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Title: Regarding amendments to the PMLA

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): We place on record our deep apprehension on the long-term implication of the recent Supreme Court judgement upholding, in entirety, the amendments to the PMLA without examining whether some of these amendments could have been enacted by way of the Finance Act. If tomorrow the Hon'ble Supreme Court upholds that the challenged amendments through the Finance Act is bad in law, then the entire exercise would become futile and a loss of judicial time. I hold the SC in highest respect, yet compelled to point out that the judgement should have awaited the verdict of a larger Bench for examining the Constitutionality of the Finance Act route to carry out amendments. These far reaching amendments allegedly strengthened the hands of the government, by using these very amended laws relating to money laundering and investigative agencies, to target its political opponents. I urge upon the Government to stop such types of alleged anti-democratic steps.