



Association for Protection of Democratic Rights

গণতান্ত্রিক অধিকার রক্ষা সমিতি

Eternal Vigilance is the Price of Liberty

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PRESS RELEASE

Kolkata: June 6, 2018

The Association for Protection of Democratic Rights (APDR) condemns the arrest of advocate Surendra Gadling, a lawyer who has represented many political prisoners including Prof. G.N. Saibaba, and well-known women's movement activist Prof. Shoma Sen from Nagpur, poet Sudhir Dhawale, editor of the magazine *Vidrohi*, from Mumbai and Rona Wilson, public relations secretary of the Committee for Release of Political Prisoners (CRPP), from Delhi by Maharashtra police in the early morning of 6 June 2018. The APDR also strongly protests the raid on the residence of activist Mahesh Rout in Nagpur. All facts said above show to what depth democracy is made to sink by the grace of corporate aggression!

The police have linked those arrested with the Dalit protests at Bhima-Koregaon. It is deplorable that Maharashtra and central governments are trying to throttle the sympathisers of the Dalit movement instead of addressing their grievances. Further, as if incarcerating disabled and sick Professor G.N. Saibaba in life-threatening conditions was not enough, they have now locked up even his legal counsel.

We demand that the Maharashtra and central governments stop this repression immediately and release all those arrested unconditionally.

(Dhiraj Sengupta)

General Secretary
Association For Protection
Of Democratic Rights