



Association for Protection of Democratic Rights

গণতান্ত্রিক অধিকার রক্ষা সমিতি

Eternal Vigilance is the Price of Liberty

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Press Statement

Kolkata: Saturday, September 05, 2020.

APDR strongly condemns NIA's Notice (No.57/ Crime/ RC 01- 2020/ NIA/ 2020) u/s Section 91 of CrPC to well-known democratic rights activist Partha Sarathi Roy (also a notable scientist in the field of micro-biology and virology) of West Bengal in connection with the Bhima Koregaon case requiring his attendance in Mumbai on 10 September 2020 at 11 hrs as 'witness' before its inspector. NIA's role in the said case is part of the MHA's political ploys to suppress those who have courage to speak against the central government's utterly faulty and pro-corporate policies and actions. NIA is being used to trample the constitutional rights of the Indian people to dissent and be critical on the one hand and on the other, thrash upon the rights of the Indian states vis-à-vis the aggressive central power. NIA, as it deals with the offence relating to Sec. 153A in the case, is made to act in line with the casteist and religious bias of 'Hindutva' of the power that governs it. As it moves with the case it degrades itself. APDR wants a thorough and independent inquiry into the two aspects of said case: 'conspiracy' as alleged by Pune Police, and 'causing incidents' relating to Bhima Koregaon violence of 2018. We urge the central government to consider our demand.

In protest against this NIA move, APDR calls on all rights organisations and rights-conscious individuals to assemble at Moulali Crossing in Kolkata, on the 10 September 2020 (Thursday) at 2PM to submit a memorandum to the central government through the Governor of West Bengal.

(Dhiraj Sengupta)

General Secretary
Association For Protection
Of Democratic Rights