

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

INHERENT JURISDICTION

CONTEMPT PETITION (CRL.) NO.2 OF 2020

SHRIRANG KATNESHWARKAR AND OTHERS ... PETITIONER

VERSUS

KUNAL KAMRA ... CONTEMNOR/  
RESPONDENT

**WITH**

CONTEMPT PETITION (CRL.) NO.1 OF 2020

ABHYUDAYA MISHRA ... PETITIONER

VERSUS

KUNAL KAMRA ... CONTEMNOR/  
RESPONDENT

**WITH**

CONTEMPT PETITION (CRL.) NO.3 OF 2020

SKAND BAJPAI ... PETITIONER

VERSUS

KUNAL KAMRA ... CONTEMNOR/  
RESPONDENT

**O R D E R**

These petitions have filed, first by an Advocate of this Court and other two by Law Students for initiating

criminal contempt proceedings against the respondent for scandalising this Court and lowering the authority of this Court by publishing tweets on twitter handle of the alleged contemnor.

The contempt petitions have been filed after obtaining consent of learned Attorney General for India. Learned Attorney General for India vide his letter dated November 12, 2020 granted consent on the request of the applicant to proceed by way of initiating contempt proceedings against Shri Kunal Kamra-respondent. Learned Attorney General in his consent letter dated November 12, 2020 states:

"I am in receipt of your request for consent to initiate proceedings by way of criminal contempt against Sh. Kunal Kamra. I have gone through each one of the tweets which you have annexed for consent to proceed by way of extracting below are not only in bad taste but clearly cross the line between humour and contempt of the Court.

.....

I find that today people believe that they can boldly and brazenly condemn the Supreme Court of India its judges by exercising what they believe is their freedom of speech. But under the Constitution, the freedom of speech is subject to the law of contempt and I believe that it is time that people understand that attacking the Supreme Court of India unjustifiedly and brazenly will

attract punishment under the Contempt of Courts Act, 1972.

I therefore grant consent to proceed by way of initiating contempt proceedings against Sh. Kunal Kamra."

Issue notice returnable within six weeks. The respondent-contemnor not to appear in person.

.....J.  
( ASHOK BHUSHAN )

.....J.  
( R. SUBHASH REDDY )

.....J.  
( M.R. SHAH )

NEW DELHI,  
DECEMBER 18, 2020.

ITEM NO.39  
[FOR ORDERS]

Court 7 (Video Conferencing)

SECTION XVII

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

CONMT.PET.(Cr1.) No. 1/2020

ABHYUDAYA MISHRA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

KUNAL KAMRA

Respondent(s)

(FOR IA No.121797/2020-EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT and IA  
No.122474/2020-EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT and IA  
No.121791/2020-PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON )

WITH

CONMT.PET.(Cr1.) No. 3/2020 (XVII)

(FOR IA No.119928/2020-EX-PARTE AD-INTERIM RELIEF and IA  
No.120246/2020-PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON)

CONMT.PET.(Cr1.) No. 2/2020 (XVII)

Date : 18-12-2020 These petitions were called on for orders  
today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHOK BHUSHAN  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE R. SUBHASH REDDY  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.R. SHAH

For Petitioner(s)

Mr. Nishant Ramakantrao Katneshwarkar, AOR  
Petitioner-in-person

For Respondent(s)

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

Issue notice returnable within six weeks in terms of the  
signed order.

The respondent - contemnor not to appear in person.

(MEENAKSHI KOHLI)  
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(RENU KAPOOR)  
BRANCH OFFICER

[Signed order is placed on the file]

