JOINT COUNCIL OF ACTION



INCOME TAX EMPLOYEES FEDERATION & INCOME TAX GAZETTED OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION





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Dated, 11th June, 2018

To The Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes, North Block, New Delhi - 110001

Respected Sir,

With the extreme pain and sorrow we bring to your kind notice the most unfortunate incident that happened at the Ranchi office of the Income Tax Department.

Shri K. E. Sunil Babu, CIT(Appeals) Dhanbad had been given additional charge of CIT (Departmental Representative) at the ITAT, Circuit Bench, Ranchi Brach. The circumstance under which the CIT (Appeals) is put on additional charge of DR ITAT is not understandable. We are also not aware, whether such action on the part of the CCIT, Ranchi is permissible under the extant policy and instruction of the CBDT. As per the information we have collected from the members of staff and officers who had worked under Shri Sunil Babu that Shri Sunil Babu is short tempered person and employs uncivilized and uncultured language while interacting with his subordinates. There are very many incidents of this nature in which Shri. Sunil Babu had been involved.

Shri Manmohan Singh who is a Scheduled Tribe Person resident of Ranchi was the Administrative Officer posted in the office of the DR ITAT Ranchi. In the normal course of official functioning, Shri Sunil Babu had no necessity to interact with Shri. Manmohan Singh. He is supposed to be assisted in his assigned work by the Inspector attached to that office. Even if an exigency has arisen, and the Administrative Officer is required to be summoned for getting a work done, which he is in his normal assigned duties is not required to do, that should have been elicited through an extremely polite interaction. The CIT, Shri Sunil Babu, instead of getting the work done in such polite manner, restored to bullving Shri Manmohan Singh with abusive language to compel him to do a job

expeditiously on which he had no expertise. Shri Sunil Babu also threatened him of dismissal from service. Here it would not be out of place to mention that Shri Singh was often called by Shri Sunil Babu in his hotel room (in Hotel Radisson Blue, Ranchi –which is not a practical and official ethic as well as proposition) in the late night with bundle of files.

When confronted with a situation of the type mentioned in the preceding paragraph, people react differently according to their nature. Shri Manmohan Singh was timid person, having been brought up in the society, where the tribal people are often suppressed. We need not emphasise the fact that had it been happened in the case of a person, who is equally short tempered as Sunil Babu, the CIT, the scenario would have been entirely different, compelling the administration to set up an inquiry council to know the truth and find out the culprit. It is the unpardonable behaviour of Shri Sunil Babu that led to the untimely death of Shri Manmohan Singh. Sudden departure of Shri Sunil Babu from Ranchi as well as from Jharkhand conforms his guilt.

We have come across a resolution/ communication signed by the members of IRS 49th Batch requesting to save Shri Sunil Babu from possible or feared intimidation from the people at Ranchi by transferring him out of Bihar& Jharkhand Region. Had he been a paragon of time behaviour and decent gentleman, as has been made out by his batch mates, who had lived with him in the Training College for pretty long period, in our humble submission, there had been no necessity for him to flee or his batch mates to petition you. The entire membership of JCA consider the incident involving an officer, who unfortunately passes on unpleasant character of Shri Sunil Babu is not an issue of dispute between IRS Officers and others.

The family who lost their breadwinner, the wife her husband, the children their father, deserves sympathy and support from all. If they believe that the cause of death of Shri Manmohan Singh is due to the unsavoury behaviour of his boss at office, even it is a product of doubt, it must be cleared and the responsibility of that rests with the Income Tax administration, for which you are the head. The prestige and image of the Department is more important than the honour of an IRS officer, or a Promotee Officer or an Employee. The Promotee Officers and Employees of Ranchi office, where the incident has taken place points to involvement of Shri Sunil Babu in this unfortunate incident, which ought not have happened at all. It is only through an impartial inquiry set up by you, the cloud of suspicious could be removed or fact could be properly ganged. As at the moment the needle of suspicious is directed against Shri Sunil Babu.

Incidentally we must point out that this is not an isolated issue. The behaviour of another CIT, at Varanasi, Shri Sunil Mathur, in October 2017

in Eastern UP Region, who was almost akin to that of Sunil Babu, also led to the Suicide and was ultimately white washed.

We are sure that this trend of authoritarianism amongst some officers is not good to the department, as we deal with the public at large every day. It only points out to some especially to the 49th Batch.

It is our earnest appeal to you to direct the Pr.CCIT, Bihar & Jharkhand Region to set up an inquiry committee/fact finding committee to go into the alleged misconduct of Shri Sunil Babu and to make the enquiry more fair and objective *place him under suspension* till the inquiry committee completes its task. The enquiry committee should consists of at least two members from ITGOA and two members from ITEF. It is extremely necessary to assuage the hurt feeling of the promotee officers, employees of Ranchi and family members of late Manmohan Singh. We are also enclosing herewith copy of resolution adopted by the JCA of Bihar & Jharkhand Unit including the resolution of Ranchi Branch.

With regards,

Yours faithfully,

(Amitava Dey)

(Rupak Sarkar)

Joint Convenors