

Lois Sophia's advocates to file contempt plea on magistrate

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In an unprecedented move, the Lois Sophia side plans to file a contempt case on the sitting magistrate who dealt with the case in Thoothukudi.

Speaking to media about the injustices meted out to research scholar Lois Sophia, who is on bail in a case registered against her for shouting against the BJP government in the presence of the party's state president Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan inside the aircraft bound for Thoothukudi, noted human rights defender Henry Tiphagne said that constitutional limits were violated at the residence of the magistrate on Monday night, when she remanded Sophia to 15 days of jail in a bailable offence.

Moreover, the magistrate also refused to receive the bail petition at her residence saying that she would

not receive bail pleas at home.

"This is a clear violation of the Supreme Court guidelines issued in the Harmesh Kumar case," said Tiphagne.

He also added that this refusal of the magistrate to accept the bail petition amounts to contempt of court and hence they would initiate appropriate action demanding disciplinary action against the magistrate and the police inspector.

In the presence of Lois Sophia and her lawyers, Tiphagne said that the magistrate Dr Tamilselvi, going beyond her legal limits, advised Lois Sophia's father to withdraw the complaint given against the BJP state president to the police.

"In a strongly worded statement, she (the magistrate) warned Sophia's father Dr A A Samy not to approach her court henceforth with any private complaint or a petition under



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Human rights defender

section 156(3) seeking a direction to police to register a case," said Henry Tiphagne.

Adding to that he said that they would approach the High Court against the police not filing a PCR case, based on the complaint preferred by Sophia's father against Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan, state BJP president, and her party men.