



IN THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH  
AT JABALPUR

BEFORE

HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE SANJEEV SACHDEVA,  
CHIEF JUSTICE

&

HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE VINAY SARAF

ON THE 2<sup>nd</sup> OF APRIL, 2026

WRIT PETITION No. 4699 of 2026

*ASHUTOSH DIXIT*

*Versus*

*THE STATE OF MADHYA PRADESH AND OTHERS*

.....  
Appearance:

*Shri Arvind Kumar Shrivastava and Shri Puneet Shroti -*

*Advocates for the petitioner.*

*Shri Anubhav Jain - Government Advocate for the*

*respondents/State.*

*Shri Akash Chaudhary - Advocate for respondent no.2.*

*Shri Anil Khare - Senior Advocate with Shri Siddharth Shukla -*

*Advocate for respondent no.7.*  
.....

ORDER

*Per: Hon'ble Shri Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva, Chief Justice*

1 . Subject petition has been filed seeking a direction to take judicial cognizance of the attempt made by respondent no.7 to improperly contact and influence a Judge of this Court, before whom Writ Petition No.28456/2025 was pending.



2. It is contended that in order dated 01.09.2025 a learned Judge of this Court has made a reference that an attempt was made to call him to have discussion regarding the said case and accordingly, the Judge has recused from hearing the writ petition.

3 . Reference may be had to order dated 01.09.2025 in Writ Petition No.28456/2025, which reads as under :-

*"Application (IA No.16218/2025) for intervention is perused by the Court.*

*Power of attorney executed by the interveners shows the same to be executed by Mrs. Nirmala Pathak W/o. Late Shri Satyendra Pathak and Mr.Yash Pathak S/o. Shri Sanjay Satyendra Pathak, R/o. Katni, MadhyaPradesh.*

*Mr. Sanjay Pathak has made an attempt to call me to have discussion regarding this particular matter, therefore, I am not inclined to entertain this writ petition.*

*Let the matter be placed before the Hon'ble Chief Justice for listing the matter before the appropriate Bench for consideration."*

4. Reference may be had to section 2(c) of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 which reads as under :-

*"2. Definitions.*

*(c) "criminal contempt" means the publication (whether by words, spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representations, or otherwise) of any matter or the doing of any other act whatsoever which—*

*(i) scandalises or tends to scandalise, or lowers or tends to lower the authority of, any court; or*

*(ii) prejudices, or interferes or tends to interfere with, the due course of any judicial proceeding; or*

*(iii) interferes or tends to interfere with, or obstructs or tends to obstruct, the administration of justice in any other manner; "*

5. We are *prima facie* of the view that the conduct of respondent No.7 may amount to a criminal contempt.



6. Accordingly, this petition is disposed of with a direction to the Registry to register a *suo motu* Criminal Contempt Petition against Mr. Sanjay Satyendra Pathak and list the Criminal Contempt Petition before the Court on 06.04.2026.

7. Petition is disposed of in the above terms.

(SANJEEV SACHDEVA)  
CHIEF JUSTICE

(VINAY SARAF)  
JUDGE

TG /-