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To,  
The President  
Supreme Court Bar Association  
Supreme Court of India  
New Delhi

**Sub:** Threat to initiate contempt against Mr. Gopal Shankarnarayanan,  
Senior Advocate

Dear Mr. Khanna,

I was distressed to hear about the incident that took place yesterday in the Court presided over by Justice Arun Mishra. You will appreciate that in the functioning of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, both lawyers and Judges are equal stakeholders and their relationship should be based upon mutual respect and trust. Even the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India acknowledged this in his address to the Bar. Terrorizing the lawyers under the threat of contempt and not allowing them to argue under that threat undermines the very fundamentals of the justice delivery system.

I accordingly call upon you to call an urgent Executive Committee meeting and pass a resolution condemning this incident and seeking an apology from the Hon'ble Judge failing which, pass a resolution that as a first step in our protest against such behavior, we will not stand in Court when the Hon'ble Judge enters the Courtroom. This action by the Executive Committee will not in any way be construed as disrespecting either the Chair that the Hon'ble Judge occupies or the other Hon'ble Judges sharing the Bench but will serve as a mark of protest towards protecting the prestige of the Bar.

[Vikas Singh]