



**K.K. Venugopal**  
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October 7, 2021

**Dr. Thol. Thirumaavalavan,**  
Founder President,  
Viduthalai Chiruthaigal Katchi,  
A4A, 100 Feet Road, Ashok Nagar,  
Chennai-600 083.

Dear Dr. Thirumavalavan,

**Sub: Your request for consent to initiate proceedings for criminal contempt under Section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971**

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I am in receipt of your request for consent to initiated proceedings for criminal contempt under Section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 against Sh. Ajay Bhalla, Sh. Rajiv Gauba, the NSO Group and all directors thereof.

I have carefully perused the contents of your letter dated 13.08.2021 and the documents annexed thereto. You have raised certain allegations in your letter seeking my consent under the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971. The question of whether the Government of India has used the Pegasus software and if so against whom is a matter which is being debated and is currently *sub-judice* before the Supreme Court of India. In the absence of such determination having been made, it would be inappropriate for me to grant consent for the initiation of proceedings for criminal contempt under Section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971.

I accordingly decline to grant consent under Section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971.

Yours sincerely,

(K.K. Venugopal)  
Attorney General for India