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On 3rd May 2019, I was on a morning flight from New Delhi to Kangra (Himachal Pradesh). An incident occurred at around 6:30 AM on the flight. The incident was reported widely in the local media. This has caused immense concern and anxiety among my Dharma friends from across the world. Hence, I thought I should issue a clarification about this incident.

i) The Actual Incident: On the flight, there was a male seated to my right and two women seated on my left. The aisle separated the seats that the women were seated in and my seat. They were not adjacent to my seat. A little while after the flight had taken off, I got up to keep something back in my bag in the overhead baggage bin. While sitting down, since I suffer from chronic knee pain, I could not sit down straight in my seat and I held the armrest of the seat on the women's side to support myself. At that moment, the lady occupying that seat woke up. She appeared angry and said something to me. Since I did not understand what she was saying I just smiled back and took my seat. But she continued to say things to me, which then prompted me to change my seat, and I took a seat in one of the back rows. When the plane landed she reported the incident to the local police and alleged that I had touched her body inappropriately.

ii) The following day, a HINDI newspaper published the lady's allegation, along with a false picture. The newspaper even published that I am working in His Holiness's Office even though I am not a staff of His Holiness's Office and never have I made a claim to that effect.

iii) Many years ago a nun who experienced some physical and mental problems approached me to receive a blessing as a cure for the problems. In response, I performed Jabtru, a water purification ritual, and Kakgo, a ritual to remove obstacles. After about three years, she used these rituals as a reason to accuse me of inappropriately touching her. Following which, the two of us along with six persons as witnesses met and clarified the truth.

Whether you support me or are critical of me, I request you not to let either your love or contempt to accumulate bad karma for you. From my side, I have never committed a misdeed like this to feel ashamed of. I do not hold any grudge, anger or expectation toward those who have made these baseless allegations and have accused me of misdeeds that I did not commit. I welcome you to use whatever means you can to continue to wrongly accuse me. By doing so, I pray that may your immediate and ultimate aspirations get fulfilled, may you never experience suffering and may you always experience joy. I am a person, who has dedicated everything - my body, resources and all my merit - for the benefit of all the sentient beings. May victory be to all others; while defeat be mine alone. I am grateful to you; since in you I have found a supreme teacher of patience.

Dagri Tulku  
13 May 2019