

Lt Col Prasad S Purohit

UT(BBC) 02
Taloja Central Prison
Kharghar Sector 3E
Navi Mumbai 41021

PSP/55224/official Corress/14

31 May 2014

Hon'ble Prime Minister,
Union of India,
'F' Race Course Road,
New Delhi 110011

A SINCERE APPEAL

Respected Sir,

1. I, Lieutenant Colonel Prasad Shrikant Purohit, am an accused in Malegaon 2008 Bomb Blast case and am lodged at Taloja Central Prison, Navi Mumbai, being in judicial custody. I am in the state of imprisonment for past five years and seven months. The case is yet to come up for hearing and hence far away from coming to conclusion.

2. It is my most humble endeavour to bring it to your kind notice, through this letter, the facts having definite and

authentic evidences of how the entire case against me is fabricated, situated and supported by staged managed and planted evidences. The Anti Terrorism Squad of Maharashtra Police (ATS) has 'created' the terrorists out of innocent and Patriotic lot of sons of the soil for the reasons best known to them and their policy makers.

8. Before I get in to my appeal Proper I prefer to bring it to your notice that the facts mentioned in this letter were brought to the notice of your predecessor through a Demi official letter and ^{through} a letter to the previous Home Minister Mr Sushil Kumar Shinde. Both were not acknowledged. The copies of these letters are attached as appendices to this letter as 'A' and 'B' respectively. Apart from this, a letter of appeal was forwarded to His Excellency The President of India and the copy of the same be found as appendix 'C' to this letter.

Brief Background of the Case

4. On 29 September 2008, a bomb blast took place in the township of Malegaon known to be a communally sensitive area in Maharashtra. Seven fatal casualties were reported besides several as injured. I was undergoing a course of instruction, having duration of one year and six months, in Arabic language. I had specifically requested for this course in writing and the same was strongly recommended by the commanding officer of Southern Command Liaison Unit of Military Intelligence, the one where I was posted then, based on my service profile, experience and performance.

5. Even while undergoing the Arabic language course at Pachmarhi in MP, I remained professionally active since Intelligence being a continuous process and the same is also recorded in form of statements by witnesses who have been examined during the Court of Inquiry conducted by the Army after my arrest. It now stands on record.

6. On 24 October 2008, one Colonel, namely Col R K Srivastav was sent to Pachmohi from Army Headquarters with instructions that he should facilitate my interaction with ATS Maharashtra Police. But before that the initial instructions to him were to take me to New Delhi to interact with Military Intelligence - 20, in any case none were communicated to me by Col Srivastav. Infact right from day one of his arrival he started treating me as if I were a terrorist and he did specifically mention it!

7. Illegal Detention By Col Srivastav. On 29 October 2008 I was handed over the Movement Order, a mandatory document to move any officer on temporary duty out of his duty station, asking me to move to New Delhi to interact with Director M I - 20 at Army Headquarters. This was handed over to me by the Adjutant of Army Education Corps Training Centre and Training College (AEC). At that moment I was told to deposit my mobile phone with the adjutant by Col Srivastav. I left the station under impression that I was going to New Delhi.

8. My mother and wife too were under the same impression that I had left for New Delhi. However on reaching Shopal Airport with Col Srivastav, I was told to check-in for a Mumbai bound flight by Col Srivastav. He threatened me of using physical force and dire consequences if I disobeyed Wm. I had no means of communicating with my mother or wife about the change in destination since I had no mobile phone with me and Col Srivastav had forbidden me to use the public call office available at the airport. I was made to move forcibly, under a false movement order to Mumbai.

9. This act of Col R K Srivastav amounting to abduction, kidnapping and illegally detaining me has been proved outrightly in the Court of Inquiry conducted by the Central Command of Indian Army. Various witnesses namely Lt Col G C Mohanta, the then Adjutant of AEC Centre; Brigadier Rajkumar, the then DDGMI and many others have gone on record to confirm that it was based on outright

illegal order from Col R K Srivastav, that I was handed over with a false movement order and made to move with Col Srivastav to Mumbai without having any knowledge of the destination. The recorded Court of Inquiry, now an official document is open for verification.

10. On reaching Mumbai on night of 29 October 2008 I was taken to an unknown civilian bungalow at Khondala, a hill station on Mumbai-Pune National Highway in a white civil Sumo by Col R K Srivastav and where I remained in his illegal custody from 29 October to 4 November 2008 in presence of ATS officers. The worst possible third degree treatment probably which not even an enemy nation would dish out to the Prisoner of war was given to me which definitely left me broken, both mentally and physically. My whereabouts were known to none from my family. Attempts from wife to locate me met with dead end. Since Lt Col G C Mohanta the Adjutant AEC Centre claimed his unawareness about the same. His statement in this regard too is on record of the Court of Inquiry.

11. The Champion interrogators who used the most brutal attack on me, both physical and of worst possible abusive language and with continuous threats towards the ladies members of my family, threatening that my wife, mother and sister too would be arrested and paraded naked in front of me if I did not own-up my involvement in Mahaganwasi Blast. Sir, I have experienced hell during this period of abduction and illegal detainment and during the period of police custody of ATS from 05 November to 19 November 2008. Besides Col Srivastav, it was slain ATS Chief Hemant Karkare, the present addl DG police. Parambir Singh (IPS) one inspector Arun Khonvilkar who now stands dismissed from service on finding guilty of threatening a hotelier to implicate him in a false terror related case; and one Mahon Kulkarni, Assistant Commissioner of police, now retired were the ones who have tortured me to near death. I have filed a detailed 'Statutory Complaint' in this regard, primarily against Col Srivastav and it still remains pending at the Army Headquarter. The complaint is supported with all authentic documents and proofs.

12. My illegal detention, abduction and getting kidnapped by Col Srivastav has come to fore, crystally clear during the 'Court of Inquiry' and now is on record with all relevant statements, and documents as exhibits. Since I remained in the illegal detention / custody of Col Srivastav at Khondala from 29 October to 04 November 2008, no Army Unit in Mumbai or anywhere in India has shown me or has taken me on parade state or has shown me physically present. In simple words, officially also, I was missing from the Army's records during this period. This too has come up on record very clearly during the Court of Inquiry. And therefore, my handing over to ATS by Army Authorities on 05 November 2008 itself is illegal and based on illegal series and sequence of events which started on 29 October 2008.

Stage Managed and Fabricated Case by ATS

13. I was officially arrested on 05 November 2008 as accused No 9 in the case. As mentioned earlier, I was undergoing a course of instruction at Pachmarhi. Prior

to my getting posted to Pachmarhi, I was posted at Devlali, Nasik as an Intelligence officer of Southern Command Liaison Unit, Pune One Suchakor Chaturvedi, who has been arrested as Accd No 11 in this case was part of my intelligence Network which I had developed over period of two years at Nasik. He was my registered intelligence operator and was on record. The ATS claimed him arrested on 20 November 2008 and have shown his house, which was provided to him in the confinement area, searched under Ponchonoma on 25 November 2008. The ATS, in the charge sheet have claimed that the RDX, the explosives, traces, ^{of which} were recovered from Chaturvedi's house during the claimed search on 25th November 2008. The case has thus been woven around this claimed traces of RDX at Chaturvedi's house which the ATS says that the bomb used in Malegaon Blast was prepared and assembled at Chaturvedi's house at Devlali, Nasik. However during the Army's Court of Inquiry, two independent witnesses namely Witness No 1, then Major Pravin Khonzode and Witness No 2 Subedar (then) Keshav K Pawar, in their statements came

up with such facts, which not only surprised me but stunned the entire Court of Inquiry assembly. Both the witnesses clearly stated that on 3 November 2008, i.e. 2 days before my official arrest and 17 days before the arrest of Chaturvedi, both Major Khazode and Subedar Pawar had caught one ATS Assistant Police Inspector namely Shekhar Bagade planting evidences at Chaturvedi's house. He was caught red handed by these two witnesses and on getting caught the unscrupulous officer even pleaded them with folded hands not to report his presence at Chaturvedi's house to any one as it would create lot of problems to him and to his job. API Bagade presence and planting of evidence at Chaturvedi's house on 3 November 2008 i.e. 22 days before the stage managed parichay was reported by Major Khazode to all his seniors in Devlabi and also to Headquarters Southern Command, Pune. These statements of Major Khazode and Subedar Pawar are on official record of the Court of Inquiry on page No 330 dated 08 July 2009 and Page No 426 dated 27 July 2009.

14. Sir, at the begining of the letter I had mentioned that the Maharashtra ATS has 'Created' the terrorists out of patriotic and dedicated selfless sons of soil. I feel there remains no better example of the cunning, unscrupulous unethical functioning of the ATS Maharashtra Police. My arrest of 05 November 2008 thus was timed only after planting of RDX at Chaturvedi's house, by none other than the supposedly elite Anti Terrorism Squad of Maharashtra Police, on 03 November 2008! The Maharashtra ATS were and are 'Running with the hare and hunting with the hound' all through out and are faking the investigation all along by launching scathing media releases and briefing.

15. I beg to inform you here sir, that right from day one here I maintained that the entire investigation pretended to be conducted by the ATS is fabricated and stage managed. The ATS has ruthlessly implicated the innocents. Infact my entire intelligence Network which I had developed with my team has been

used against me. Three of my registered intelligence operators are ~~my~~ my co-accused and at least four of them are witnesses against me. My efforts of three years have gone in vain. I must also mention here Sir, that the same ATS and Maharashtra Police had invited me to impart training to them on subjects of SIMI and ISI (Student Islamic Movement of India and Inter Services Intelligence of Pakistan) and letters to that effect were addressed to me and to my higher Headquarters. My performance in the field of Counter Terrorism and Counter Intelligence, both in Kashmir and in Maharashtra is on record now. With regards to the counter terrorism, though I thoroughly enjoyed the professional hazards, I feel my acquaintance and over zealous commitment, besides truthful reporting of the intelligence gathered, has acted counter productive and has made me getting ~~falsely and in a stage managed~~, implicated in the case which was meticulously stage managed.

16. All the above stated facts, were time and again brought to the notice of

all possible Hon'ble Ministers to include the previous Hon'ble Prime Minister; Hon'ble Home Minister Mr Sushil Kumar Shinde and even the Hon'ble Defence Minister Mr A K Antony, but I feel that my appeals full of facts, substance and truth, were decided upon to be ignored outrightly. Though the reasons are sure to be known to them, I remain at liberty to guess the same and my guess convinces me that the ATS Maharashtra Police were not the only players in stage managing and situating the case all by themselves but it houses many other important facets. Here I would also like to draw your kind attention towards my letter addressed to Dr Manmohan Singh, the then Prime Minister which is attached as appendix 'A', in which I had highlighted the attempts of politicising the case by the president incumbent of National ~~Democratic~~ ^{Political} Party besides voicing my strong apprehensions with regards his intentions and possible ventiloquism involved in the same. I feel very strongly, after following the the sequence of events, that my apprehensions does warrant rumination. Given an opportunity many facts remain eager to get unearthed and unmasked, however it depends on the

National Requirement.

The Delay

17. It is five years and seven months since I am in the jail and no relief of any kind has come my way. From 2008 November the case was 'pretentiously' investigated by the ATS till March-April 2011 before getting it handed over to the National Investigation Agency (NIA). Ever since March-April 2011, the NIA has apprehended two new accused in the case but have not filed the chargesheet in their regard. Neither have they committed if they, the NIA, are adopting the fabricated line of investigation conducted by the ATS or otherwise. My case for Bail is pending consideration in the Honible Supreme Court since past three years and four months. Also my interim bail application is yet to get decided upon since past 14 months. With the investigations incomplete the case is least likely to come-up for hearing. And with amount of evidence available of blatant fabrication by ATS I doubt if it would ever come up for the trial. Sir, at this stage what I most urgently need and crave for, is

liberty. I have my old mother, my wife and two minor sons back home to look after. I mention here with pride that out of 14 years of my active military service, for 9 long years have I stayed away from my family serving our Motherland in active field areas and no doubt, I would continue to do so given an opportunity. However this life of imprisonment due to an ostensibly investigated, but now clearly exposed of its fabrication, case is no less than death to me.

Request for Summoning Records

18. It remains my earnest appeal to you, Sir, that the merits of my appeal may please be looked in to. The delay gone in be considered and suitable instructions be passed so as to call for all possible records from NIA and from the proceedings of Court of Inquiry to verify my claims.

19. I am confident about my innocence and it remains a matter of time before the same comes to fore yet I feel guilty of my proven professional integrity, my undoubted patriotism and my insight

and understanding of issues in the interest of our beloved motherland which have led me to land myself behind the bars.

20 I remain the victim of perverted and unethical, ^{functioning} declined morality of the ATS, where in they have even filed the SIMI and ISI presentations of official nature prepared by me as part of the Charge Sheet there by exposing me to the grave danger at the hands of the Anti National Elements.

21. Sir, to support and substantiate my appeal, I ~~am~~, besides copies of letters appended to this letter, also attach copies of letters from ATS Maharashtra Police and Nasik Police which stand testimony to my professionalism. I also state here with conviction that one glance at my ^{all} Annual Confidential Reports would suffice to adjudge my competence and integrity. In addition I also enclose my request letter vide which I had sought a course of instruction to be allotted to me and the valid reasons behind the same along with clearly mentioned intentions

The Appeal

22. In the wake of the entire revolution in this letter, I must sincerely appeal to you Sir, to look in to this case with due consideration and provide the innocents with much deserved relief and set us at liberty at the earliest. No doubt the entire case is fabricated by ATS, No doubt the innocents like me are languishing in jail, patriotism is held hostage for personal whims and fancies by some from within the system. We the patriots remained the sons of lesser Gods for past five years and seven months. And now here I am requesting for much deserved justice. I sincerely hope my appeal and request shall be heard this time and my shriek for help would not go barren.

23. Before I conclude, Sir, I state here with honour that I harbour rare quality of a war horse which gets into one step gallop on hearing the familiar bugle call to charge on the field, regardless to its physical conditions, and it shall

ever remain a singular honour for me to serve my most revered and beloved motherland at any given time and at any given place! I hope my prayer will be heard and a suitable opportunity ^{would be} ~~is~~ provided to me to prove my worth.

Closing this letter of appeal with deepest of my esteem and most sincere regards.

The letter is devoid of any classification.

Yours Sincerely,



(C P S Purohit)

Lt Col

Encl :

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|----|---|----------|
| 1. | Letter to Hon'ble Prime Minister | Appx 'A' |
| 2. | Letter to Hon'ble Home Minister | Appx 'B' |
| 3. | Letter to His Excellency the President of India | Appx 'C' |
| 4. | Letter from ATS Maharashtra | Appx 'D' |
| 5. | Letter - Nasik Police | Appx 'E' |
| 6. | Request Letter For Arabic Course | Appx 'F' |