



Supreme Court Advocates-On-Record Association

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29 June 2020

Respected Members,

In the virtual meeting of the EC of SCAORA held on 28.06.2020, the following Resolution was passed:

“The SCAORA notes, with deep anguish and dismay, the media reports pertaining to a number of horrific instances of custodial deaths in the country, and in particular the media reported barbaric custodial torture of Shri. Jeyaraj and his son, Shri. Bennicks, in Sathankulam, Thoothukudi District, Tamil Nadu on the night of June 19-20, 2020 resulting in their deaths subsequently. Since the competent authorities are stated to be examining the conduct of the police, of the doctor in not giving them proper medical attention in the government hospital and of the concerned judicial magistrate sending them in remand without due process in the said case, the SCAORA is, at present, confining itself to condemning the custodial torture and deaths as crimes against humanity, and calling upon the authorities to take the strictest possible action, including prosecution for commission of criminal offences, against such officers who are found to be guilty.

The SCAORA is of the view that the need for the implementation of the police reforms, as has been directed by the Hon’ble Supreme Court, has assumed grave urgency to prevent the recurrence of such shocking cases and to maintain the Rule of Law.

The SCAORA further calls upon all concerned to take immediate steps to ensure that the police and the magistracy across the country give respect to the constitutional guarantees of an accused, adhere with the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1973 and comply with various directions and guidelines formulated by the Hon’ble Supreme Court in a catena of cases, including though not limited to arrest, detention, humane custodial treatment and bail.”

Warm Regards,

Joseph Aristotle S.
Hony. Secretary
SCAORA