

"भिऊ नको, घेऊ घामाचे दाम"



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मो. ९९२३७०७६४६, ९३२५०६२३२३

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*MEMBER, SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON FARM LAWS*

23 November 2021

To

**The Chief Justice of India**

Supreme Court of India

Tilak Marg, Mandi House

New Delhi, Delhi 110001

**SUB: REQUEST TO RELEASE THE FARM LAWS COMMITTEE'S REPORT AND  
DIRECT THE GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT A ROBUST POLICY PROCESS**

Dear Hon'ble Chief Justice of India

On 12 January 2021 I had the privilege of being appointed by the Supreme Court to a Committee to listen to the grievances of the farmers relating to the farm laws and the views of the Government and to make recommendations. On 19 March 2021 the Committee submitted its report in a timely manner.

On 19 November 2021 the Prime Minister announced the Government's decision to repeal the farm laws. But it is important to ensure that while the specific laws may no longer exist, the reform impulse that was reflected in these laws is not diluted.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Court that for many decades India's farmers, as entrepreneurs in their own right, have suffered from regulation that chokes their production and marketing efforts. Much of this regulation is sheltered in Schedule 9 of the Constitution: away from judicial scrutiny. Regulation is intended to reduce any harm caused by an entrepreneur's action, but in the case of farmers, regulation has itself been the cause of harm both to the farmers and to the environment. Many of India's farmers are desperate for renewed, not less, focus on reforms – particularly market freedom and technology freedom.

These laws were accepted in principle by our farmers movement, but were not accepted entirely by the farmers because the policy process of the Indian government is not consultative. I request the Hon'ble Supreme Court to consider directing the Government to develop and implement an exemplary, robust policy process of the sort that is followed in developed nations. That will ensure that a fiasco of this sort is not repeated and that the valuable time of the Court not wasted in the

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'विजयश्री', घनवट फार्म, श्रीगोंदा फॅक्टरी, ता. श्रीगोंदा, जि. अहमदनगर (महा.) फोन (नि.)- (०२४८७) २५२२०८

**शरद जोशी जिंदाबाद...**

Government's fruitless, unproductive endeavours which also end up causing angst and frustration in the community. For instance, with the repeal of these laws, a large number of farmers are now even further frustrated with India's lack of attention to their needs.

A robust policy process for making new farm laws would involve establishing a Committee with representation of all views. The Committee would prepare a White Paper that considers costs and benefits of options, consults widely and recommends a way forward. The legislation resulting from such a process would be acceptable to India's long-suffering farmers.

I am also writing to apprise you that organisations that lodged submissions to the Farm Laws Committee have asked me about the contents of the Report. During my media interactions as well, I have provided verbal descriptions on various policy aspects. But it would be more appropriate that the Report itself is made available publicly to inform farm policy debates including during the preparation of a consultation paper or White Paper by the Government.

After the Government's decision to repeal the farm laws in the coming Winter Session of Parliament, the Committee's Report is no longer relevant with regard to those laws but there are suggestions in the Report on farmers' issues that are of great public interest. The Report can also play an educational role and ease the misapprehensions of many farmers who have, in my opinion, been misguided by some leaders who do not seem to appreciate how a minimally regulated free market can allocate national resources to their most productive use.

I hope, therefore, that you will consider releasing the Report as soon as practicable, or authorise the Committee or me to do so.

Your sincerely,

**Anil Ghanwat**  
Senior Leader, Shetkari Sanghatana (former President)  
**President, Swatantra Bharat Party**

Copy to:

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