

**ABSTRACT****JUSTICE KARNAN'S CASE – DID THE SUPREME COURT HAS GONE OFF ITS LIMITS ON THIS ONE?****\*RAJAT KUMAR**

An unprecedented and jolting situation has taken place in the history of Indian Judiciary when the SC sentenced a sitting Calcutta HC Judge Justice C.S. Karnan to six months imprisonment on the charges of contempt. The SC has reached this verdict on a pile of much fallacious order and constitutional enigmas. Whether it is the unreasonable gag order on media or pronouncing of judgment without a conviction there are many questions left unanswered by the SC in this contempt saga. Although, the more significant conundrum here is that- why did J. Karnan was removed by the SC (by sending him to jail) and not get impeached by the parliament according to the procedure prescribed in the Constitution. The SC's act of taking a suo motu proceeding against a HC judge has brought a serious threat to the term 'judicial independence'. Therefore, it appears that the SC has gone off its limits on the judgment of J. Karnan's case. Whereas J. Karnan's case is a result of the absence of any provision for convicting a judge who is short of impeachment, it is suggested that a proper law should be enacted for the same to deal with these kinds of situations.