



Date: April 02, 2024

To,

Shri Pankaj Deshmukh

Superintendent of Police, Pune Rural

Email: sp.pune.r@mahapolice.gov.in

Shri Suhas Diwase

Collector and District Magistrate, Pune

Email: collector.pune@maharashtra.gov.in

Subject: Complaint against serial hate offender T. Raja Singh, aka Tiger Raja Singh, for delivering a provocative speech at an event organised in Pune

Respected Sirs,

We at Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP) Mumbai, a human rights movement dedicated to furthering the constitutional rights of all Indians, are deeply concerned about the communal and hate-spewing speech delivered by T. Raja Singh in Pune, Maharashtra in January 2024. As per the details available, the said speech had been delivered by Raja Singh on January 31 at an event organised in Saswad, Pune. Through his speech, he incited the crowd to provoke violence against Muslim community by peddling fake narratives in the name of Love Jihad and Hindu Rashtra, encouraged arms training, created enmity between Hindu and Muslim communities, and threatened to take over their religious places of worship in Mathura and Kashi even as he boasted about the demolition of Babri Masjid. Additionally, he asked the incited crowd to turn India into Hindu Rashtra even as he demonised and slurred the Muslim community.

It is possible that, given recent and frequent orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, cognisance has already been taken of this speech and investigations are on. In which case, we urge that you share such details with us.

A Hyderabad resident and MLA from Goshamahal Assembly constituency, T. Raja Singh has been booked multiple times for making inflammatory remarks against Muslims. He has more than 40 criminal cases registered against him, and in 36 of these cases, the offence under IPC Section 153(A) has been invoked. In the past, he has delivered hate speech targeting Muslims and has repeatedly eulogised violence. Thus, he has a history of disturbing the communal harmony of India through his provoking and misinformed statements. We would like to bring your attention to the instigating speech video that has surfaced from the Kolhapur event, urging the police officials to take stringent action against the perpetrator to ensure that these hate-driven speeches are not left unchecked, and the peace and harmony of our country is not affected direly.

Extracts from the Speech:

“Owaisi, you are crying over the demolition of Babar’s structure (reference is to Babri Masjid), but let me tell you that Mathura and Kashi are next in line. Even Bhojshala and Pune’s Puneshwar are awaiting. Wherever you *Jihadis* (derogatory reference to Muslims) have demolished our temples and built mosques over it, I challenge you, not one of them will remain.”

“Right now, we are only talking about three temples, but you people (Muslims) have illegally setup at least 50,000 similar structures. India will become Hindu Rashtra, and once it becomes Hindu Rashtra, each temple will be accounted for. Each Jihadi will be accounted for. When India becomes Hindu Rashtra, not a single Love Jihadi will live in India.”

“If you find any Love Jihadi, cow slaughterer, or someone indulging in religious conversion, then report about that person to the government or police in the first place, if they don’t act, then respond in the manner of Chatrapati Shivaji.”

“If you want to save your lives, teach yourselves self-defense, and then teach it to your children. Because when India will be inching towards Akhand Bharat, the ambushing Jihadis will attack Hindu colonies and neighborhoods. What will you (Hindus) do in such a situation, will you fight them with stones or get beaten up? Or will you convert your religion on the tip of their swords? If you want to remain alive, get arms training (*Sashtra Vidya*) and also train your children for the same.”

“Saints and seers have said that ruler should be a Hindu, and as India progresses to become a Hindu Rashtra with a Hindu ruler, you will see these Mullahs (Muslims) running away. If any Jihadi looks at your family, grab his eyes out.”

“In Maharashtra alone, more than 1 lakh cases of Love Jihad have been officially revealed. 1 lakh girls in Maharashtra have been victim of Love Jihad. If a girl is running away from the family, and the family is not registering the case, then think about the actual instances of Love Jihad. If you want to shoot these *laundons* (derogatory term for Muslims), then join Bajrang Dal.”

“We will show you one day, just wait for a while, we will build (temples) in Kashi and Mathura as well, and even your fathers (*Abba*) cannot stop us in this. I can give you the date, by 2032 we will have grand temples in Kashi and Mathura, and we all will go and pray there. By 2025-26 the blueprint for Hindu Rashtra will be prepared.”

“Come to Hyderabad someday, when saffron flagbearers go out, even the most flaunting ones go hiding in their homes. Even pimps (*bhadve*) like Owaisi don’t come out. These bastards (*barami*) don’t have the courage to come face to face and fight.”

“Bring your wives and daughters to these meetings, they will understand something about Love Jihad, that they are reduced to child bearing machines.”

The video had been uploaded on telegram channel by Hindutva Watch on February 02, 2024.

The video of the speech has been downloaded by CJP is marked and annexed hereto as **Annexure A**

<https://t.me/hindutvawatchin/87>

Sirs, it is important to note that this is not the first time that Raja Singh has delivered such a hate speech in Maharashtra. We at CJP, have regularly tracked the speeches that had been made by him during 2023-2024. It is also essential to highlight here that in the month of January in 2024, Raja Singh had been booked by the Mumbai police for delivering the anti-Muslim inflammatory speech in Solapur rally. Previously, he has been booked by Telangana police on multiple occasions for delivering hate speeches against Muslim community. Similarly, in 2023, Rajasthan police had booked him under Section 153(A) of IPC. The Supreme Court in January had directed the administration in Maharashtra's Yavatmal and Chhattisgarh's Raipur districts to ensure that no hate speech is uttered during the planned rallies by T Raja Singh under the banner of the Hindu Janajagruti Samiti.

Sirs, we are also generally concerned with the overall unsafe atmosphere for the Muslim community that is being generated through the systemic and perpetrated use of hate speech and writing within the state of Maharashtra and urge that urgent steps are taken to curtail and prosecute the same.

Besides, as we are sure you are aware, as the elections to the next Lok Sabha is already announced, apart from Penal Sections of Indian Criminal Law [IPC Sections 153A, 505(1) and 505(2)], the section 123 of the Representation of Peoples Act on misusing religion during electioneering will also come in to play. The atmosphere will be even more volatile and vulnerable for marginalised sections, the minorities.

Recent Directions of the Supreme Court on preventing/prosecuting hate speakers in Maharashtra

As you must know, the issue of rampant hate speech being delivered in Maharashtra and the inaction by law enforcement agencies has been highlighted before the Supreme Court multiple times since 2023. We would like to highlight that on February 3, 2023, the Supreme Court issued directions with respect to an event which was scheduled to be held in Mumbai on February 5, 2023 by the Sakal Hindu Samaj, another extremist fringe Hindutva group. The petitioner, Shaheen Abdullah, had contended that similar to its anti-Muslim speech during 'Hindu Jan Aakrosh Morcha' held in Mumbai on January 29, it can be apprehended that the same will be repeated during the February 5 meeting as well. The apex court had thus sought a video of the entire event to be scrutinised by the court at the next hearing. The court has also taken an undertaking from the government of Maharashtra that if permission for this event is granted "it will be subject to the condition that nobody will make any hate speech and in defiance of law or disturbing the public order."

The court also outlined directives with respect to taking preventive action in such cases:

"We also direct that the Officer(s), in case, permission is granted and, in case, the occasion arises for invoking the power under Section 151 of Cr.P.C. as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the Officer(s) concerned to invoke the said power and to act as per the mandate of Section 151 of the Cr.P.C."

Even in 2024 itself, while on January 17, the Supreme Court bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta had expressed their anguish at the petitioners being forced to approach the Supreme Court multiple times against individuals and organisations even after there being guidelines for tacking and taking action against hate speeches. During the said hearing, the

Supreme Court issued an order directing the District Magistrate and Superintendent of Police at Yavatmal, Maharashtra and Raipur, Chhattisgarh to take ‘appropriate steps’ to ensure that no incitement to violence or hate speech occurs at the rallies scheduled in the said districts in the coming few days of January. The said order was passed following the concerns raised by the petitioners over delivery of potential hate speeches at rallies planned by Hindu Janajagruti Samiti and Bharatiya Janata Party legislator T Raja Singh in the month of January.

The court had outlined directives with respect to taking preventive action in such cases:

“We would require the authorities to be conscious that no incitement to violence and hate speech are permissible. The concerned District Magistrates and Superintendent of Police of Yavatmal, Maharashtra and Raipur, Chhattisgarh will take necessary steps, as may be required. If necessary and deemed appropriate, police/ administration will install CCTV Cameras having recording facility, so as to ensure identification of the perpetrators in the event of any violence/ hate speech.”

Circulars issued by DGP Maharashtra in February 2023 and May 2023 urging strict action on Hate Speech

In Circular No. DGP 20/ Petition No.940/ 2022/54.2023. issued by Dr Suhas Warke (Spl. Inspector General of Police (L&O) for The Director General of Police M.S., Mumbai), dated February 2, 2023, the Supreme Court order dated January 13, 2023 has been highlighted where the court had asked the police to ensure that as and when any speech which attracts offences such as Sections 153A, 153B and 295A and 505 of the IPC take place, suo moto action is taken if no complaint is forthcoming.

The circular had directed all Unit Commanders to follow the Supreme Court order.

The Circular No. DGP/20/Petition No. 940-2022/54/2023 issued by Dr Suhas Warke (Spl. Inspector General of Police (L&O) for The Director General of Police M.S., Mumbai), dated April 3, 2023, entails “measures to be taken to maintain law and order due to agitations, *morchas*, speeches etc.”

It gives detailed instructions on what steps are to be taken when any *morchas* are to be held:

2. All the Unit Commanders should hold a meeting with the concerned organizers before such a *morcha* and fix the route of the *morcha* with appropriate terms and condition. A combined meeting of all social groups should be taken to convey clearly to all that they should maintain peace and keep law and order during the *morcha*. Preventive action against Anti-social elements should be taken. Those elements who help in maintaining peace and harmony should be encouraged. Audio Video recording of the *morcha* should be done. Police Head Quarters should ensure adequate supply of equipment’s, like Lathi, Helmets, etc. to police men deployed for *morcha bandobast*. If any law and order situation arises, offences should be registered immediately and arrest should be made. Intelligence machinery should be activated to collect advance information about *morcha*, agitation and efforts should be made to pre-empt any communal incidents.

Action taken against hate speakers and offenders

Sirs, on April 28, 2023 the Supreme Court had held that all States/UTs, including Maharashtra, are enjoined and bound to take suo moto action to register FIR against hate speeches, without

waiting for any formal complaint. In its order, the Supreme Court bench comprising Justices KM Joseph and BV Nagarathna had said the following:

"Respondents (states) shall ensure that immediately, as and when any speech or any action takes place which attracts offences such as Section 153A, 153B, 295A and 506 of IPC etc, without any complaint being filed suo moto action be taken to register cases and proceed against the offenders in accordance with law. Respondents will issue directions to the subordinates so that appropriate action can be taken at the earliest. We further make it clear that such action be taken irrespective of the religion of the maker of the speech, so that the secular character of Bharat as envisaged by the Preamble is preserved."

The apex court has, thus, again outlined already codified statutory duties of a police officer which makes it mandatory for them to take action under section 151 of CrPC in case there is apprehension of hate speech. Sir, given the well-orchestrated and numerous instances of hate speech and actual hate crimes being committed, the minority community in various parts of India already feels insecure and threatened. Furthermore, this was spoken at a public event and this speech has reached not only the audience at the event but also all those who may have seen these videos on their mobile phones, by the medium of social media. How large and wide the reach of social media can be, we are sure you must be aware. The consequences of such an inflammatory speech could have been worse.

Besides the Supreme Court we are sure that you are aware that the Bombay High Court is also currently hearing a petition on the hate speeches by another serial offender, Vikram Pawaskar. In the matter, the court has raised questions on the inaction of the police over the FIRs filed against Pawaskar for delivering violent anti-Muslim hate speeches.

Sections of Indian Penal Law attracted

The inflammatory and divisive speech delivered by Raja Singh amounts to inciteful, hate speech which is a punishable offence under various sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC):

Section 153A [promotion of enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc., and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony],

Sections 505 (1) and (2) [publication or circulation of any statement, rumour or report causing public mischief and enmity, hatred or ill-will between classes].

In view of the same, we urge you to you to take cognizance of the video enclosed herewith, register a case against the perpetrators identified as well as the organizer, and arrest them for the cognizable offences under the relevant sections. We also wish for you to inform whether the said event had been videotaped by the police officials as per the orders of the Supreme Court. Additionally, we wish for the police to keep us abreast of developments and the action taken in this case, based on the relevant section, as this would go a long way in re-building faith and confidence in the rule of law in general and a police-citizen relationship in particular.

Ma'am/Sir, do note that we are sending this complaint, by email and registered post, on which we urge you to register an FIR if one has not been filed yet.



In anticipation,

Yours sincerely,

Nandan Maluste, CJP President

Teesta Setalvad, CJP Secretary

Annexures: Annexure A- Video of Raja Singh dated January 31, 2024 downloaded by CJP