

# Man who helped save Pant from wreckage battling for his own life

Mohammad Disha &  
Tapan Sushil Iraw



**Muzaffarnagar/Roorkee:** It was a bitterly cold night in 2022 when Rajat Kumar and Nisha Kumar spotted a crumpled Mercedes — upside down, smouldering — near Roorkee on Delhi-Dharan highway. They didn't know then that the injured man they pulled from the wreckage had survived a massive fuel leak caused by a terrorist attack by Rashid Khan. They called the police and stayed with him till help arrived. Pant later said the two were "heroes who helped me... I'll be forever grateful and indebted."

Months after Pant gifted him a scooter as a token of gratitude, Raja is fighting for his life in a hospital in Dharamshala, Uttarakhand, accused of a crime he insists he did not commit. On Sunday evening, Rajat, 25, and his 21-year-old friend Mamta Kashyap, consumed poison together. Their love was not meant to last — different castes, disappearing families, marriages arranged elsewhere. In despite, they made a suicide pact, or so it seemed. A resident of their vil-

lage, Bhushan Patel, spotted them writhing on the ground and raised the alarm. By the time their families arrived, much damage was done.

They were rushed to a local hospital. Mamta's family transferred her to another facility where she died before dawn on Tuesday while Raja, barely clinging to life, is still in treatment.

Then, hours after Mamta was cremated,

her mother walked into Purkash police station and filed a murder complaint against Raja, accusing him of killing her daughter.

Now the village wonders about scandal. In a place as small and densely housed as it is, currency is young men and women trying to defy caste and family expectations is just not a personal crisis; it is a communal one.

Ministers, SP Sarvajeet Singh Prajapati, said no police case had been filed until Mamta's mother intervened. The local police, under station in charge Jaiwani Singh, have turned their attention to Mamta's mother's allegation. "We have received a written complaint from the woman's family against Raja for poisoning her," Singh told TOI. "We are examining all aspects of the case and will determine the next steps based on our findings."

Doctors said Raja was showing signs of recovery. Both consumed a strong pesticide,

said Dr Dinesh Tripathi of Prayag Hospital in Jharkhand. "We began immediate treatment. Mamta's family moved her elsewhere, but Raja is improving under our care."

## 'Spouse entitled for alimony even in void marriages'

AmitAnandChoudhary  
TimesofIndia.com

**New Delhi:** Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that a spouse involved in a void marriage like bigamy is also entitled to seek permanent alimony and maintenance from his/her partner under the Hindu Marriage Act.

In a series of 10-judge judgments delivered on the issue of maintenance of spouse in cases of void marriage, a three-judge bench of Justices Abhay S Oka, Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Augustine George Mathur

passed the judgement and held that void marriages also come within the ambit of sections 24 and 25 of Hindu Marriage Act which talks about maintenance and alimony.

The marriages are void under 1966 Act: (i) If one or both the parties to the marriage are not qualified to enter into the same; (ii) The parties to the marriage are within the degrees of prohibited relationship; and (iii) The parties are sapientis of each other, unless the custom or usage governing each of them permits of a mar-

riage between the two. A spurious relationship is based on a common ancestor within three generations of the mother's side and five generations of the father's side.

"A spouse whose marriage has been declared void under Section 24 of the Hindu Marriage Act is entitled to seek permanent alimony or maintenance from his/her spouse in invoking Section 25 of the Act. Whether such a relief of permanent alimony can be granted or not always depends on the facts of each case and the conduct of the parties. The grant of relief under

Section 25 is always discretionary," the bench said. It also held that the maintenance could also be granted during the litigation.

The court also took several exceptions to Bombay HC, the bench underlined that the term "void marriage" in the Bill has coined the term "illegitimate wife". Calling the wife of a marriage declared as void as an illegitimate wife is very inappropriate. It affects the dignity of the concerned woman. Unfortunately the Bombay HC went to the extent of using the words "illegitimate wife".

## 'Honouring those who broke Sena': Raut slams Pawar

**Chennai:** Sharad Pawar's move of defaming deputy CM Eknath Shinde at a function in New Delhi triggered a political row within Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi on Wednesday, with Shiv Sena (UML) MP Sanjay Desai saying honouring those who "divided" Maharashtra was a blow to the state's identity and self-respect. And Sharad Pawar of NCP-Senators retorted that Raut's reaction was "overblown" and that the distinction between socio-cultural events and political differences had always been maintained in Maharashtra.

Sharad, for his part, responded in Raut's comment by saying the MP's



Sharad Pawar honours Shinde in New Delhi

"mental balance" had "deteriorated".

Pawar on Tuesday presented Mahant Shinde Rashtriya Gaumukh Parshuram to Shinde in the presence of Union minister Jayashri Kulkarni on the occasion of the 50th Adibhut Bharatiya Mahotsav.

Sachin Somasundaram

Sharad said Shinde had split Shiv Sena with the help of Amit Shah, and felicitating Shinde was akin to honouring Shah. "This is our feeling, perhaps Sharad Pawar's feeling may be different. But the people of Maharashtra have not accepted this. You are honouring those who broke Shiv Sena, this has hurt us. Politics is politics, but we are here to serve the people. Some things are to be avoided in politics. (You) Sharad Pawar and Ajit Pawar may be having an affair, but we are taking the next step with this imminent," Raut said. "Maharashtra politics is going in a very strange direction. We feel Pawar should not have attended the event."

## Rape survivor has legal right to say no to motherhood: HC

Rajesh Kumar Pandey / TOI

**Prayagraj:** A sexual assault victim had a legal right in relation to her body, which included saying "no" to being a mother. The Adhikarabhoghi court recently observed, allowing a 25-year-old rape survivor to eventually terminate her pregnancy.

A division bench comprising justices Mahesh Chandra Tripathi and Prashant Kumar said section 3(2) of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act provides the right to a victim of sexual assault to medically terminate her pregnancy.

Taking into account the urgency of the case, the court, in its order dated Feb 6, directed a medical examination of the petitioner the same day by a three-member medical committee. Denying the right to choose not to be a mother of her rapist's child would add to

the survivor's misery, the bench added. The HC further said that "denying her with respect to termination of pregnancy would amount to denying her human right to live with dignity". The petitioner was lured by the accused to sleep with him. Acting on a complaint by her father, police arrested her.

Her counsel alleged she was raped multiple times and investigation regarding the same had been requested before a session court. The petitioner is now 18 weeks pregnant, and her counsel submitted that it was causing anguish as she did not want the responsibility of child.

The court observed that MTP Act and MTP Rules provide for termination of pregnancy up to 24 weeks for survivors of sexual assault, rape or incest, if she is minor and if such pregnancy is causing mental anguish to the survivor.

## Pak attempts terror push with ceasefire breach in Poonch

Sandeep Khajuria / TOI

**Jammu:** Pakistani soldiers violated the ceasefire by firing without provocation in forward areas along the LoC in J&K's Poonch district Wednesday evening. Security sources said the attack was an attempt to push terrorists into India, using fire as a diversion.

"Our border guards gave a strong response in equal calibre. There are no immediate reports of casualties or damage on our side," an official source said.

The two nations had earlier agreed to the "strict observance of ceasefires and ceasefire agreements. However, Pakistan has repeatedly breached the accord."

One of the most blatant violations occurred on Sept 3 last year, when gunfire from across the border killed a BSF trooper in Akhnoor sector of Jammu, and another was shot dead when Pakistan Rangers fired at Indian posts in Samba in Nov 2023.

The latest firings comes after targeting hostilities along the LoC. Security forces anticipate an early start to infiltration attempts this year, as conflict snow in mountainous regions continues to ferment for terrorists.

The winter halt, which typically stretches for several months, may be shorter than usual this year due to rising temperatures and security forces said.

Recent attacks highlight the growing threat. On Monday a bullet fired from across the border hit a soldier at a forward post in Nowshera sector of Rajouri district. On Feb 6, gunfire from a forest across the LoC targeted an Army patrol in Keri sector of Rajouri.

On Tuesday Captain Karan Singh Bakshi, 27, and Naik Mukesh Singh Manhas, 29, lost their lives in an IED attack near the LoC in Akhnoor. Security sources estimate 70 to 80 Pakistani terrorists are active in J&K, with 50 to 60 in Jammu region. These highly trained intruders operate in small groups, equipped with weapons like MiG carbines and thermal imaging devices. Their ability to coordinate attacks in the rugged terrain, which offers ample natural cover, poses a major challenge.

## 'This is a serious case, senior bureaucrats are fleeing the country'

► From P1

Shivshankar Balaji, 55, who is the Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs, walked into Purkash police station and filed a murder complaint against Raja, accusing him of killing her daughter.

Now the village wonders about scandal. In a place as small and densely populated as it is, currency is young men and women trying to defy caste and family expectations is just not a personal crisis; it is a communal one.

Ministers, SP Sarvajeet Singh Prajapati, said no police case had been filed until Mamta's mother intervened. The local police, under station in charge Jaiwani Singh, have turned their attention to Mamta's mother's allegation.

"We have received a written complaint from the woman's family against Raja for poisoning her," Singh told TOI. "We are examining all aspects of the case and will determine the next steps based on our findings."

Doctors said Raja was showing signs of recovery. Both consumed a strong pesticide,

said Dr Dinesh Tripathi of Prayag Hospital in Jharkhand. "We began immediate treatment. Mamta's family moved her elsewhere, but Raja is improving under our care."

## T'gana to table bill for 42% quota to BCs

Reeshtha Lakshmi / TimesofIndia.com

Hyderabad: Telangana govt will introduce a bill in the Legislative Assembly in the first week of March to grant 42% reservation to Backward Classes (BCs) in education, employment, and local bodies. The move aims to fulfil a pending demand by quota proportional to the BCs.

The bill, first approved by the state cabinet, was a promise in Congress' '2G Declaration' made in Kurnool during the 2021 assembly elections. Govt will seek unanimous support from all political parties before taking the bill to Centre, urging Parliament to pass a law enacting the quota.

Opposition sources said the bill, if passed, will put pressure on the central government to do more for BCs. "Govt will not stop at just approving the 42% quota in the assembly but will push for its passage in Parliament,"

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED wanted to keep the accused in jail, Raja said ED's order did not mean that there was no offence and that the case against Tripathi had been closed. He told the court that sanction had now been taken.

As the court further raised questions on ED's approach of not taking action from the authority concerned despite a valid complaint, the court said that it could not be said to be the agency's responsibility but that of an individual officer. Trying to dispel the impression that ED