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Malabar Cements corruption case: HC praises VACB's quick action

[Mahir Haneef](#) | Jul 18, 2016, 23:28 IST

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KOCHI: The Kerala High Court on Monday expressed appreciation for the speedy action taken by the director of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau (VACB) in registering FIR in Malabar cements corruption case. On July 8th, the court had ordered VACB to immediately register an FIR against businessman VM Radhakrishnan alias 'Chakku' Radhakrishnan and others in the case. The FIR was filed by VACB the following day.



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Considering a report filed by VACB reporting compliance with the court's directive, the order said, "This Court appreciates the swift action taken by the present Director of the VACB in complying with the order passed by this Court dated 8th July, 2016. Equally, this Court expects that the investigation in the matter will be conducted vigilantly and diligently, as is expected from the VACB." The court then closed the petition for the time being and allowed the petitioner, Joy Kaitharam of Thrissur, to approach the court again if there are any lapses on the part of VACB in the matter.

While ordering for registration of FIR earlier, the court had said interference of higher-ups is suspected in the non-registration of FIR despite a quick enquiry and a legal opinion recommending such an action. The court remaining a mute spectator to such inaction would be equal to giving a burial to the criminal justice dispensing system, the court had said. An order was issued by the court after pointing out that the case was closed by the high court in 2006 based on VACB's submission that an FIR has been registered.

Soorya Group chairman Radhakrishnan was a private contractor of Walayar-based public sector undertaking named Malabar Cements Ltd and was allegedly involved in corrupt deals. In 2013, a controversy had erupted when party organ 'Deshabhimani' featured an advertisement by Radhakrishnan's group wishing success to CPI-M's three-day plenum held at Palakkad.

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