

News

Police and the Home Department receive a notice from the Bombay High Court over alleged disparaging remarks made against Mahatma Gandhi.



The Bombay High Court's Nagpur Bench intervened on Tuesday in a case involving alleged disparaging remarks made against Mahatma Gandhi, requesting an official answer from the Nagpur City Police and the Maharashtra Home Department.

The State Home Department, the Nagpur Police Commissioner, senior journalist Pushpendra Kulshrestha, and event organizer Nishant Gandhi were among the parties that received notices from a division bench made up of Justices Anil Pansare and Nivedita Mehta. The respondents have been instructed by the court to provide their responses by March 30.

A local Congress official named Ashwin Bais submitted a petition through Advocate Akash

Moon, which is the basis for the legal action. The Sakal Hindu Samaj Sammelan's February 15 program is the subject of the petition.

The petitioner claims that during the occasion, senior journalist Pushpendra Kulshrestha made "highly objectionable" and disparaging remarks against Mahatma Gandhi. The appeal specifically claims that Kulshrestha said Gandhi could not be referred to as the "Father of the Nation."

The petitioner petitioned the High Court to order the Sitabardi police in Nagpur to respond to his formal complaint. Both Kulshrestha and Nishant Gandhi, who organized the program on February 15, are named as accountable parties in the request for their speeches.

According to the petitioner, the remarks made during the Sammelan were disparaging and should be investigated under the current rules pertaining to the defamation of national symbols.

The division bench stressed the need of supporting evidence during the hearing. The petitioner was ordered by the court to provide the police authorities with the audio clip of the disputed speech so they may conduct an investigation. Additionally, the same audio recording must be submitted by the petitioner to the court for its records.

The subject will be heard again when the respondents' responses are due on March 30.