



CJI paves way for HC judge to be removed over med scam

Asks For Judicial Work To Be Taken Away From Him

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New Delhi: New Delhi: Finding substance in allegations against the Allahabad high court Justice S N Shukla related to the medical admission scam, a three-judge in-house committee has recommended his removal to Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra.

Acting on the committee's recommendations and as per paragraph 7(i) of the in-house procedure, the CJI advised Justice Shukla to either resign or take voluntary retirement. However, Justice Shukla refused to do either. Left with no option, the CJI advised the HC chief justice to withdraw judicial

IGNORED ADVICE TO RESIGN

➤ Three-judge in-house panel recommended removal of Allahabad HC judge S N Shukla after finding serious allegations against him in medical admission scam

➤ Based on panel views, CJI advised Justice Shukla



CJI
Dipak Misra

to either resign or take VRS

➤ After Justice Shukla refused to budge, CJI advised HC CJ to withdraw judicial work from him with immediate effect

➤ CJI can now ask for removal proceedings

DEFIED SC Justice Shukla allegedly went beyond categorical restraint orders passed by a CJI-led bench last year to permit private colleges to admit students for the 2017-18 academic year

work from Justice Shukla with immediate effect, a step which can clear the way for his removal and for the CBI to register a case against him in connection with the medical admission scam. Justice Shukla, while heading a division bench, allegedly defied restraint orders passed by a CJI-led bench last year to permit private colleges to admit students

for the 2017-18 academic year.

Two complaints, including one from the advocate general of the state, was received by the CJI on September 1 last year and he set up an in-house committee comprising Madras HC CJ Indira Banerjee, Sikkim HC CJ S K Agnihotri and MP HC Justice P K Jaiswal.

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Disgraced values of judicial life: Panel on Shukla

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The inquiry committee said Justice Shukla had “disgraced the values of judicial life, acted in a manner unbecoming of a judge”, lowered the “majesty, dignity and credibility of his office” and acted in breach of his oath of office.

As per the in-house procedure, the CJI will now recommend initiation of removal proceedings against Justice Shukla. Paragraph 7(ii) provides, “In case the judge expresses unwillingness to resign or seek voluntary retirement, the chief justice of the high court concerned should be advised by the CJI not to allocate any judicial work to the judge concerned and the President and the PM shall be intimated that this had been done because allegations against the judge were found by the committee to be so serious as to warrant initiation of proceedings for removal.”

In 2010, such an inquiry panel set up by the Rajya Sabha chairperson had okayed initiation of removal proceedings against Calcutta HC Justice Soumitra Sen and the motion was adopted. The judge resigned before Lok Sabha took up the removal motion against him.