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# Investigating agencies cannot force lawyers to reveal client info, says SC

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Compelling a lawyer to prejudice his or her own client, without the latter's consent or knowledge, amounted to an "outrageous" infringement of the client's constitutional right against self-incrimination under **Article 20(3) of the Constitution**.

The judgment recorded that lawyers were not at the beck-and-call of probe agencies. Their ability to protect their clients without fear was part of their fundamental rights under **Article 19(1)(g)** and **Article 21** of the Constitution, coupled with the provisions of **the Advocates Act, 1961**.

The court said lawyer client privilege was protected in **Section 132 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) of 2023**, which mandates that an advocate cannot be coerced into revealing any information with respect to the client he represents or the cause he is engaged to prosecute or defend.

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