

Press release, 25th June 2015, Hyderabad.



art@telangana

Art@telangana to sue Times of India and others for Rs.10 Crore damages

Art@telangana has decided to sue Times of India for Rs. 10 Crore damages for publishing the article titled “Japan Junket leaves Telangana art fraternity fuming” and “Secret Mission to Japan?” in today’s (25th June, 2015) Hyderabad Times. The trust feels that this article damages its hard earned reputation of promoting art and artists from Telangana over the last two years.

This defamatory article claims that some artists have alleged that art@telangana handpicked few artists such as Laxman Aelay, Priyanka Aelay, Anand Gadapa and his wife Nirmala, Bharat and wife Priti and Masuram for an art camp in Japan.

After releasing at Hyderabad and Delhi, the Trust is planning to release art@telangana book in Japan, USA and Europe. In this context, one of the art@telangana trustees Mr. B.V. Papa Rao has been in touch with the Indian Ambassador to Japan to release the book in Tokyo. The Ambassador Deepa Gopalan Wadhwa has welcomed the proposal but suggested that an art camp should be held as a part of the on-going festival of India in Japan with three artists of Japan and three Telangana artists. She suggested that at the end of the camp the book should be released to have wide coverage and impact. Mr. Rao suggested that, she should select artists from Japan and Telangana, as she knew art and artists of Japan and Telangana. No selection of artists of Japan and Telangana is done as of today. But this Times of India article misleads people as if the Trust has secretly selected few “favored” artists for going to Tokyo.

The article written by Samyukta of Times of India claims that, in the name of the book, the Trust has laundered lot of money from different sources. In fact, the Trust is short of funds for the activities which are undertaken over last one year and these funds are met from personal monies of one of the trustees. The article also highlights that, whole thing looks like a plan to promote artists from the same caste and keep money within the same community. There are serious allegations which are substantiated neither by artists nor by Times of India.

The trust feels these allegations are serious and highly damaging to the Trust and the Trustees who are eminent personalities in their own fields. In view of the above, trust has decided to sue Samyukta, Times of India management and artists who gave this malicious information to Times of India.


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