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High Court of Judicature at Allahabad
Lucknow Bench, Lucknow

Court No. 1

Suo Moto Writ Petition (PIL Civil) No./2021

In the matter of:

In Re: Unruly behaviour and breach of protocol during Awadh Bar Association Elections' 2021

Hon'ble Ritu Raj Awasthi, J.

Hon'ble Dinesh Kumar Singh, J.

We are very pained to know that election of Awadh Bar Association scheduled to be held on 14.08.2021 in the premises of High Court, was cancelled due to unruly, indecent and undemocratic behaviour and breach of protocol by some of the lawyers, who also indulged in unlawful activities.

We have been informed that the candidates along with their supporters, entered into voting arena and indulged in tearing ballot papers and in pushing female lawyers and misbehaving with them. Even one lawyer was seriously injured in the melee and his hand got fractured in the incident. One lawyer suffered heart attack. It is really shocking to hear such incidence happening in the premises of the High Court during its Bar election.

We take cognizance of this unruly behaviour of the lawyers during election process and, as such, call upon Returning Officer, Mr. V.K. Shahi to submit his report in this regard. In the report, he may submit video clipping(s) and photograph(s) as well as evidence and material collected which led to cancellation of the election on 14th August, 2021.

We have also heard Dr. Ashok Nigam, Chairman Elders' Committee. He has given certain suggestions for the elections to be held in future.

Dr. Ashok Nigam, Chairman, Elders' Committee is requested to give his suggestion(s) in writing by tomorrow. If any member of the Bar Association has any suggestion, he may give it in writing to the Chairman, Elders' Committee, who may consider it and, if feels proper, may incorporate it in his suggestions.

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We also hereby call upon Senior Registrar of this Court to submit his report with respect to security and unlawful activities, which had taken place inside the premises of the High Court during the said election.

Senior Registrar shall allow the Returning Officer to take relevant materials from the room which has been sealed and given under custody of CRPF.

The report of the Returning Officer shall be submitted by tomorrow.

Put up this case day after tomorrow i.e. 18.08.2021 at 2.15 p.m.

Registry is directed to register this petition as PIL (Civil).

[Dinesh Kumar Singh, J.] [Ritu Raj Awasthi, J.]

Dated: 16th August, 2021
Prateek