

ITEM NO.2 COURT NO.7 SECTION PIL

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO(s). 262 OF 2009

RANVEER YADAV Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ANR. Respondent(s)

(With appln(s) for directions]

Date: 22/06/2009 This Petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DALVEER BHANDARI
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASOK KUMAR GANGULY

[VACATION BENCH]

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Dinesh Kumar Garg, Adv.
Mr. Vikram, Adv.
Mr. Shivam Sharma, Adv.
Ms. Sarika Singh, Adv.

For Respondent(s)

UPON hearing counsel the Court made the following
ORDER

A practicing lawyer of this Court has filed this public interest litigation concerning safety and security of the Indian students studying in Australia and Canada.

This petition is based on the newspaper reports published in various leading national newspapers of the country in which it is mentioned that 97,000 Indian students are studying in Australia. In 2007-2008, there were 36,765 victims of crimes such as robberies and assaults of which 1447 were people of Indian origin.

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The record of May-June, 2009 reveal that one Indian student was brutally and painfully murdered, another was engulfed in a petrol pump, yet another was stabbed all over his body with a screwdriver by a mob in a public train and none of these crimes had anything to do with the victims themselves but with their place of birth.

In the newspaper reports, it is also alleged that the Chief of police of Victoria, Australia admitted the attacks on Indian students

were racially motivated. It is also mentioned in the petition that several hundred Indian students were forced to leave Australia in the midst of their academic sessions on account of racial assaults. The ethnic violence has also spread against Indian students in other countries like Canada. As indicated in the newspaper reports, such incidence of violence have not stopped till now.

In our view, the Union of India must have taken adequate steps to ensure safety and security of Indian students. The matter may have been taken up at the highest level by the Union of India and the Ministry of External Affairs. Unfortunately, violence against Indian students in Australia has not stopped.

The parents, relatives and friends are naturally worried on the prevailing situation in Australia and Canada. They are legitimately entitled to know what steps have been taken regarding safety and security of their students studying in Australia and Canada. This may help them in deciding future course of action including withdrawal of students from various institutions.

In this view of the matter, we issue notice to the respondents. We also direct the Union of India to file a brief affidavit indicating what

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steps have been taken to ensure safety and security of Indian students studying in Australia and Canada and ensure that such incidents are stopped forthwith and not repeated in future.

Looking to the gravity and seriousness of the matter, we request the Attorney General/Solicitor General to assist the Court. Notice be also given dasti to be served upon the Central Agency.

Let the affidavit be filed on or before 26.6.2009.

List this matter on 29.6.2009.

(Pardeep Kumar)
Court Master

(Neeru Bala Vij)
Court Master