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ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ : DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: Court matter

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: The Hindu ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE : 6/2/2024

HC initiates contempt proceedings against 72-year-old litigant

He had threatened to kill two judges and two advocates

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka High Court has *suo motu* initiated a criminal contempt of court proceedings against a 72-year-old litigant for making baseless and scandalous allegations against several judges of the High Court and the Supreme Court, and members of the Bar in his pending petition, and for writing a letter to the court "threatening to kill two judges and two advocates".

A Division Bench, comprising Chief Justice Abhay Shreenivas Oka and Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum, ordered issue of notice to the accused, S.V. Srinivasa

Rao, proprietor of SVS Consultants and a resident of J.P. Nagar in the city.

The Bench also directed the Registrar-General of the court to send a copy of the letter, dated January 29, to the police officer in-charge of security of the High Court as the letter states that Mr. Rao has "decided to kill two erring judges amongst the highly corrupt 28 judges of this court and the apex court along with two corrupt advocates".

The proceedings were initiated based on an order passed by another Division Bench in November 2020 for making in writing scandalous allegations for the second time in his memo submitted in a writ petition filed by him in 2017 against a public sector bank. Earlier, in September 2020, he had

made similar allegations against the judges and the advocates during the proceedings of the same writ petition but had withdrawn then after the court viewed it seriously.

Interestingly, he had made similar scandalous allegations against the judges and an advocate representing a bank during 2008-09 and faced criminal contempt proceedings. He had collapsed in the court hall during the contempt proceedings in July 2010 and was sent to a hospital under the supervision of court's medical officer. Subsequently, the court on August 6, 2010 had dropped proceedings against him as he submitted unconditional apology and assured the court he would not indulge in making such allegations in future.