

To,
Shri Pramod P Sawant,
Hon Chief Minister of Goa,
Porvorim, Goa

31 July 2023

SUB: Letter of Concern from Architects from Goa.

Sir,

The architect community is shocked at the TCP minister Mr. Vishwajit Rane using a constitutional stage provided by the Vidhan Sabha to personally slander and threaten a fellow citizen and architect.

As you are aware, real estate is a major industry in Goa today. Architects are core stakeholders in real estate, and also in the development of Goa's economy. Statements against the profession can affect the industry and accordingly the economy in Goa.

On 27th July, the TCP minister accused Ar. Dean D'Cruz as a 'Fraud'. Besides no supporting proof, this accusation was issued along with a threat suggesting 'blacklisting' and issuing a 'circular' to withhold future permissions to any projects connected to the individual. Sir, we would like to remind you that architectural services in acquiring construction permissions are restricted to ensuring the design is in compliance with all relevant codes, laws and regulations. This is in accordance with the Architects Act, 1972 to which we are all empanelled.

The onus on acquiring permission is given by right to the property owner, by virtue of the zoning of his land. The Government of Goa must understand and communicate to the TCP minister that denying permissions based on the name of an architect who has issued the plans is not only illegal but will invite significant litigation by property owners and developers for infringing their rights. We are writing to you because in the last few days members of the profession, especially young and upcoming professionals are losing faith in the TCP department. This statement and threat of retribution from the minister, to a senior member of the community, has now caused a lot of us serious concern.

Our fear is not only restricted to architects but to every citizen of the state that must deal with government agencies from time to time. For today if such behavior is acceptable from the TCP minister, tomorrow Goa will descend to a point of utter lawlessness where each minister acts as a monarch and dictator, with no regard for rules and regulations, as he presides over his department.

The threats on the assembly floor challenge the very foundation of our democratic principles, on a stage provided by democracy. Sir please note that the rights entailed by assembly privilege bring with them a duty to not discriminate against others who cannot defend themselves on the floor of the house. On behalf of the community of architects, we request that you ask the hon. Speaker to expunge the comments of the minister from the record of the house. Keeping these statements will weaken the faith that our profession has on the Town Planning system and the Government of Goa, and could end up costing Goa a lot of development potential.

If the TCP minister has a problem with a certain architect, he can take it up individually, within the bounds of the law. This statement, and the government's inaction to rectify it, makes us worry about all of our plans and projects. TCP is an important portfolio, and after this incident, we are most concerned about safeguarding our clients' projects. Today it may be Ar. D'Cruz, tomorrow it could be anyone. We request that you take immediate action as leader of the party, and if required give this important portfolio to a more coherent and responsible MLA.

We appeal to you Sir, as leader of the Goa state, a state which stands for progress and economic development to take decisive action and safeguard our interests not only for the profession of architects, but also for the development and economic growth of Goa.

Signed

1. Tahir F Noronha, Architect / Urban Planner, Neura, Goa
2. Arminio Ribeiro, Architect, Panaji, Goa
3. Fernando Velho, Architect, Panaji, Goa
4. Prof. Edgar Ribeiro, Retired Chief Planner, Porvorim, Goa
5. Atchika Sangma, Architect, Mapusa, Goa
6. Darpana Athale, Architect, Goa
7. Erika Pereira, Architect, Goa
8. Rajiv Ribeiro, Architect, Goa
9. Om Prabhugaonkar, Architect, Goa
10. Rahul Sabnis, Architect, Goa/Bengaluru
11. Vishakha Gaonkar, Architect, Goa
12. Rahul C Raveendran, Architect, Goa
13. Zahoor Aga, Architect, Ponda, Goa
14. A. G. K. Menon, Architect, Betalbatim, Goa
15. Ian Alvares, Architect, Margao, Goa
16. Anushka Coutinho, Architect, Margao, Goa
17. Hyacinth Pinto, Architect, President WICCI Goa
18. Dinesh Sareen, Architect, Betalbatim, Goa
19. Shrikrishna Athale, Architect, Goa
20. Pradnya Bhave, Architect / Urban Designer, Goa
21. Golda Pereira, Architect, Divar, Goa
22. Saniya Khan, Architect, Goa/Bangalore
23. Sanjeet Wahi, Architect, Goa
24. Sasha Dlima, Architect, Panaji, Goa
25. Jonathan D'Souza, Architect, Goa
26. Nicole Pavri, Architect, Goa
27. Ashika Nadaph, Architect, Porvorim, Goa
28. Simon Rebelo, Architect, Margao, Goa
29. Madhulika Kanchi, Architect / Urban Designer, Goa/Bangalore
30. Lester Silveira, Architect, St. Estevam, Goa
31. Anuraag Chowfla. Architect and Urban Designer, Goa and Delhi. Past President, Institute of Urban Designers India
32. Elsa Fernandes, Architect, St. Cruz, Goa
33. Chinmay Soman, Architect, Marcel, Goa
34. Ar Pallavi Chitnis, Architect, Goa

35. Ar. Isha Raut, Architect, Goa.
36. Hetanshu Pandya, Urban Designer, Goa.
37. Declan Pereira, Architect, Panaji, Goa
38. Pooja Nagaraj, Architect, Goa
39. Chaitanya Gokhale, Architect, Goa
40. Gavin Reis, Architect, Porvorim, Goa
41. Raturaj Parikh, Architect, Goa
42. Ar. Aditi Nayak ,Goa
43. Bhavana Hameed, Architect, Porvorim, Goa
44. Neville Coutinho, Architect, Goa
45. Fedora Cotta, Architect, Goa
46. Maanasi Hattangadi, Architect, Goa
47. Rhea D'Souza , Architect, Mapusa, Goa
48. Siddharth R. Malur, Architect, Goa
49. Greig Fernandes , Architect,Goa
50. Ujjwala Sinha,Architect, St. Inez, Goa
51. Donovan Gracias, Architect, Goa
52. Vazir Nadaph, Architect, Goa
53. Edmundo Carvalho, Architect
54. Dinika Thomas, Goa
55. Adhiraj Bhattacharya, Goa
56. Nondita Correa Mehrotra, Architect, Goa/Mumbai
57. Amar Kulkarni, Architect, Taleigao, Goa
58. Rajesh Advani, Architect
59. Hrushita Davey, Architect
60. Sudesh Prabhakar, Architect
61. Vaishali Bhatia, Architect, Bangalore
62. Allan Marak , Architect
63. Aashish Javiya, Architect
64. Swapnil Pargaonkar, Architect c. Sambhaji nagar, Maharashtra
65. Shabbir A Unwala Architect,Maharashtra
66. Chirag Jain, Architect, Mumbai
67. Shona Jain, Architect, Mumbai
68. Allan Abraham, Architect, Mumbai
69. Tanvi Choudhari, Architect
70. Sunitha Kondur, architect. Bangalore
71. Divya Kush Delhi
72. Sudipto Ghosh, Architect, New Delhi
73. Manish Sachdeva, Architect, Gurgaon
74. Abhishek Gupta, Architect, Kolkata
75. Ramaraju Rengasamy, Trichy, Tamil Nadu
76. Rajesh Shenoy , Architect, Mumbai
77. Suhasini Ayer, Architect, Auroville
78. Rohit Nagia, New Delhi.
79. Haroon Salim, Architect, Bangalore.
80. Arati Chari , Architect, Landscape Architect , Chennai
81. Shovit Seth Frederick Hansdah, Architect, Ranchi/Kolkata.

82. Apurb Minz, Architect, Ranchi.
83. Deepak Kumar Verma, Architect, New Delhi
84. Roshni Gera, Architect, Bangalore
85. Sanjay Kanvinde architect Delhi
86. Prof. Abhijit Shirodkar, IIA Western Region Representative on the CoA.
87. Zarir Mullan, Architect, Mumbai.
88. Parag Parekh, J P Parekh & Son, Architects, Mumbai
89. Yayati M. Tapale, Architect & Member IIA National Council.
90. Ar Sandeep Prabhu, Chairman, Maharashtra chapter, IIA
91. P.K. Das, Architect - PK Das & Associates, Mumbai
92. Samarth Das, Architect, Urban Designer - PK Das & Associates, Mumbai
93. Jarudhi Negi , Architect
94. Rohit Mankar, Architect, Mumbai
95. Abhijeet A. Mahajan, Architect & Urban Planner, Jalgaon, Maharashtra
96. Sathya Prakash Varanashi, Architect, Bangalore
97. Ar. Mayuresh Shirolkar Pune, Maharashtra
98. Ar. Abhijeet Gyal , Architect, Chitradurga/Bangalore
99. Ar Trupti Gyal, Architect, Chitradurga/Bangalore
100. Ajit Mali, Urban Planner, Indore
101. Ar. Vaidehi Lavand, Pune
102. Ar. Priyanka Dapodikar
103. Ar. Karan Misal
104. Ar. Onkar Khebudkar, Pune
105. Ar Anand DK T'puram
106. Muskan Singh, Architect, Pune
107. Sandeep Roy, Architect, Gurgaon
108. Ar Aman Mallick , architect and Govt approved Appraiser's , from New Delhi .
109. Shriya Parasrampuria, Architect, Mumbai
110. Vinod Gupta, New Delhi
111. Ar Rushikesh Shirpewar, Sambhajinagar, MH.
112. Laxmikant Saxena Delhi
113. Mahesh sharma , New Delhi
114. Tarun Walecha, New Delhi
115. Kavas Kapadia, Architect planner, Delhi.
116. Harsh Nag, Architect, Mumbai
117. Narendra Dengele, Architect, Pune
118. Prem Chandavarkar, Architect, Bengaluru
119. Dharmesh Vikramsinh Jadeja, Dustudio, Auroville / Porbandar INTACH.
120. Anita Dharmapal, Architect, Bangalore
121. Vijay Narnapatti, Architect, Bengaluru
122. Rabindra Vasavada Architect Ahmedabad
123. Ar. Shyam Vasant Shelar, Chhatrapati Dinika Thomas Sambhaji Nagar, Maharashtra.
124. Ashok Lall, Architect, Delhi
125. Surya Kakani, architect, ahmedabad
126. Soumitro Ghosh, Architect, Bengaluru
127. Quaid Doongerwala, Architect, Mumbai
128. Ar. Pushkaraj Karakat

129. Revathi Hariharan ,architect ,Bengaluru
130. Ar. Prasad Toro, Pune, Maharashtra
131. Ar Rolin Mendonca Mumbai
132. Anjali Krishan Sharma
133. Ar. Tushar Agrawal, Noida
134. Nilina Deb Lal, Architect, Kolkata
135. Ajit Rao, Lonavala
136. Nirmal Kulkarni, Gurgaon, Delhi NCR.
137. Madhu Pandit, New Delhi
138. Jeeth Iype Architect, GoodEarth, Bangalore.
139. Anubha Kakroo, Architect, New Delhi
140. Madhusudhan, Architect, Hyderabad.
141. Adil Writer, Architect-Artist, Auroville
142. Sasi Menon, Industrial Designer, Gurgaon
143. Rahul Mehrotra, Architect, Mumbai
144. Armaity Rao Sumariwalla, Architect, Mumbai
145. Aanchal Sodhani, New Delhi
146. Ruby khanna, Interior designer
147. Tanishka Kachru, Ahmedabad
148. Joseph Louis DSouza, Architect, Goa
149. Atul Vivek KOTA, Architect
150. Prateek Dulani, Architect, Pune
151. Chitra Vishwanath Bangalore
152. Sanjay Patil Nashik
153. Jacob Panikar Architect, Maryland US
154. N Ramalingam, Architect, Madurai, Tamil Nadu
155. Sonia Gupta, Professor at Woxsen University, Telangana
156. Ar Manish Zanpure Manish Zanpure and Associates, Solapur.
157. Sharath Nayak, Bangalore
158. Anurag Tamhankar, Bangalore
159. Juhi Vyas, Bangalore
160. Elizabeth Kurian, Architect, Goa
161. Immanuel Nicholas Iyadurai, Architect, Bangalore
162. Ar. Saili Kavathankar, Doha Qatar
163. Ar. Rasik Shankarlal Bothara, nashik ,Maharashtra
164. Ar Jimmy Devasia, Goa
165. Ar. Jasleen Grewal Waraich, Landscape Architect , NCR
166. Ram Daultani, Architect
167. Ameet Babbar, Architect, New Delhi
168. Ar.Niranjan Sangawar,Solapur,Maharashtra
169. Ahsan Ansari, Clay architecture & interiors, Mumbai.
170. Architect Sumit Kumath, Nashik
171. Architect Shruti Bhavsar, Nashik
172. Architect Ruchi Khivasra, Nashik
173. Architect Bansri Kumath, Nashik
174. Architect Renuka Deshpande, Nashik
175. Jeeth Iype Architect Bangalore

176. Ar. Shailendra Shamrao Deshmukh AMRAVATI Maharashtra

1. Shri R.K. Oberoi, Registrar, Council of Architecture, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi	With a request to look into the statements and convey relevant provisions of the Architects Act to the Goa State Government.
2. Shri Ramesh B Tawadkar, Hon Speaker, Goa Vidhan Sabha, Porvorim, Goa	With a request in public interest to expunge said comments and threats from the house record to restore professions faith.
3. The Petition Committee, Goa Vidhan Sabha, Porvorim, Goa	With a request to consider this application for a petition for breach of privilege and request a motion to expunge the minister's statements from the house to restore confidence.
4. The President / Secretary, Indian Institute of Architects, 5th Floor, Prospect Chambers Annexe Dr. D.N. Road, Fort, Mumbai	With a request for a letter of concern from the Institute, addressed to respondents 1-3
5. The Committee on Privileges, Goa Vidhan Sabha, Porvorim, Goa	For information in the case a breach of privilege motion is filed.