Academic level, a PhD degree in the relevant discipline is necessary besides anyone of the following during last three years, one course or programme from amongst refresher courses, research methodology, workshops, syllabus upgradation workshop, teaching learning evaluation, technology programmes, faculty development programme of at least ten days duration.