

ITEM NO.10

COURT NO.1

CORRECTED  
SECTION PIL-W

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

WRIT PETITION(S)(CIVIL) NO(S). 13029/1985

M.C. MEHTA

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

RESPONDENT(S)

NOTE ON BEHALF OF AMICUS CURIAE ON AIR QUALITY MONITORING DATA.

Date : 17-11-2025 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K. VINOD CHANDRAN  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE N.V. ANJARIA

Amicus Curiae

Ms. Aparajita Singh, Sr. Advocate  
Ms. Uttara Babbar, Sr. Advocate  
  
Mr. Harish N. Salve, Sr. Advocate (N.P.)  
  
Mr. A.D.N. Rao, Sr. Advocate (N.P.)  
  
Ms. Shibani Ghosh, Advocate  
Mr. Siddhartha Chowdhury, Advocate

For Petitioner(s) : Petitioner-in-person  
Applicant-in-person

For Respondent(s)/Applicant(s) :

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.  
Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, AOR  
Ms. Suhasini Sen, Adv.  
Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Adv.  
Mr. Chitvan Singhal, Adv.  
Ms. Neelakshi Bhadouria, Adv.  
Mr. Rohan Gupta, Adv.

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.  
Mr. Chitransh Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Chitvan Singhal, Adv.  
Ms. Chitragda Rashtravara, Adv.

Mr. Kanu Agrawal, Adv.  
Ms. Shivika Mehra, Adv.  
Mr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Rajesh Kr. Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Madhav Sinhal, Adv.  
Ms. Suhasini Sen, Adv.  
Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv.  
Mr. Amrish Kumar, AOR

Mrs. Aishwarya Bhati Ld, A.S.G.  
Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR  
Mr. Rajesh Kumar Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Jagdish Chandra, Adv.  
Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv.  
Ms. Suhashini Sen, Adv.  
Mr. Aman Mehta, Adv.

Mr. Gopal Sankaranarayanan, Sr. Adv.  
Ms. Manali Singhal, Adv.

Mr. Rahul Mehra, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Vivek Jain, A.A.G.  
Mr. Karan Sharma, AOR

Mr. Sanjay Kr. Visen, AOR

Mr. Abhishek Saket, Adv.  
Mr. Sudeep Kumar, AOR  
Ms. Manisha, Adv.  
Ms. Rupali, Adv.

Mr. Sandeep Kr. Jha, AOR

Mr. Jyoti Mendiratta, AOR  
Mr. Sudhir Mendiratta, AOR  
Mr. Brvarma Sudhir Mendiratta, Adv.

Mr. Rahul Khurana, AOR

Mr. Lokesh Sinhal, Sr. A.A.G.  
Mr. Rahul Khurana, AOR

Mr. Lokesh Sinhal, Sr. A.A.G.  
Mr. B.k. Satija, A.A.G.  
Mr. Rakesh Kumar Mudgal, A.A.G.  
Mr. Akshay Amritanshu, AOR  
Mr. Rahul Khurana, Adv.  
Mr. Nikunj Gupta, Adv.  
Ms. Aakanksha, Adv.  
Ms. Ishika Gupta, Adv.  
Mr. Sarthak Arya, Adv.

Ms. Drishti Rawal, Adv.  
Mr. Sarthak Shrivastava, Adv.  
Mr. Mayur Goyal, Adv.  
Ms. Seema Sindhu, Adv.  
Ms. Kirti, Adv.  
Ms. Richa Verma, Adv.  
Mr. Ravi Vashisht, Adv.

Mr. P. K. Jain, AOR  
Mr. Ramesh Babu M. R., AOR  
Mr. Rajesh Kumar Chaurasia, AOR

Ms. Sujeeta Srivastava, AOR  
Mr. Anil Kumar Jha, AOR  
Mr. Mukesh K. Giri, AOR  
Mr. Rakesh K. Sharma, AOR

Mrs. Anil Katiyar, AOR  
M/S. Parekh & Co., AOR  
Mr. Sushil Kumar Singh, AOR  
Mr. Hardeep Singh Anand, AOR  
Mr. Sandeep Narain, AOR

Mr. Nishe Rajen Shonker, AOR  
Mrs. Anu K Joy, Adv.  
Mr. Alim Anvar, Adv.  
Mr. Santhosh K, Adv.  
Mrs. Devika A.l., Adv.

Ms. Nandini Gidwaney, AOR  
Mrs. Rani Chhabra, AOR  
Mr. G. Prakash, AOR  
Ms. Shalini Kaul, AOR  
Mr. K. R. Sasiprabhu, AOR  
Mr. Shri Narain, AOR  
Mr. Umesh Kumar Khaitan, AOR  
Mrs. Priya Puri, AOR  
Ms. Manjula Gupta, AOR  
Mrs. K. Sarada Devi, AOR  
Mr. Sanjay Kumar Visen, AOR  
Mr. Rajiv Ranjan Dwivedi, AOR  
M/S. Khaitan & Co., AOR  
Mr. T. V. Ratnam, AOR  
Mr. Balaji Srinivasan, AOR  
Mr. Aniruddha Deshmukh, AOR  
Mr. Ravindra Bana, AOR  
Mr. S. S. Shroff, AOR  
Mr. Sushil Kumar Jain, AOR  
Mr. Abhishek, AOR

Mr. Sarvam Ritam Khare, AOR  
Mr. Kushagra Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Akarsh Khare, Adv.

Mr. Surya Kant, AOR  
Mrs. B. Sunita Rao, AOR

Mr. Mohit D. Ram, AOR

Mr. Alok Gupta, AOR  
Mr. Pramod Dayal, AOR  
Mr. R. P. Gupta, AOR  
Mr. P. Parmeswaran, AOR  
Mr. Rakesh Kumar-i, AOR  
Mr. Satya Mitra, AOR  
M/S. M. V. Kini & Associates, AOR  
Mr. Pavan Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Parijat Sinha, AOR  
M/S. Saharya & Co., AOR  
Mr. Ejaz Maqbool, AOR  
M/S. S. Narain & Co., AOR

Mr. Chirag M. Shroff, AOR

Mr. Mahesh Agarwal, Adv.  
Mr. Rohan Talwar, Adv.  
Mr. Naman Agarwal, Adv.  
Mr. E. C. Agrawala, AOR

Ms. Menaka Guruswamy, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. S Wasim A Qadri, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Praveen Swarup, AOR  
Mr. Praveen Swarup, Adv.  
Mr. Ajay Bansal, Adv.  
Mr. Devesh Maurya, Adv.  
Mr. Rohit Swarup, Adv.  
Mr. Ravi Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. Krishan Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Prashant Kumar, AOR

Mr. Radha Shyam Jena, AOR  
Ms. Hemantika Wahi, AOR  
Ms. Binu Tamta, AOR  
Mr. V. K. Verma, AOR  
Mr. Ajit Pudussery, AOR

Mr. Shiv Vinayak Gupta, Adv.  
Mrs. Bina Gupta, AOR  
Ms. Anushka Rawal, Adv.  
Ms. Kritika Singh, Adv.

Mr. Ashok Mathur, AOR  
Ms. Pritha Srikumar Iyer, AOR

Mr. Vivek Gupta, AOR  
Mr. Vinay Garg, AOR

M/S. Ram Sankar & Co, AOR  
Dr. Ram Sankar, Adv.  
Mrs. Ram Sankar, Adv.

Mr. P. Parmeswaran, AOR  
Mr. Durga Dutt, AOR  
Mr. Soumya Dutta, AOR

M/S. Ram Sankar & Co, AOR  
Dr. Ram Sankar, Adv.  
Mrs. Ram Sankar, Adv.

Ms. Malvika Kapila, AOR  
Mr. K. Paari Vendhan, AOR

Mr. Varun Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Kajal S Gupta, Adv.  
Mr. Mudit Gupta, AOR

Mr. Kawaljit Singh Bhatia, AOR  
Ms. Surbhi Mehta, AOR  
Mr. Shovan Mishra, AOR  
Ms. G. Indira, AOR  
Mr. Prakash Ranjan Nayak, AOR

Mrs. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.  
Mr. Raj Bahadur Yadav, AOR  
Mr. Ashok Kumar B, Adv.  
Mrs. Chitrangda Rastravara, Adv.  
Ms. Shivika Mehra, Adv.  
Mr. Udit Dedhiya, Adv.

Mr. Avijit Mani Tripathi, AOR  
Mr. T.k. Nayak, Adv.

Sameer Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Ajay Pal, AOR  
Mr. Gaurav Kejriwal, AOR

Mr. Sameer Abhyankar, AOR  
Mr. Krishna Rastogi, Adv.  
Ms. Ripul Swati Kumari, Adv.  
Mr. Aryan Srivastava, Adv.

Mr. Shankey Agrawal, AOR  
Mr. Ankit Roy, AOR

Mr. Mukesh Verma, Adv.  
Mrs. Vatsala Tripathi, Adv.

Ms. Manisha, Adv.  
Mr. Krishna Prakash Dubay, Adv.  
Mr. Yash Pal Dhingra, AOR

Mr. Ashutosh Dubey, AOR  
Mrs. Rajshri Dubey, Adv.  
Mr. Abhishek Chauhan, Adv.  
Mr. Amit P Shahi, Adv.  
Mr. Amit Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. H B Dubey, Adv.  
Mr. Rahul Sethi, Adv.  
Mr. Shashibhushan Nagar, Adv.  
Mr. Sumant A Khan, Adv.  
Mrs. Sona Khan, Adv.  
Mr. Rajendra Anbhule, Adv.  
Ms. Chanda Trikha, Adv.  
Mr. Anjan Datta, Adv.  
Mrs. Rekha Chaudhary, Adv.  
Mr. Rishabh Bhardwaj, Adv.

Ms. G. Indira, AOR  
Mr. Aakarshan Aditya, AOR  
Mr. Nitin Saluja, AOR  
Mr. Nirnimesh Dube, AOR  
Ms. Rashmi Malhotra, AOR

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.  
Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, AOR  
Ms. Suhasini Sen, Adv.  
Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Adv.  
Mr. Chitvan Singhal, Adv.  
Ms. Neelakshi Bhadouria, Adv.  
Mr. Rohan Gupta, Adv.

Mr. Dhananjaya Mishra, AOR

Ms. Srishti Agnihotri, AOR

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.  
Ms. Suhasini Sain, Adv.  
Mr. Rajesh Kr. Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv.  
Mr. Shubhranshu Padhi, Adv.  
Mr. Sudarshan Lamba, AOR

M/S. Karanjawala & Co., AOR

Mr. V. N. Raghupathy, AOR

Mr. Chandra Prakash, AOR  
Mr. Mahfooz Ahsan Nazki, AOR  
Mr. Satya Mitra, AOR

Mr. Deepayan Mandal, AOR

Mr. Ravindra S. Garia, AOR  
Mr. Shashank Singh, Adv.

Mr. Gaurav Choudhary, AOR

Mr. Ravindra Kumar, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Binay Kumar Das, AOR  
Ms. Priyanka Das, Adv.  
Ms. Neha Das, Adv.  
Mr. Shivam Saxena, Adv.  
Mr. Vikas Bharti, Adv.

Mr. Aravindh S., AOR  
Ms. Anika Bansal, Adv.  
Mr. Aman Gautam, Adv.

Ms. Meenakshi Chauhan, AOR

Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, AOR  
Mr. Deepayan Dutta, Adv.  
Mr. Saurabh Tripathi, Adv.

Ms. Charu Ambwani, AOR  
Mr. Subhro Sanyal, AOR  
Mr. Vinodh Kanna B., AOR  
Mr. Prasanna S., AOR  
Ms. Shalu Sharma, AOR  
Mr. Sahil Tagotra, AOR  
Mr. Talha Abdul Rahman, AOR  
Mr. Guntur Pramod Kumar, AOR

Mr. Rishi Sehgal, AOR  
Mr. Akash Vashishtha, Adv.  
Mr. Midhun Aggarwal, Adv.  
Ms. Ritu Dhingra, Adv.

Mr. Kunal Mimani, AOR  
Ms. Afsha Hakim, Adv.

Mr. Kumar Anurag Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Tulika Mukherjee, AOR  
Mr. Zain A. Khan, Adv.  
Mr. Dev Aaryan, Adv.

Ms. Divya Jyoti Singh, AOR  
Mr. Yoginder Handoo, AOR  
Ms. Misha Rohatgi, AOR  
Mr. Sandeep Singh, AOR  
Ms. Mithu Jain, AOR

Ms. Asha Gopalan Nair, AOR  
Mr. Shashikant Pralhad Chaudhari, Adv.

Mr. Akhil Anand, AOR

Mrs. Prerna Dhall, Adv.  
Mr. Ambuj Swaroop, Adv.  
Mr. Kapil Katare, Adv.  
Ms. Rajnandani Kumari, Adv.  
Mr. Prashant Singh, AOR  
Ms. Minakshi Pandey, Adv.

Mr. Shivendra Singh, AOR  
Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, AOR  
M/S. Meharia & Company, AOR  
Ms. Sakshi Kakkar, AOR  
Mr. Akshay Girish Ringe, AOR  
Mr. Anuj Bhandari, AOR

Mr. Shiv Mangal Sharma, A.A.G.  
Mr. Saurabh Rajpal, Adv.  
Ms. Shalini Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR

Mr. Ravi Prakash, AOR  
Ms. N. Annapoorani, AOR  
Mr. S. Gowthaman, AOR  
M/S. Ahmadi Law Offices, AOR

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.  
Suhashini Sen, Adv.  
Rajesh Kr.singh, Adv.  
Subhranshu Padhi, Adv.  
Gaurang Bhushan, Adv.  
Raghav Sharma, Adv.  
Jagdish Chandra, Adv.  
Dr. N. Visakamurthy, AOR

Mr. Aashhish Chauhan, Adv.  
Ms. Sonal Chauhan, Adv.  
Ms. Vanya Gupta, AOR

Ms. Kajal Dalal, AOR

Mr. Ashish Pandey, AOR  
Mr. Prateek Rai, Adv.  
Mr. Ashutosh Bhardwaj, Adv.  
Mr. Shubham Saxena, Adv.  
Mr. Anmol Goyal, Adv.  
Mr. Ali Mohhamad Khan, Adv.  
Mr. Vikram Kumar, Adv.  
Ms. Ashima Sharma, Adv.

Ms. Jyoti Verma, Adv.  
Mr. Aman Kaushik, Adv.

Ms. Divya Roy, AOR  
Ms. Shagun Matta, AOR  
Mr. Vinay Garg, AOR  
Mr. Anil Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Rakesh Kumar-i, AOR

Mr. Pukhrambam Ramesh Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Karun Sharma, Adv.  
Ms. Anupama Ngangom, Adv.  
Ms. Rajkumari Divyasana, Adv.

Mr. Vikrant Singh Bais, AOR  
Ms. Neeru Vaid, AOR

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.  
Ms. Kanu Agrawal, Adv.  
Mr. Bhuvan Kapoor, Adv.  
Mr. Varun Chugh, Adv.  
Mr. Krishna Kant Dubey, Adv.  
Ms. Indira Bhakar, Adv.  
Santosh Ramdurg, Adv.  
Mr. Shreekant Neelappa Terdal, AOR

Mr. Saurabh Agrawal, AOR  
Mr. Devansh Srivastava, AOR  
Mr. Luv Virmani, AOR  
Mr. Shekhar Kumar, AOR  
M/S. S. Narain & Co., AOR  
Ms. Aswathi M.k., AOR

Mr. Neeraj Shekhar, AOR  
Mr. Rajesh Maurya, Adv.  
Mrs. Kshama Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Kanishak Saini, Adv.  
Ms. Ashok Kumar Rai, Adv.

Ms. Lubna Naaz, AOR  
Mr. Parminder Singh Bhullar, AOR

M/S. Mukesh Kumar Singh And Co., AOR  
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Narendra Kumar Goyal, Adv.  
Mr. C.m. Dwivedi, Adv.  
Mr. Jeetendra Kumar, Adv.  
Ms. Kajal Rani, Adv.  
Ms. Komal Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Kadam Hans, Adv.  
Mr. Savyasachi Dubey, Adv.  
Mr. Naveen Yadav, Adv.

Mr. Alok Gupta, AOR  
Mr. K. V. Mohan, AOR  
Mr. Yash S. Vijay, AOR  
M/S. Lex Regis Law Offices, AOR  
Miss Kanika Singhal, AOR  
Ms. Jaikriti S. Jadeja, AOR  
Mr. Rajan Narain, AOR  
Gaurav, AOR  
Mr. T. R. B. Sivakumar, AOR  
Mr. Mohit Paul, AOR

Mr. Nischal Kumar Neeraj, AOR  
Mr. Vishal Mudgal, Adv.  
Mr. Amod Kumar Mishra, Adv.  
Mr. Shafiq Khan, Adv.  
Ms. Anjani Suri, Adv.  
Ms. Neelima Bagoria, Adv.  
Ms. Reema Roy, Adv.  
Mrs. Sabika Ahmad, Adv.  
Mrs. Smerity Rani, Adv.  
Mrs. Raj Rani, Adv.  
Ms. Lakshmi, Adv.  
Ms. Banisha Verma, Adv.  
Mr. Deependra Kumar Pathak, Adv.  
Mr. Amit Kumar, Adv.

Ms. Aastha Mehta, Adv.  
Ms. Deepanwita Priyanka, AOR  
Mr. Deepak Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Shishir Kumar Jha, Adv.  
Ms. Prerana Mohapatra, Adv.  
Ms. Priyal Sheth, Adv.

Ms. Ankita Sharma, AOR  
Mr. Arjun D. Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Ishika Neogi, Adv.

Mr. Kumar Dushyant Singh, AOR  
Mr. Karan Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Anuj Sharma, Adv.

Mr. A. Venayagam Balan, AOR

Mr. Balraj Singh Malik, Adv.  
Dr. Pratap Singh Nerwal, AOR

Mr. S. S. Shroff, AOR  
Ms. Astha Tyagi, AOR  
Mr. Sandeep Kumar Jha, AOR  
M/S. M. V. Kini & Associates, AOR  
Ms. Manju Jetley, AOR

Mr. Nishit Agrawal, AOR  
Mr. Raghvendra Kumar, AOR

Mr. Anando Mukherjee, AOR  
Mr. Shwetank Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Utkarsh Anand, Adv.

Ms. Sanjivani Aggarwal, Adv.  
Ms. Jyoti Aggarwal, Adv.  
Mr. Pradeep Shekhawat, Adv.  
Ms. Filza Moonis, AOR

Mr. Divyanshu Kumar Srivastava, AOR  
Mr. Shivam Nagpal, Adv.

Mr. Adarsh Tripathi , AOR  
Mr. Rajiv Yadav, AOR

Ms. Madhumita Bhattacharjee, AOR  
Ms. Debarati Sadhu, Adv.  
Mr. Anant, Adv.  
Mr. Dhruv Bhalla, Adv.  
Mr. B. Jagat Nayan, Adv.

Mr. Ayush Sharma, AOR  
Mr. Gopal Jha, AOR

Mr. Pradeep Misra, AOR  
Mr. Daleep Dhyani, Adv.  
Mr. Suraj Singh, Adv.

Mr. Manish Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Kumar Saurav, Adv.  
Mr. Divyansh Mishra, Adv.  
Mr. Hemant Kumar Sagar, Adv.

Mr. Harsh V. Surana, AOR

Mr. Joydip Roy, A.A.G.  
Mr. Veer Vikrant, D.A.G.  
Mr. Yashraj Singh Bundela, AOR  
Mrs. Pratima Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Arpit Garg, Adv.

Mr. Pulkit Agarwal, AOR

Mr. Satish Kumar, AOR  
Mr. S S Bandyopadhyay, Adv.  
Mr. Syed Miran Ahmad, Adv.  
Mr. Abhaya Nath Das, Adv.  
Mr. B C Bhatt, Adv.

Mr. Raj Kumar Mishra, Adv.  
Mr. Chandan Kumar Pandey, Adv.  
Mr. Pradeep Kumar Mishra, Adv.  
Ms. Swati Mishra, Adv.  
Ms. Sitara Yadav, Adv.  
Mr. Abhay Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Palak Joshi, Adv.  
Ms. Thithiksha Padmam, Adv.  
Ms. Twinkle Rathi, Adv.  
Ms. Swagoti Batchas, Adv.  
Mr. Om Prakash Sapra, Adv.  
Mr. Hukum Deo Prasad, Adv.  
Mrs. Barnali Basak, Adv.  
Mr. Boya Kranthi Naidu, Adv.

Ms. Ameyavikrama Thanvi , AOR

Mr. Karan Dewan, Adv.  
Ms. Aanchal Jain, AOR

Ms. K. Enatoli Sema, AOR  
Ms. K. Enatoli Sema, Adv.  
Mr. Amit Kumar Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Chubalemla Chang, Adv.  
Mr. Prang Newmai, Adv.  
Ms. Yanmi Phazang, Adv.

Mr. Anas Tanwir, AOR  
Ms. Puja Sharma, AOR  
Mr. Shishir Deshpande, AOR  
Mr. D.kumanan, AOR  
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, AOR  
Ms. Rakhi Ray, AOR  
Ms. Ishita Jain , AOR  
Mr. Manish Kumar Gupta, AOR

Mr. Sravan Kumar Karanam, AOR  
Ms. G. Sushmita, Adv.  
Mr. Santosh Kumar Yadav, Adv.

Mr. Vinayak Sharma, Standing Counsel, Adv.  
Mr. Ravinder Kumar Yadav, AOR

Mr. M. P. Devanath, AOR

Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Sr. Adv.  
Ms. Srishti Mishra, Adv.  
Ms. Jasneet Kaur, Adv.  
Mr. Sumeet Mishra, Adv.  
Mr. R. C. Kohli, AOR

Mr. Rishi Matoliya, AOR

Mr. Anurag Kishore, AOR  
Ms. Mayuri Raghuvanshi, AOR  
Mr. Neeraj Kumar Gupta, AOR  
Ms. Pritha Srikumar Iyer, AOR  
Ms. Rooh-e-hina Dua, AOR  
Ms. Vrinda Bhandari, AOR  
Ms. Charu Mathur, AOR

Mr. Shrirang B. Varma, Adv.  
Mr. Siddharth Dharmadhikari, Adv.  
Mr. Aaditya Aniruddha Pande, AOR

Mr. Kailash Prashad Pandey, AOR  
Mr. Varun Varma, Adv.  
Mr. Hitesh Kumar Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Amit Kumar Chawla, Adv.  
Mr. Akhileshwar Jha, Adv.  
Mr. Mahi Pal Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Sandeep Singh Dingra, Adv.  
Mr. Supriya, Adv.  
Mr. Rajesh Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Javed Raza, Adv.  
Ms. Manisha Chawla, Adv.  
Ms. Niharika Dwivedi, Adv.  
Ms. Swati Vishan, Adv.  
Mr. Ishank Ranjan, Adv.  
Mr. Prakhar Shukla, Adv.  
Mr. Jatin Malik, Adv.  
Mr. Anupam Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. Lalit Dixit, Adv.  
Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Pranav Sachdeva, AOR  
Mr. Sanyam Jain, Adv.  
Mr. P Rohit Ram, Adv.

Mr. Sameer Shrivastava, AOR  
Ms. Nidhi Mohan Parashar, AOR

Mr. Ajay Bansal, Adv.  
Mr. Kuldip Singh, AOR  
Mr. Gaurav Yadava, Adv.  
Mrs. Veena Bansal, Adv.  
Mr. Sourav Jindal, Adv.  
Ms. Anmol M. Kaur, Adv.

Ms. Anushree Prashit Kapadia, AOR

Dr. Brij Bhushan K Jauhari, Adv.  
Mr. Deepak Jyoti Ghildiyal, Adv.  
Mr. O P Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Harsh Mahan, Adv.

Mr. Nirdosh Bholā Vishen, Adv.  
Mr. Aditya R Swami, Adv.  
Ms. Sudha Pal, Adv.  
Ms. Purnima Jauhari, AOR

Mr. Danish Zubair Khan, AOR  
Dr. Lokendra Malik, Adv.  
Ms. Swati Yadav, Adv.

Mr. Vikas Mehta, AOR

Mr. Varun Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Kajal S Gupta, Adv.  
Mr. Mudit Gupta, AOR

Ms. K. V. Bharathi Upadhyaya, AOR  
Ms. Pritama, Adv.  
Ms. Shaivani Gupta, Adv.  
Dr. Sunita, Adv.  
Ms. D Poornima, Adv.  
Mr. Sufyan Hasan, Adv.  
Ms. Hema Malik, Adv.

Mr. Shantwanu Singh, AOR  
Ms. Surabhi Sanchita, AOR  
Mr. Vinod Sharma, AOR

Mr. Debojit Borkakati, AOR

Mr. Vikrant Singh Bais, AOR

Ms. Manali Singhal, Adv.  
Ms. Diksha Rai, AOR  
Ms. Aanchal Kapoor, Adv.

Mr. Ketan Paul, AOR  
Mr. Hiren Dasan, AOR

Mr. Ajay Vikram Singh, AOR  
Mrs. Priyanka Singh, Adv.  
Mr. M Amir Faiyaz, Adv.  
Ms. Anushka Rajora, Adv.

Mr. Niraj Gupta, AOR  
Ms. Anshu Gupta, Adv.  
Ms. Siddhi Gupta, Adv.  
Mr. Shubham Gupta, Adv.

Ms. Shibani Ghosh, AOR  
Mr. Tarun Gupta, AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

**ISSUE REGARDING AIR QUALITY IN DELHI**

1. The present issue pertains to the high level of pollution in the city of Delhi. In an attempt to address the said issue, this Court has time and again passed various orders.
2. However, we are of the considered view, that this issue cannot be addressed by way of a temporary solution and that a long-term solution needs to be worked out. Ms. Aparajita Singh, learned Amicus Curiae as well as Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, learned Additional Solicitor General of India, appearing on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change<sup>1</sup> are *ad-idem* with us on the aforesaid.
3. Learned Amicus Curiae submits that though as per the affidavit filed by the State of Punjab, the number of incidents of stubble burning have been shown to have decreased, there is no reduction in the level of pollution.
4. She further submits that though the State of Punjab and  
1 Hereinafter referred as, MoEF&CC.

Haryana, with the aid of the Union of India, have provided equipments to the farmers as well as the concerned societies - so as to prevent stubble burning, the equipments are not being utilized to the full capacity. She says so relying upon the aforesaid affidavit which demonstrates that even after the reduction in the incidents of the stubble burning, the menace of pollution remains the same.

5. Shri. Gopal Sankarnarayan, learned senior counsel appearing on behalf of one of the intervenors submits that taking into consideration the pollution in Delhi, which has rendered the city akin to a gas chamber, all activities (*detailed under Graded Response Action Plan<sup>2</sup> Stage-I, inter-alia, enforcing a strict ban on all construction and demolition activities*) should be prohibited in the city of Delhi throughout the year.
6. Shri. Sankarnarayan has handed over a comprehensive chart detailing the Air Quality Index<sup>3</sup> standard as per the Environmental Protection Agency in the State of California

2 Hereinafter referred as, GRAP.

3 Hereinafter referred as, AQI.

and comparing the same with the corresponding AQI standards in India. Shri. Sankarnarayan submits that the comparison of the AQI standards would show that even when the pollution is categorised as 'unhealthy' in California, it would only show as 'moderately polluted' in India.

7. However, the learned Amicus Curiae as well as the learned Additional Solicitor General of India submit that banning of all construction and demolition activities in the city of Delhi cannot be a solution - to control the menace of pollution.
8. It is not in dispute that GRAP is divided into four stages depending upon the AQI recorded for the relevant period.

The stages of GRAP are detailed below:

<b>STAGE OF GRAP</b>	<b>AQI Level</b>
STAGE-I	201-300
STAGE-II	301-400
STAGE-III	401-450
STAGE-IV	450+

9. As detailed above, restrictions are imposed on the activities that are to be carried out on the basis of the AQI. Such restrictions have been finalised by the experts on the basis

of scientific data. We, however, state with complete candour that we do not possess expertise in this field.

10. We are, therefore, not inclined to accept the submission of Shri. Sankarnarayan that this Court should take the bold decision to stop all construction and demolition activities in the city of Delhi for the entire year.
11. We say so because we cannot lose sight of the fact that a large chunk of population, from various states, depend for their livelihood by engaging in such activities in the city of Delhi. We are thus of the considered view that this Court has to balance the environmental concerns and the development activities, which has also been observed by this Court in catena of judgments.
12. Be that as it may, at the cost of repetition we state that a long-term solution needs to be worked out in order to tackle the menace of pollution, which can be carried out in a graded manner. For that, in our view, a combined action plan by the MoEF&CC along with the adjoining states of

Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan would be necessary.

13. At this juncture, our attention is drawn to the communication dated 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025, issued by the Commission of Air Quality<sup>4</sup> in the National Capital Region and the adjoining areas. The said communication would show that the said issue is being considered with requisite sincerity. In the aforesaid communication, the CAQM has stated thus:

“7. The Commission also expressed serious concerns in respect of implementation status of its directions and instructed the Government of Punjab to immediately scale-up their efforts to comply with Commission’s directions in letter and spirit. Further, it was directed that the Deputy Commissioners may immediately initiate actions against the nodal officers and other functionaries under whom higher number of farm fires have been recorded. The Commission

<sup>4</sup> Hereinafter referred as, CAQM.

also warned of stern action against Deputy Commissioners and SSPs of districts, if any negligence is noticed in controlling fire incidents.

8. It has also been noticed that there are paddy stubble burning incidences which are not recorded through standard protocol. However, for addressing such issues, the Commission has time and again stressed on stringent supervision, strict implementation and rigorous enforcement of the Action Plan aiming at complete elimination of paddy stubble burning.

9. To this effect, the Commission directed for tagging of specific nodal officers to groups of farmers, covering all farmers in the district with the norm of tagging 50 farmers with each nodal officer. Further, it was also directed for constitution of a dedicated “Parali Protection Force” at the district/block level comprising of police officers, officers of the Agriculture Department, administrative officers,

nodal/cluster officers and officials from other stakeholder Departments to closely monitor, oversee and guard against any incidence of open paddy stubble burning.”

14. We find that if the aforesaid directions issued by the CAQM to the State of Punjab and the State of Haryana are scrupulously implemented, the issue of stubble burning can be addressed to a large extent.
15. We, therefore, direct the Chief Secretary of both the State of Punjab as well as the State of Haryana to ensure that the said directions issued by the CAQM are scrupulously implemented.
16. Further, Ms. Bhati informs us that the Union of India is taking the issue very seriously and the Hon'ble Minister at MoEF&CC convened a meeting with the Environment Ministers of all the concerned states on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025. Ms. Bhati states that if a day's time is given, she would obtain necessary instructions from the authorities *viz.*, what further steps could be taken so as to find a long-

term solution to the menace of pollution.

17. We, therefore, adjourn the matter to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2025, so that the learned Additional Solicitor General of India can obtain instructions from the concerned authorities at MoEF&CC with regard to the proposed plan of action.
18. At this stage, the learned Amicus Curiae addressed an issue with regard to the efficiency of the Air Quality Monitors installed in the city of Delhi. According to her, the said equipments are outdated and they are not suitable for the capital city. Ms. Bhati counters the said submission and states that the equipments used in the city of Delhi are one of the best available in the world.
19. In view of the aforesaid, we direct the Government of NCT of Delhi to place on record an affidavit/note specifying therein (i) the nature of equipments being used by the Government, and (ii) the efficiency of the equipments to gauge the air quality.

I.A. NOS.122098/2025 & 175183-175184/2025

1. Issue notice.
2. Dasti service, in addition, is granted.

**(NARENDRA PRASAD)**  
**DEPUTY REGISTRAR**

**(ANJU KAPOOR)**  
**ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

WRIT PETITION(S)(CIVIL) NO(S). 13029/1985

M.C. MEHTA

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA &amp; ORS.

RESPONDENT(S)

Date : 17-11-2025 This matter was mentioned today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K. VINOD CHANDRAN  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE N.V. ANJARIA

Amicus Curiae

Ms. Aparajita Singh, Sr. Advocate  
Ms. Uttara Babbar, Sr. Advocate  
  
Ms. Shibani Ghosh, Advocate  
  
Mr. Siddhartha Chowdhury, Advocate  
  
Mr. Harish N. Salve, Sr. Advocate (N.P.)  
  
Mr. A.D.N. Rao, Sr. Advocate (N.P.)

Counsel for parties

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.  
Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, AOR  
Ms. Suhasini Sen, Adv.  
Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Adv.  
Mr. Chitvan Singhal, Adv.  
Ms. Neelakshi Bhadouria, Adv.  
Mr. Rohan Gupta, Adv.  
  
Mr. Rahul Mehra, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Vivek Jain, A.A.G.  
Mr. Karan Sharma, AORUPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E RC.W.P. No.24772/2023

1. On mentioning by Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, learned Additional Solicitor General, C.W.P. No.24772/2023, which is pending before the High Court of Punjab and Haryana, is directed to be transferred

to this Court and shall be taken up for hearing along with the issue relating to air quality monitoring in W.P.(C) No. 13029/1985, which is fixed for listing on 19.11.2025.

2. On receipt of the record, the Registry of this Court shall process the same as per rules.

3. The Registrar (Judicial-Listing) to ensure that all the papers relating to C.W.P. No.24772/2023 reach this Court prior to 10:30 a.m. on 19.11.2025.

(NARENDRA PRASAD)  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

(ANJU KAPOOR)  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR