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Jagan's letter attempts to coerce judiciary, says judges body

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

The All India Judges Association has passed a resolution condemning Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy's letter against Supreme Court judge Justice N.V. Ramana as a "deliberate attempt to scandalise and coerce the judiciary".

The Association said the "tone, tenor and timing of the letter portrays malafide intent and appears to be orchestrated for hidden agendas".

"The Executive Committee of All India Judges Association considers this act to be a deliberate a tempt to scandalise and coerce the judiciary and legal fraternity. Moreover, such a scandalous letter interferes with the sovereignty of the judges conferred under our Constitution," said the resolution passed on Sunday.

The resolution also condemned "all such attacks on the judicial institution by vested interests, who are bent upon destroying judicial dignity and the independence of the judiciary and trying to intimidate judges for favourable orders".

The letter and its release to the media has created a furore among the legal fraternity, with many similar resolutions passed by several Bar bodies objecting to Mr. Reddy's actions as an affront to the judiciary.