

## Dinakaran dropped from SC promotion list

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PULLED OUT: The decision was taken in view of the corruption charges against Dinakaran.

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court Collegium headed by Chief Justice of India KG Balakrishnan has dropped the name of Karnataka High Court Justice PD Dinakaran from the list of those recommended for elevation to the Supreme Court.

The name of Justice Dinakaran has been dropped due to the allegations of corruption and land encroachment against him.

Five eminent Jurists had written letters to President Pratibha Patil, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, CJI KG Balakrishnan and Union Law Minister M Veerappa Moily appealing to them not to promote Dinakaran in view of the allegations against him.

The CJI conducted an informal discreet enquiry and also sought report from Tamil Nadu government. The allegations of land encroachment were confirmed when District Collector of Thiruvallur, Palani Kumar, in his report to SC confirmed that Dinakaran had encroached on 197 acres of public land illegally.

Dinakaran, however, rubbished the report and denied the allegations.

According to the CJI, the decision of the Supreme Court Collegium to not promote Dinakaran till the enquiry against him is completed has already been conveyed to the Central Government.

Earlier, Moily had said "nothing will be done which tarnishes the image of the Judiciary".

Meanwhile, the collegium has cleared the decks for elevation of four others to the Apex court namely Justice AK Patnayak (Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court), Justice Tirath Singh Thakur, Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court), Justice SS Nijjar (Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court) and Justice KS Radhakrishna ( Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court).