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June 24th 2024

To,

1. The Editor-in-Chief, Punjab Kesari
Plot No 2, Romesh Bhawan, Printing Press Complex, Near Wazirpur D.T.C Depot,
Ring Road, Delhi, 110035
2. Tridib Raman, Journalist
3 FLOOR, 304-308, FIRST INDIA NEWS, CITY MALL OPPOSITE RAJPUT SABHA
BHAWAN, BHAWAN DAS ROAD, JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN, 302001
3. First India, First Express Publishers
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BHAWAN, BHAWAN DAS ROAD, JAIPUR, RAJASTHAN, 30200

Without Prejudice

Legal Notice: Notice for Defamation and Demand for Retraction and Public Apology

Under instructions from, for, and on behalf of my clients, Shri Dushyant Chautala and the Jannayak Janta Party, I am writing to formally notify you of a defamatory article published in your newspaper, Punjab Kesari, First India, on 23rd June 2024. The article contains imputations concerning my clients intending to harm their reputation. The newspaper article included the following content:

"Will JJP Merge into BJP?"

Sources indicate that last Wednesday, JJP leader Dushyant Chautala secretly met with the Central Minister and former Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar. The two leaders had a lengthy conversation. Reportedly, Dushyant Chautala, from his grandfather Om Prakash Chautala, has had to face some blunt remarks, and they are not very optimistic about JJP's future in Haryana. This is primarily because, in the recent Hisar Lok Sabha elections, Dushyant's mother, Naina Chautala, received only 22,000 votes.



When Manohar Lal was the Chief Minister of Haryana, Dushyant served as his Deputy Chief Minister, and the two had a fairly good rapport. Manohar Lal advised Dushyant, "Why don't you merge your party with the BJP?" Dushyant showed some willingness but put forth two conditions for this merger. First, he should be given a Rajya Sabha seat and some national-level responsibility. Second, his brother Digvijay Chautala should be suitably 'adjusted' within the Haryana organization of the BJP.

So far, there has been no positive signal or assurance from Manohar Lal's side. However, Manohar Lal mentioned that it is not that easy. He said he would discuss it and then provide further information. For now, it remains a matter of waiting."

This news article contains false, baseless, and highly defamatory statements. No such meeting between JJP leader Dushyant Chautala and Manohar Lal Khattar ever took place. No verification of this news was done with my clients before publishing it. Instead, an unknown "reliable source" was clandestinely relied upon to spread this misinformation and 'fake news'. The publication of this false information has caused immense damage to the reputation of the JJP party and its leaders and has shaken the confidence of its followers. This is a deliberate and mischievous act done with the intent to harm my clients.

I hereby demand the following actions from you within 7 days of the receipt of this notice:

1. An immediate removal of the defamatory article from all platforms, including online and print editions.
2. A public apology of the same size as the article issued by you, published prominently in your newspaper, retracting the false statements against JJP and its leaders.
3. Confirmation in writing that the above actions have been taken.

Failure to comply with these demands will compel me to initiate appropriate legal proceedings against you the noticees and all responsible parties for defamation and damages incurred due to the publication of the said article. Please be advised that I reserve all rights to initiate legal action available under the law, including but not limited to filing a lawsuit for defamation, seeking injunctive relief, and claiming monetary damages.

If you fail to meet the demands stated above, I will have no option but to proceed with legal proceedings.

Yours sincerely



Prateek Som

Enclosure: Newspaper Clip with Marked Portion

Mirch Masala

FIRST INDIA SUNDAY SPECIAL



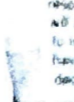
By Tridib Raman

Senior Editor, The Indian Express
E-mail: tridib@indianexpress.com

WHY IS RAHUL REFUSING TO BECOME THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION?

The recent Lok Sabha election results have given a new lease of life to the Congress and credit must go to Rahul Gandhi for breathing new life into the dormant Congress. Perhaps this is the reason why senior Congress leaders are enthusiastically putting forward Rahul Gandhi's name as the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. If sources are to be believed, Rahul is currently hesitant to take this responsibility and has suggested the name of Gaurav Gogoi on his behalf. Rahul's argument is that his mother Sonia Gandhi is already the leader of the Congress Parliamentary Party, so if he accepts the post of Leader of Opposition, BJP will accuse Congress of nepotism. But Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge has opposed the name of Gaurav Gogoi saying that Gaurav cannot be the face of mainstream India. Adopting a mediating stance, Sonia has put forward the name of Kamal Selja from her side for this post. But Kharge says that Congress President (Kharge himself) is a Dalit, so making a Dalit the Leader of Opposition will not

send the right message to other castes. Hence Kharge has put forward the name of Manish Tewari from his side. Kharge said that Tewari is a lawyer, he is well versed in Parliamentary tradition, he has equal command over both Hindi and English languages, so if Rahul ji does not become the leader, then Manish is the best choice. In such a situation, Shashi Tharoor was not going to remain silent, he also called for the nomination. It is said that he has written a letter to the members of the Congress Working Committee and presented his claim for this post. At present there is a state of confusion in the Congress and most of the senior leaders of the party are busy convincing Rahul Gandhi that this time he should also take over the responsibility of the Leader of the Opposition. If Rahul continues to refuse to take every responsibility like this, then the message will go to the people that Rahul Gandhi always shies away from taking any responsibility and BJP will also get a chance to retaliate. Rahul may have to reconsider his decision.



WILL JJP MERGE WITH BJP?

Reliable sources say that last Wednesday JJP leader Dushyant Chautala secretly reached to meet Union Minister and former Haryana CM Manohar Lal Khattar and a long conversation took place between the two leaders. Actually Dushyant Chautala has been given a good reality check by his grandfather Om Prakash Chautala. Furthermore he is not that optimistic about the future of JJP in Haryana, because in the recent Haryana Lok Sabha elections, his mother Naina Chautala got only 22 thousand votes. When Manohar Lal was the CM of Haryana, Dushyant has been the Deputy CM under him and the coordination between those two has also been good. Manohar Lal advised Dushyant, why does not he merge his party with BJP. Dushyant has largely agreed to this, but for this he has put his conditions from his side. One is that he should be given some responsibility at the national level by giving him Rajya Sabha. Second his brother Digvijay Chautala should be properly adjusted in the Haryana organization of BJP. Dushyant has not received any firm assurance from Manohar Lal at the moment. He has just said that, once I take up in the hierarchy, I will tell you. So Dushyant is currently waiting.



WHY IS NITISH KUMAR BOWING SO MUCH?

Recently an important meeting of the NDA was called for the coronation of Modi in the Cathedral of New Delhi. So after supporting Modi when Modi met Nitish, Nitish bowed to touch Modi's feet. This was new for the onlookers, because in politics, Nitish is known more for his arrogant nature. However, this change in Nitish's nature is not accidental. For the last one year people had started feeling the storm of this change. Like when Nitish went to pay his tribute on the death anniversary of Mahatma Prasad, father of one of his ministers Ashok Chavdhary, he showed flowers on Ashok Chavdhary instead of Mahatma Prasad's photo. When Nitish was meeting the complainants in his Janata Darbar, he scolded his assistant and said - "Call the Home Minister immediately, the assistant stood stunned. Interestingly, Nitish forgot that apart from being the CM of the state, he is also the Home Minister. A recent incident about Nitish is very famous. When Nitish came to Delhi to attend the wedding of the son of a close party leader, he bowed down and touched the feet of his party leader in front of the entire gathering. Realising the delicacy of the matter, the party leader also turned back and touched Nitish's feet so that the matter could be resolved in a joking manner. Now many stories are becoming famous about Nitish's new habit of touching feet. A person close to Nitish claims that he is doing this on the advice of one of his astrologers. The astrologer has suggested a remedy to Nitish to get rid of his Shani Dosh and said that the more he bows down, his ego will decrease and this will also keep his Shani fire. Another close person of Nitish claims that these days Nitish has got arthritis, he is also undergoing treatment from a reputed doctor in London. This is the reason why Nitish's son also stays with him like a shadow all the time these days.



क्या जजपा का विलय भाजपा में होगा?

विश्वम्भर मुखर्जी बताते हैं कि पिछले चुनावों को जजपा नेता दुष्यंत चौटाला गुप्त रूप से केंद्रीय मंत्री बहरियाणा के पूर्व सीएम मनोहर लाल खट्टर से मिलने पहुंचे। दोनों नेताओं के दरम्यान एक लंबी बातचीत हुई। दरअसल, दुष्यंत चौटाला को

अपने दादा ओम प्रकाश चौटाला से दो टुक मुनरी पड़ी है, वे हरियाणा में



जजपा के भविष्य को लेकर भी उतने आशान्वित नहीं हैं, क्योंकि हालिया हिमाचल लोकसभा चुनाव में उनकी मां नैना चौटाला को मात्र 22 हजार वोट ही मिले। चूंकि जब मनोहर लाल हरियाणा के सीएम थे तो दुष्यंत उनके मातहत डिप्टी सीएम रह चुके हैं और इन दोनों का तालमेल भी टोक-टाक रहा है।

मनोहर लाल ने दुष्यंत को सलाह दी कि 'क्यों नहीं वे अपनी पार्टी का विलय भाजपा में कर देते हैं।' इस पर दुष्यंत मोटे तौर पर राजी हो गए हैं, पर इसके लिए उन्होंने अपनी ओर से दो शर्तें रखी हैं- एक तो उन्हें राज्यसभा देकर राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर कोई जिम्मेदारी दे दी जाए, दूसरा उनके भाई दिग्विजय चौटाला को भाजपा के हरियाणा संगठन में टोक में 'एड-जस्ट्रिस' किया जाए। मनोहर लाल की ओर से फिलहाल दुष्यंत को कोई पक्का आश्वासन नहीं मिला है, उन्होंने बस इतना कहा है कि 'एक बार मैं आगे बात कर लूँ, फिर बताता हूँ।' सी दुष्यंत फिलहाल इंतजार में हैं।