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नियम एवं शर्तों: विक्री को विस्तृत नियम एवं शर्तों के लिए, कृपया सुरक्षित क्रेडिटर के वेब पोर्टल पर दिए गए लिंक को देखें। <https://www.bankofindia.bank.in>
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[JUSTICE VARMA WRITES TO INQUIRY PANEL]

‘Proceedings marred by serious lapses’

Uttkarsh Anand

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NEW DELHI: In a strongly worded communication to the Subha-constituted Inquiry Committee, Supreme Court Judge Arvind Kumar, Bombay high court judge Justice Shree Chandrashekar and senior advocate BV Acharya, the letter, accessed by HT, laid out a detailed critique of how the inquiry unfolded, arguing that the process itself fell short of the standards of fairness expected in proceedings involving a sitting constitutional court judge.

The letter, dated April 9, was sent on the same day Justice Varma tendered his resignation to President Droupadi Murmu, effectively bringing to a close the parliamentary inquiry into allegations arising from the recovery of unaccounted cash at his official residence in Delhi following the incident in March 2025.

In his 13-page letter, Justice Varma committed that the proceedings against him before the committee were marred by serious procedural lapses, absence of

credible evidence, and a “pre-determined” approach that led to his public vilification even before he was heard.

The committee comprised Supreme Court Judge Arvind Kumar, Bombay high court judge Justice Shree Chandrashekar and senior advocate BV Acharya. The letter, accessed by HT, laid out a detailed critique of how the inquiry unfolded, arguing that the process itself fell short of the standards of fairness expected in proceedings involving a sitting constitutional court judge.

He asserted that the inquiry was “marked by unfairness from its very inception”, suggesting that the outcome appeared pre-judged and that the process became a formality rather than a genuine fact-finding exercise.

The judge complained that he was not afforded a meaningful and effective opportunity to defend himself, alleging that key procedural safeguards, which were central to ensuring fairness in judicial proceedings, were either diluted or ignored. According to him, the manner in which the inquiry progressed created an impression that his guilt had been presumed at the outset.

Justice Varma’s letter hinged significantly on what he describes as the absence of reliable and legally tenable evidence. He questioned the evidentiary basis of the proceedings, particularly the reliance on video recordings purportedly showing cash at his official residence.

He also pointed out that these recordings were made in his absence, without his knowledge, and without any formal process ensuring their authenticity or integrity.

Raising concerns about the degree of custody, he suggested that the material relied upon by the committee lacked the safeguards necessary to inspire confidence. He further emphasised that no direct link had been established between him and the alleged cash, calling into question the foundational premise of the inquiry.

The letter claimed that he was not given adequate opportunity to test the evidence against him or to effectively present his version of events, besides suggesting that the process lacked transparency, with critical steps unfolding without his full knowledge or participation. A significant portion of the letter has been devoted to what Justice Varma described as his public “vilification” in the wake of the incident.

He pointed to the rapid circulation of videos and the emergence of a “sensational narrative” that, in his view, portrayed him as culpable without any adjudication.

The fact that such material entered the public domain, including being placed on the website of the Supreme Court of India, only deepened the prejudice against him, he suggested.

Justice Varma lamented that his trial by media, coupled with

the manner in which the inquiry was conducted, effectively robbed the presumption of innocence and caused irreparable damage to his reputation.

On merits, Justice Varma reiterated his categorical denial of any connection with the alleged cash discovered at his residence following a fire incident in March 2025.

He maintained that the store-room in question was not under his direct control and the events leading to the recovery occurred in his absence. He further stressed that no evidence had been produced to establish his ownership, possession, or knowledge of the cash.

“I withdraw with the deepest sadness, conscious of the gravity of my position and with the hope that history will one day record the unfairness with which a sitting High Court judge was treated and has thus marked this entire episode from its inception,” his letter concluded.

Pb influencer murder accused brought back from West Asia, held

HTC and PTI

letters@hindustantimes.com

CHANDIGARH: Amritpal Singh Mehron, the key accused in the murder case of social media influencer Kancharan Kumar, was on Friday arrested by Punjab Police after he was deported to India from the West Asia, a top officer said.

Police did not specify the country he was deported from.

Earlier, police had said that Mehron, 30, a Moga resident and a self-styled radical Sikh leader, fled to the UAE after the killing of Kumar in June 2025. Police in Bathinda had issued a lookout circular for him.

The 30-year-old influencer, known on Instagram as “Kamal Kaur Bhabhi”, was found dead in an abandoned car in a parking lot in Bathinda.

Earlier, three accused were arrested in connection with the murder. Of them, Jaspreet Singh of Moga and Nimrat Singh of Tarn Taran had said that they had killed Kumar for uploading “immoral and vulgar content that hurt the (Sikh) community’s sentiments”.

In a post on X, Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said that fugitive Mehron was reported to India and arrested at Delhi’s Indira Gandhi International Airport in the early hours of Friday.

“In a major breakthrough, @BathindaPolice, with the support of HOFTEX (Overseas Fugitive Tracking and Extradition



Amritpal Singh Mehron

THE 30-YEAR-OLD INFLUENCER, KNOWN ON INSTAGRAM AS ‘KAMAL KAUR BHABHI’, WAS FOUND DEAD IN AN ABANDONED CAR IN A PARKING LOT IN BATHINDA.

SC DENIES BAIL TO SUSPENDED DIG BHULLAR IN CBI CORRUPTION CASE

HT Correspondent

new@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Friday refused to grant bail to suspended Punjab deputy inspector general (DIG) Harcharan Singh Bhullar in a corruption case registered by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), while granting him liberty to revive his plea if trial does not commence within two months.

A bench comprising Chief Justice of India Justice Surya Kant and Justices Joydip Bagchi and Vipul M Pancholi said that it found no merit in Bhullar’s plea, while granting the denial of bail by the Punjab and Haryana high court.

Bhullar had moved the top court against a February 15 order of the Punjab and Haryana HC, which had rejected his bail plea in the corruption case registered on October 16 last year.

The high court had upheld an earlier order of a Chandigarh trial court dated January 2, 2025, which had refused bail, which had described the allegations against the senior IPS officer as constituting “a class apart being an alarming economic offence”.

In his plea before the HC and the SC, Bhullar had contended that the investigation in the case had been completed and a charge sheet filed on January 3, rendering further custodial interrogation unnecessary.

Army clears Col Purohit for promotion to Brigadier rank

HT Correspondent

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army has cleared Colonel Shrikant Purohit, who was acquitted in the 2008 Malegaon blast case last July, for promotion to the rank of Brigadier, officials said of the matter said on Friday.

The officer had recently appointed the Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) arguing that the



Colonel Shrikant Purohit

long trial had affected his career progression in service. He was to retire on March 31 this year, but the tribunal put his retirement on hold.

As brigadier, he will now serve for two more years, the officials said.

Purohit, who participated in counter-terrorism operations in Jammu and Kashmir and was also with military intelligence, spent almost nine years in judicial custody. He was released on bail in 2017 but remained under supervision till 2020.

He was arrested for his alleged involvement in the September 29, 2008 blast in Maharashtra’s Mumbai-majority town of Malegaon that killed six people. The Maharashtra Police’s Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) initially probed the blast. Later, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) took over the case in 2011.

The Mumbai NIA court on July 31 had acquitted Purohit and six others in the Malegaon

blast case, observing that the prosecution failed to establish the charges beyond a reasonable doubt. The verdict came after years of investigation and trial proceedings.

The army suspended the officer shortly after his arrest. He was drawn 25% of his pay and allowances while under suspension but it was later revised to 75% following an earlier order by the tribunal.

बैंक ऑफ इंडिया BOI Bank of India

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E-Auction Notice

Branch: Panchayati Bhawan, Senior Branch Manager, Mr. Ambrish Tiwari, Mob.: 9628105577	
8. Mr. Lavkush Kumar Verma S/o Mr. Ambika Prasad (Borrower), 54/20 Avas Vikas, Sector-6, Barabanki, U.P.-225011	1.33,160/-
Mr. Ambika Prasad S/o Satguru Prasad (Co-Borrower/Mortgagor), Thakur Purva Majra, Tara Daulatpur, Sadrudin Pur, Barabanki & Tehsil Nawabganj, Barabanki, U.P.-225023	
Demand Notice Dated: 30.05.2025, Amount ₹ 6,84,906.00	
Interest & Other Expenses	
Branch: Alsihagh, Chief Manager, Mr. Jignesh Chandra Mishra, Mob.: 6394459883	
9. 1) Mr. Santosh Kumar Gupta S/o Mr. Ganga Ram, Address-551 EOM of property situated At House No 551, Chhina/Gha New, Sardiari Kheda, Alsihagh, Lucknow, Owner: Mr. Santosh Kumar Gupta And Mr. Anil Kumar Gupta	3.90 Lakhs
2) Mr. Anil Kumar Gupta (Deceased) Through his wife as legal heir Mrs. Neelam Gupta, Address-551 Chhina/Gha New Sardiari Kheda, Alsihagh, Lucknow (Borrower)	3.90 Lakhs
3) Mr. Ashok Kumar Gupta S/O Mr. Ganga Ram, Address-551 Chhina/Gha New Sardiari Kheda Prakash Barten Wall Gali, Alsihagh, Lucknow (Borrower)	
4) Mr. Ram Pal Singh, Address-100/58/25 Alsihagh, Sunder Nagar Lucknow (Guarantor)	
Demand Notice Dated: 12.08.2024, Amount ₹ 16,66,032.17	
Interest & Other Expenses	
Branch: Ghazal, Lucknow, Senior Branch Manager, Garima Kumari, Mob.: 8908621240	
10. 1) M/S Ghazal Zari Art, Proprietor Mr. Mojib Abbas S/o Syed Zafar Hussain, H. No. 252/257 Hata Kamal Jangli Nehru Cross Rakabganj, Lucknow-226004	14,05,000/-
2) Mr. Syed Mojib Abbas S/o Syed Zafar Hussain (Proprietor) H. No. 252/257 Hata Kamal Jangli Nehru Cross Rakabganj, Lucknow-226004, Add-2 H. No. 238/81, KA-1, Ground Floor, Mohalla-Katra Abu, Turabkhan, Ward-Yahyanganj, Lucknow, Pin code 226003	1,40,500/-
3) Mrs. Mahvish Abbas Mojib Abbas (Guarantor), Add-1 H. No. 252/257 Hata Kamal Jangli Nehru Cross Rakabganj, Lucknow-226004, Add-2 H. No. 238/81, KA-1, Ground Floor, Mohalla-Katra Abu, Turabkhan, Ward-Yahyanganj, Lucknow, Pin code 226003	
Demand Notice Dated: 15.04.2021, Amount ₹ 28,25,575.54	
Interest & Other Expenses	
Branch: Barabanki, Senior Branch Manager, Mr. Gaurav Singh, Mob.: 9670854281	
12. Mrs. Shailesh Yadav S/o Ram Swaroop Yadav, Lakhnau, near Lal Kothi Barabanki, U.P.-225001	26,00,000/-
Mrs. Patalnaji Ayyoga Kendra, Prop: Shailesh Yadav, Lakhnau, Barabanki-225001	4,60,000/-
Mr. Ram Swaroop Yadav S/o Mallo Lal, Lakhnau, Barabanki, Near Lal Kothi, Barabanki-225001	
Mr. Anshu Yadav S/o Ram Swaroop Yadav, Lakhnau, Barabanki-225001	
Demand Notice Dated: 14.07.2023, Amount ₹ 36,99,831.90	
Interest & Other expenses	
Branch: Chhinnat, Sr. Branch Manager, Mr. Abhishek Kumar Srivastava, Mob.: 9898968542	
14.1) M/S Bheman Builders and Developers, Proprietor: Mr. Ravi Shankar Yadav S/o Raja Ram Yadav (Borrower/Mortgagor), Add-1, 624 G/11 Gaurav Vihar Colony, Chhinnat, Lucknow-226028, Add-2, Yamuna Vihar Colony, Mathura, Station Road, Chhinnat, Lucknow-226028	29,23,000/-
Mr. Saurabh Singh S/o Surendra Pratap Singh (Guarantor), Add- Plot No 21 Bhawanra Malhotra, Chhinnat, Lucknow-226028	2,92,300/-
Demand Notice Dated: 27.07.2023, Amount ₹ 36,63,391.03	
Interest & Other Expenses	
15. M/S Malvi & Virendra Traders, Proprietor: Mrs. Poonam Singh Ravi Raj Singh, Address: 14/51, Vastu Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010 (Borrower/Mortgagor)	
Mr. Ravi Kumar Singh S/o Virendra Bahadur Singh, Address: 14/51, Vastu Khand, Gomti Nagar Lucknow-226010 (Guarantor)	14,86,600/-
Demand Notice Dated: 22.05.2025, Amount ₹ 1,04,82,452.74	1,48,600/-
Interest & Other Expenses	
Branch: Khurramnagar Lucknow, Senior Branch Manager, Mr. Manjil Kumar, Mob.: 9832003738	
4. Borrower-M/s Sunshine Enterprises, Prop. Mr. Azeem Iqbal S/o Late Mohd Iqbal, Flat No. G-05, BCC Gravity Sector-14, Rajlupuram, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-226017	34,13,000/-
Factory Godown Address-UP Oil Mill Compound Malgound Road, Near Aishbagh Bridge, Lucknow-226010	3,41,300/-
Co-Borrower/Guarantor-Mr. Faheem Iqbal S/o Mohd Iqbal, BCC Gravity Sector-14 Rajlupuram, Lucknow Uttar Pradesh-226017	
Demand Notice Dated: 17.08.2023, Amount ₹ 30,73,139.05	
Interest & Other expenses	
5. Borrower-M/s Quarks Academy, Prop. Mr. Anil Kumar S/o Ram Prakash, Add.-C-3/437 Viram Khind Gomtinagar, Lucknow Uttar Pradesh-226010	
Mr. Anil Kumar S/o Ram Prakash, Add.-1, C-3/437 Viram Khind-2 Gomtinagar, Lucknow Uttar Pradesh-226010, Add-2-E-2/313 Vineet Khind Gomtinagar, Lucknow-226010	35,39,000/-
Guarantor-Smt Ram Kumar W/o Ram Prakash, Add-E-2/313 Vineet Khind Gomtinagar, Lucknow-226010	3,53,900/-
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Interest & Other Expenses	
Branch: Chhinnat, Lucknow, Sr. Branch Manager, Ravi Ranjan Kumar, Mob.: 9830506957	
6. Mohd Chand Siddiqui S/o Hajj Mohd Anees, Address-1: 57/20/20, Azad Nagar, Alsihagh, Lucknow-UP-226005, Address-2: 104, Nal Bazara, Qila Maidan, Lucknow-227107 (Borrower-Mortgagor)	21,60,000/-
Demand Notice Dated: 26.04.2023, Amount ₹ 33,60,364.71	2,16,000/-
Interest & Other expenses	
Branch: Musafirkhanda, Dist. Amethi, Senior Branch Manager, Mr. Agnewesh Kumar Rao, Mob.: 9044086421	
7. M/s Singh Auto Sales (FIRM), Prop.-Mr. Krishna Pratap Singh, 834, Village Paliya Pura, Pargana & Tehsil Musafirkhanda, Dist.-Amethi, U.P.-227813	22,35,000/-
Mr. Krishna Pratap Singh (Borrower) S/o Indira Bahadur Singh, V.P. D-2, Musafirkhanda, Dist.-Amethi, U.P.-227813	2,23,500/-
Guarantor-Mr. Indira Bahadur Singh (Borrower) S/o Indira Bahadur Singh, V.P. D-2, Musafirkhanda, Dist.-Amethi, U.P.-227813	
Demand Notice Dated: 06.03.2025, Amount ₹ 28,06,009.07	
Interest & Other Expenses	

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