

Ayodhya Case: SC-appointed mediation panel holds 1st sitting in Faizabad; bans reporting of proceedings in any media

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On Wednesday, Supreme Court-appointed mediation committee for resolution of the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute, held its first sitting in Faizabad.

It heard all parties who attended the proceedings.

The panel which was headed by former Apex Court Judge F M Ibrahim Kalifulla, directed that there should not be any reporting of the mediation proceedings in the print or other media, pointing out the views expressed by the Top Court last week.

Besides Justice Kalifulla, the other members of the committee are Sri Sri Ravi Shankar & Senior Madras HC Advocate Sriram Panchu.

The panel said on Wednesday, "The Chairman and the members of the mediation committee appointed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for resolution of Ramjanmabhoomi/Babri Masjid dispute had assembled for the first meeting at 10.30 a.m. at Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh, to start the mediation proceedings.

Notices had been issued to all the parties to the different Civil Appeals pending in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and to their advocates as well. The Committee heard all the parties who attended the proceedings."

"We are also of the view that the mediation proceedings should be conducted with utmost confidentiality so as to ensure its success which can only be safeguarded by directing that the proceedings of mediation and the views expressed therein by any of the parties including the learned mediators shall be kept confidential and shall not be revealed to any other person," the committee said in its order.

It directed that there should not be ***"any reporting of the mediation proceedings in the print or other media"***.

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