



Gopinath Munde

Member of Parliament
(Loksabha)

Chairman – Public Accounts Committee
Dy Leader of Opposition

25th January 2010.

To
Shri Manmohan Singh
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

Respected Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to the announcement of the award Padma bhushan to Sant Chatwal by Govt of India.

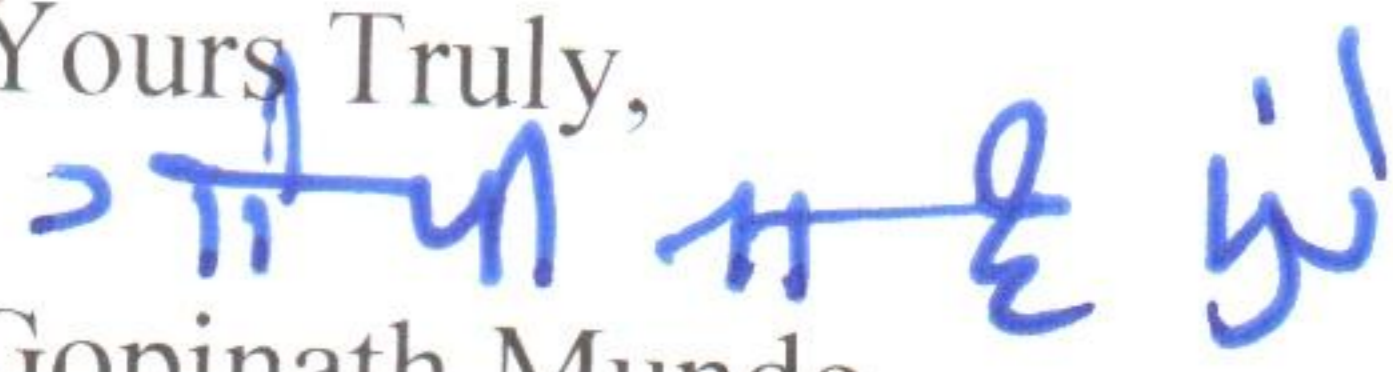
As per my knowledge, Sant Chatwal has been charged by Indian authorities with bank fraud. ON April 30, 2001, he appeared in Mumbai court and posted a \$32,000 bond, according to court officials. Three Indian banks have forced him into U.S. bankruptcy as he owed them millions from business loans. During the 1990s, the IRS & New York city and state tax authorities also pursued liens. CBI has filed four chargesheets against Chatwal for alleged \$ 9 million fraud connected with SBI for which he was also arrested. In 1997, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp sued Chatwal over his role as a director & a guarantor of unpaid loans at the failed New York Bank for business. The govt. alleged that his loans had resulted in losses to the bank in excess of \$12 million and it questioned his claims that he could not repay the debts. The regulators also questioned why Chatwal continued to rent a spacious penthouse apartment in New York in the midst of his financial turmoil.

He is also associated with frauds with Lincoln savings bank, First New York bank, Bank of Baroda & BANK OF India.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that how can such a controversial personality who has always been under the scanner can be recommended for such a prestigious award by the Govt of India. This degrades the high pedestal of the award and casts a wrong impression in public all over the world and brings bad name to our nation.

I would like to request you to investigate into the matter & cancel the award to him immediately. Please find attached herewith the news reports supporting my facts.

Yours Truly,


Gopinath Munde.

Cc: Hon'ble President of India