

Supreme Court of India New Delhi-110001 Tel: 23383254, 23070046

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February 26, 2021

Mr. Saket Gokhale

Dear Mr. Gokhale,

Sub: Your request for consent to initiate proceedings for criminal contempt under Section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 read with Rule 3(c) of the Rules to Regulate Proceedings for Contempt of the Supreme Court of India, 1975

I have gone through your request for consent to initiate proceedings for criminal contempt against Chief Justice (retd.) Ranjan Gogoi.

It is true that in the interview referred to by you, Chief Justice (retd.)
Ranjan Gogoi has initially made some very strong statements about
the judiciary and the Supreme Court of India. The statements
apparently reflect his deep frustration with the ills that undoubtedly
beset the justice delivery system. However, I had occasion to watch
the entirety of his interview. It is obvious that all that has been said
was for the good of the institution and will not in any manner
scandalize the court or lower its authority in the eyes of the public.

I accordingly decline consent to initiate proceedings for criminal contempt under Section 15 of the Contempt of Courts Act,1971 read with Rule 3(c) of the Rules to Regulate Proceedings for Contempt of the Supreme Court of India, 1975.

Yours sincerely,

K.K. Venugopal