

To
The Chief Justice Of India
Supreme Court New Delhi

Respected Sir,

On 11 April 2025, Jharkhand based Freelance Journalist Rupesh Kumar Singh completed 1000 days of wrongful incarceration. Until now, he has not been granted bail. Rupesh Kumar Singh has been in jail since 17 July 2022 under the draconian Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act. After his arrest, he was falsely implicated and declared arrested in another 4 UAPA cases pertaining to bogus Maoist cases ; slapping multiple cases against Rupesh Kumar Singh shows the clear intention of Indian state to ensure that he remains in jail for very long time by turning the very process into punishment.

Rupesh Kumar has been doing ground-level reporting for many media outlets to expose the human rights violations such as rape, illegal arrests and extrajudicial killings in Jharkhand other parts of central India. Prior to his arrest, he was also reporting about how the factory's polluted waste affected the lives of ordinary people and created various health problems.

We believe that, as a journalist, Rupesh's work to expose human rights violations as well as corporate induced destruction of lives and environment along with his commitment to uncovering the truth on various issues concerning the people, is the main reason for targeting by the Brahmanical Hindutva Fascist BJP-RSS government. Initially, he was targeted by the Jharkhand Government, ruled by the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha(JMM) with Hemant Soren at the helm, and later the NIA and other agencies got involved in his case. The journalist Rupesh Kumar's case compelled us to think that it is not only the Hindutva-fascist BJP that is threatening press freedom and stifling dissent, but other ruling political parties of various states are also on the same page when a challenge to their anti-people policies find space in voice of a pro-people journalist. In India, targeting journalists is very common when they expose corruption and report on state atrocities, state failure to address common issues of people and people's movements. For that purpose, the Indian state also uses Zionist technology like Pegasus malware to snoop and surveil as well as plant incriminating material in the devices of a person targeted. Rupesh Kumar is also targeted by this same malware. Journalist Rupesh Kumar Singh the victim of such an attack internationally criticised, speaks volumes to the government's desperation to silence his pro-people reporting as it would expose the State-Corporate nexus that destroys people's lives and livelihood.

Despite being a petitioner in the Supreme court in the case against use of Pegasus spyware, Bail application of Rupesh Kumar Singh was rejected on January 27. This is a very serious concern for all of us. On the one hand, the Supreme Courts and high courts give various judgments and say that 'Bail is Rule and Jail is Exception', but we see that when cases, especially of activists and pro-people journalists come before the courts, they forget this basic principle of jurisprudence and deal with them harshly either by denying bail or by endless adjournments, leading to the person languishing in jail without reason, without any trial.

We appeal to all the democratic and progressive organisations, journalists, advocates, social activists, and Human Rights Defenders to sign this open letter and stand in solidarity with journalist Rupesh Kumar Singh by demanding his immediate and unconditional release from the illegal detention.

Signed by

Paranjay Guha Thakurta, Journalist Media Network of India.

Meena Kotwal, Journalist

Vineet Bhalla, Legal journalist, Scroll.in

Anuradha Bhasin, Kashmir Times

Prashant Rahi, Journalist

Malini Subramaniam, Journalist

Pankaj Bisht ,Editor, Samayantar Hindi Journal

Geetha Sunil Pillai, Journalist

Shamsul Islam, Former faculty University of Delhi

Nandita Narain, Retd Faculty, St.Stephen's College, Delhi University

Kamal Shukla, Editor Bhumkal Samachar

Safoora zargar, Activist

Padma Kondiparthi, Advocate

Asif Iqbal Tanha, Spect Foundation

Atikur Rahman, Social Activist

Prasant Paikray, Anti-Jindal & Anti-POSCO Movement (JPPSS), Odisha, India

FARCHING DUKPA , Assistant Professor

Saket Anand, Journalist

Neeraj Malik, Retired Professor

K.Ravi Chander, Forum Against Repression Telangana

Rinchin, Writer

Pankaj Bisht, Writer

Deepak Kumar, Activist

Frazer Mascarenhas, Academic administrator

Navin Kumar, Article19 India

Nikita Jain, Journalist

Vikram Raj, Journalist

Ipsa Shatakshi, Freelance Writing
Poonam masih, Freelance journalist
Geeta Seshu, Journalist
Syed Affan, Journalist
Sahil Independent, Journalist
Sohit Mishra, Founder SMPC Media
Mahendra mishra, journalism
Pooja Rathi, Freelance Journalist
Shweta Desai, Journalist
Ajeet Singh, Journalism
Abhay Kumar, Independent journalist
Shahnawaz Akhtar, Journalist
Charan, Journalist & Poet
Tushar Kanti, Freelance Journalist
Joseph Maliakan, Journalist
Himmat Singh, Journalist
Tejpal Parmar, CPI-M
Shiv Kumar, Mazdoor Adhikar Sangathan (Haryana)
Lotika Singha, International Solidarity for Academic Freedom in India (InSAF India)
Praveen Kolluguri, India Labour Solidarity
Neelima Sharma, Nishant
Somenath Guha, Retired
Julius Tudu, Advocate
Meera Datta, Retired from Patna high court administration.
Ilika priya, Advocate
Tara Singh moga, Lok Sangram Morcha punjab
Bharat Kumar Singh, Social Work
Ritesh Dhar Dubey, Advocate

Mrinmoy Das, AILAJ
Sanchita Mukherjee, Freelance writer
Vishvavijay, Advocate
Ram Gramsci, Social work
Rithik kundu, Producer, filmmaker
Jyoti Bharati, NFSU
Kabita, H.w
Prerana Research Scholar, IIT-Bombay
Riddhi Pandey, Researcher
Gyanenedra Nath Sinha, Retired
Vimal Kishor, Social Activist
Sharanya Nayak, Political cultural activist
Gurkirat Kaur, Bhagat Singh Chhatra Ekta Manch (bsCEM)
Vallika Varshri, Nazariya Magazine
Aakanksha Azad, BhagatSingh Students Morcha, UP
Kanwaljeet khanna, Revolutionary Center punjab
Kumar Satyam, Social Activist
Rakesh Kumar, B.R. Ambedkar Akata Manch
Tushar Biswas, AILAJ
Vishwesh Rajratnam, Teaching
Avinash Kumar , Supreme court Advocate AILAJ
Nishant Anand, Advocate
Khwaja Tabrez, Researcher
Navneet Singh, Researcher
Buddha Chandra Chakma, Law student
Chinmay Das, Law Student
Rohit thakur, Advocate
Ayush R, Lawyer

Anupam kumar, Student
MURSHIDUL ALAM, Student
Joy Kumar, Student
Osama Rawal, Student
CHHOTU KUMAR SINGH, Student
Ritesh Kumar Rai, Law Student
Mohammad Asif A Adhikar, Architect Interior Designer
Ramu, Student
Tunvii Khurana, Student
Ilakkiya Monika, student
Sufiyan Aftab, Student
Gaurav, Student
Vedant, Student
Aviral, BsCEM
Aritra Chatterjee
Rajeev Singha, N/A
Mukundan, Student
Pratik Patowary, Trainer
Abhilash Ramachandran, Self employed.
Anand J, Freelancer
Dalsher Singh, Agriculture
Nikita kumari, Housewife
khalid khan, Businessman
Nagendra Kumar mahato, Civil engineer
Jagisha, Profession
Ram Pratap, SAHI
Babban Singh, Self employed
Geeta singh, House wife

Amar, N/A

Pravin Kumar, Student

Abhilash Ramachandran, Self employed.