

Annexure -9.41

Before Hon'ble Chief Justice of Kerala

Today evening (20-11-2013), I have seen a media report with video clip in all the leading channels reporting a news that a housewife namely Smt. Jyothi Udaya was brutally assaulted at Bangalore, when she was using an ATM counter for withdrawing cash. The video clips downloaded from the CCTV system fixed inside the ATM counter is a shocking one and I could not see it in complete, since the incident recorded is a terrible one.

It is a reality that life of our sisters and mothers are under imminent threat in the hands of anti-social elements. When these kinds of incidents are reported, our law and order agency will make an eye wash by providing police patrolling for some days and thereafter will keep quiet and soon will be forgotten. One after another these shocking and inhumane incidents keep happening especially against the women and vulnerable. The Police and the executive system have proved their inability and inefficiency time after time to put a halt to such criminal actions. Every Indian citizen has the moral responsibility to raise their voice against such anti social acts especially which are directed to women and children.

The daily reported incidents in newspapers are perceived with such numbness that it do make us wonder whether humanity still exists. No doubt there is no meaning in the hard earned freedom by our forefathers if we can't ensure safety to our mothers and sisters, especially when our Constitution guarantees right to life them with other freedoms.

It has been a custom since long that women and children are unsafe in the odd hours. But with above incident, which has happened at 7:30 in the morning indeed will lift your eyebrows about the so called odd hours. It simply portrays the fact that our women are not safe at any time in any place.

It is a real pity that, even after allocating and expending Crores of rupees for establishing the police force, still our law enforcing agencies

are helpless in ensuring safety, remain spectators and fails to save the life and property of women.

There is no security for women and children in public places and the agencies which run the ATM counters are grossly neglecting the security concerns in ATM. Even though these ATMs are installed as part of boosting the business of respective banking institutions, now the security of such places are highest concerns of the police authorities also, since the life of the public are under imminent danger. But they are not taking actions urgently and are they waiting for similar incidents again and again.

I am sharing these concerns with this Highest Judicial Office of this State and I think this is the high time to direct the State Police Chief and Reserve Bank of India to intervene in this issue urgently to provide sufficient and effective security measures in the ATMs to avoid repetition of these kinds of incidents, in future.

I hope your Lordship will take *suo motu* proceeding in this regard.

Yours truly

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