

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)

[HEARD BY: HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND HON'BLE K.VINOD CHANDRAN, J.] (1) I.A. NO. 208841/2025 (APPLICATION FOR DIRECTION) (2) I.A. NO. 208905/2025 (APPLICATION FOR DIRECTION) (3) I.A. NO. 206552/2025 (APPLICATION FOR INTERVENTION) NAME OF THE FOLLOWING ADVOCATES MAY BE TREATED TO HAVE BEEN SHOWN IN THE LIST: MR. HARISH N. SALVE, SR. ADVOCATE (A.C.) MS. APARAJITA SINGH, SR. ADVOCATE (A.C.) MS. UTTARA BABBAR, SR. ADVOCATE (A.C.) MR. A.D.N. RAO, SR. ADVOCATE (A.C.) MS. SHIBANI GHOSH, ADVOCATE (A.C.) MR. SIDDHARTHA CHOWDHURY, ADVOCATE (A.C.) MR. G.S. MAKKER, MR. AMRISH KUMAR, MR. M.K. MARORIA, MR. SANJAY KR. VISEN, MR. SUDEEP KUMAR, MR. KARAN SHARMA, MR. SANDEEP KR. JHA, MR. JYOTI MENDIRATTA, MR. RAHUL KHURANA, MR. DEVANSH SRIVASTAVA, MR. LUV VIRMANI, MS. KANIKA SINGHAL, MR. MANISH KUMAR GUPTA, ADVOCATES

Date : 15-10-2025 This petition was called on for pronouncement of judgment today.

For Petitioner(s) :

Mr. Uttara Babar, Sr. Adv. (A.C.)  
Ms. Shibani Ghosh, Advocate (A.C.)

Petitioner-in-person

For Respondent(s) : Mr. P. K. Jain, AOR  
Mr. Ramesh Babu M. R., AOR  
Mr. Rajesh Kumar Chaurasia, AOR  
Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, AOR  
Mrs. Anil Katiyar, AOR  
M/S. Parekh & Co., AOR  
Mr. Sudhir Mendiratta, AOR  
Mr. Sushil Kumar Singh, AOR  
Mr. Hardeep Singh Anand, AOR  
Mr. Sandeep Narain, AOR  
Ms. Nandini Gidwaney, AOR  
Mrs. Rani Chhabra, AOR  
Mr. G. Prakash, AOR

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

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

Mr. Surya Kant, AOR  
Mrs. B. Sunita Rao, AOR  
Mr. Abhishek, AOR  
Mr. Alok Gupta, AOR  
Mr. Pramod Dayal, AOR  
Mr. R. P. Gupta, AOR  
Mr. P. Parmeswaran, AOR  
Mr. Mohit D. Ram, 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. Sandeep Narain, Adv.  
Ms. Kanak Malik, Adv.

Mr. Chirag M. Shroff, AOR  
Mr. E. C. Agrawala, AOR  
Mr. Praveen Swarup, AOR  
Mr. Prashant Kumar, AOR

Mr. Tushar Mehta Ld, Solicitor General  
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. Akshay Amritanshu , AOR  
Mr. Radha Shyam Jena, AOR  
Ms. Hemantika Wahi, AOR  
Ms. Binu Tamta, AOR  
Mr. Ajit Pudussery, AOR  
Mrs. Bina Gupta, AOR  
Mr. Ashok Mathur, AOR  
Mr. V. K. Verma, AOR  
Mr. Anil Kumar Jha, AOR  
Mr. Mukesh K. Giri, AOR  
Mr. Rakesh K. Sharma, AOR  
Ms. Sujeeta Srivastava, AOR  
Ms. Pritha Srikumar Iyer, AOR  
Mr. Gaurav Kejriwal, AOR

Mr. Sameer Abhyankar, AOR  
Mr. Rahul Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. Aakash Thakur, Adv.

Mr. Shankey Agrawal, AOR  
Mr. Ankit Roy , AOR  
Ms. Surbhi Mehta, AOR  
Mr. Shovan Mishra, AOR  
Ms. G. Indira, AOR  
Mr. Prakash Ranjan Nayak, AOR  
Mr. Raj Bahadur Yadav, AOR  
Mr. Avijit Mani Tripathi, AOR  
Mr. Sameer Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Ajay Pal, AOR  
Mr. Dhananjaya Mishra, AOR

Mr. Lokesh Sinhal, Sr. A.A.G.  
Mr. Nikunj Gupta, Adv.  
Mr. Sarthak Arya, Adv.  
Ms. Ishika Gupta, Adv.  
Ms. Aakansha, Adv.  
Ms. Kirti, Adv.  
Ms. Karishma Malini, A.A.G.  
Mr. Rahul Khurana, AOR

Ms. Srishti Agnihotri, AOR  
Mr. Sudarshan Lamba, AOR  
Mr. Yash Pal Dhingra, AOR  
Mr. Ashutosh Dubey, AOR  
Ms. G. Indira, AOR  
Mr. Aakarshan Aditya, AOR  
Mr. Nitin Saluja, AOR

Mr. Nirnimesh Dube, AOR  
Ms. Rashmi Malhotra, AOR  
Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, AOR  
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. Aravindh S., AOR  
Ms. Jyotika Sharma, Adv.

Ms. Meenakshi Chauhan, 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. Talha Abdul Rahman, AOR  
Mr. Guntur Pramod Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Rishi Sehgal, AOR

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

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. 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

Ms. Tulika Mukherjee, AOR  
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  
M/S. Ahmadi Law Offices, AOR  
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. Ashutosh Bhardwaj, Adv.  
Mr. Prateek Rai, Adv.  
Mr. Shubham Saxena, Adv.  
Mr. Anmol Goyal, Adv.  
Mr. Piyush Merani, Adv.  
Mr. Pushkar Dwivedi, Adv.  
Ms. Mili Tomar, Adv.

Ms. Sakshi Kakkar, AOR  
Mr. Akshay Girish Ringe, AOR  
Mr. Anuj Bhandari, AOR

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

Mr. Ravi Prakash, AOR  
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Mr. S. Gowthaman, AOR  
Ms. Neeru Vaid, AOR  
Mr. Shreekant Neelappa Terdal, AOR  
Mr. Saurabh Agrawal, AOR

Mr. Dama S. Naidu, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. K. Parameshwar, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. J.Sai Deepak, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Devansh Srivastava, AOR  
Ms. Aadya Chawla, Adv.  
Ms. Veda Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Prasad Hegde, Adv.

Mr. Luv Virmani, AOR  
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  
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  
Mr. Shekhar Kumar, AOR

M/S. S. Narain & Co., AOR  
Mr. Sandeep Narain, Adv.  
Ms. Kanak Malik, Adv.

Ms. Aswathi M.k., AOR

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

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

Mr. Narendra Kumar Goyal, Adv.  
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Chandrakant Sukumar Sarkar, Adv.  
Mr. C M Dwivedi, Adv.  
Mr. Kunwar Siddharth Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Jeetendra Kumar, Adv.  
Ms. Kajal Rani, Adv.  
Mr. Shantanu Jugtawat, Adv.  
Mr. Ikshit Singhal, Adv.  
M/S. Mukesh Kumar Singh And Co., AOR

Ms. Ankita Sharma, AOR  
Mr. Kumar Dushyant Singh, AOR  
Mr. A. Venayagam Balan, AOR  
Dr. Pratap Singh Nerwal, AOR

Ms. Jaikriti S. Jadeja, AOR  
Mr. Rajan Narain, AOR  
Mr. Gaurav, AOR  
Mr. T. R. B. Sivakumar, AOR  
Mr. Mohit Paul, AOR  
Mr. Nischal Kumar Neeraj, AOR

Ms. Aastha Mehta, Adv.  
Ms. Deepanwita Priyanka, AOR  
Mr. Deepak Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Prerana Mohapatra, Adv.  
Ms. Priyal Sheth, Adv.  
Ms. Prina Sharma, Adv.

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

Ms. Filza Moonis, AOR

Mr. Divyanshu Kumar Srivastava, AOR

Mr. Adarsh Tripathi , 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. Amrish Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Nishit Agrawal, AOR  
Mr. Raghvendra Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Pulkit Agarwal, AOR

Mr. Satish Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Abhaya Nath Das, Adv.  
Mr. S S Bandyopadhyay, Adv.  
Mr. Soumya Kundu, Adv.  
Ms. Arina Bhattacharjee, Adv.  
Mr. Sudhir Kumar Singh, Adv.  
Ms. Krishnika Chatterjee, Adv.  
Mrs. Barnali Basak, Adv.  
Mr. Om Prakash Sapra, Adv.  
Mr. Kishor Kumar Mishra, Adv.  
Dr. Additya Mishra, Adv.  
Mr. Abhay Singh, Adv.  
Mr. B C Bhatt, Adv.  
Ms. Thithiksha Padmam, Adv.  
Ms. Palak Joshi, Adv.  
Ms. Twinkle Rathi, Adv.

Ms. Ameyavikrama Thanvi, AOR

Mr. Karan Dewan, Adv.

Mr. Kartik Yadav, Adv.  
Ms. Aanchal Jain, AOR

Mr. Rajiv Yadav, AOR

Ms. Madhumita Bhattacharjee, AOR

Mr. Ayush Sharma, AOR

Mr. Gopal Jha, AOR  
Mr. Nand Kishore Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Ankit Agrawal, Adv.  
Mr. Ram Ji Dwivedi, Adv.  
Mr. Paras Bajpai, Adv.

Mr. Pradeep Misra, AOR

Mr. Manish Kumar, AOR  
Mr. Divyansh Mishra, Adv.  
Mr. Kumar Saurav, 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.  
Ms. Saloni Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Arpit Garg, Adv.

Ms. Ishita Jain , AOR  
Mr. Manish Kumar Gupta, AOR

Mr. Sravan Kumar Karanam, AOR  
Mr. P.venkatraju, Adv.  
Mr. Kumar Abhishek, Adv.  
Mr. Kumar Nikhil, Adv.

Mr. Vinayak Sharma, Standing Counsel, Adv.  
Mr. Ravinder Kumar Yadav, 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. Vrinda Bhandari, AOR  
Ms. Charu Mathur, AOR  
Mr. Aaditya Aniruddha Pande, AOR

Mr. Kailash Prashad Pandey, AOR  
Mr. Varun Varma, Adv.  
Mr. Amit Kumar Chawla, Adv.  
Mr. Hitesh Kumar Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Akhileshwar Jha, Adv.  
Ms. Shreya Jha, Adv.  
Ms. Manisha Chawla, Adv.  
Ms. Niharika Dwivedi, Adv.  
Ms. Swati Vishan, Adv.  
Mr. Mahi Pal Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Chaman Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Sourabh Kumar Solanki, Adv.  
Mr. Ishank Ranjan, Adv.  
Mr. Prakhar Shukla, Adv.  
Mr. Jatin Malik, Adv.  
Mr. Avnish Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Devender Kumar Mishra, Adv.  
Ms. Laveena Tak, Adv.  
Mr. Supriya, Adv.  
Mr. Sandeep Singh Dingra, Adv.

Mr. M. P. Devanath, AOR

Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Sr. Adv.  
Ms. Jasneet Kaur, Adv.  
Ms. Srishti Mishra, 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  
Mr. Mudit Gupta, AOR  
Ms. K. V. Bharathi Upadhyaya, AOR  
Mr. Shantwanu Singh, AOR  
Mr. Pranav Sachdeva, AOR  
Mr. Sameer Shrivastava, AOR  
Ms. Nidhi Mohan Parashar, AOR  
Mr. Kuldip Singh, AOR  
Ms. Anushree Prashit Kapadia, AOR

Ms. Purnima Jauhari, AOR  
Dr. Brij Bhushan K Jauhari, Adv.  
Mr. Deepak Jyoti Ghildiyal, Adv.

Mr. Harsh Mahan, Adv.  
Mr. O P Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Aditya R Swami, Adv.

Mr. Danish Zubair Khan, AOR  
Mr. Vikas Mehta, AOR

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

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

Ms. Shibani Ghosh, AOR

Mr. Tarun Gupta, AOR  
Mr. Hirday Virdi, Adv.  
Mr. Sidhant Ranta, Adv.

Ms. Surabhi Sanchita, AOR  
Mr. Vinod Sharma, AOR  
Mr. Debojit Borkakati, AOR  
Mr. Vikrant Singh Bais, AOR  
Ms. Diksha Rai, AOR  
Mr. Ketan Paul, AOR  
Mr. Hiren Dasan, AOR

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

Mr. K. Paari Vendhan, AOR

Mr. Karan Sharma, AOR

Mr. Mudit Gupta , AOR  
Mr. Kawaljit Singh Bhatia, AOR  
Mr. Vivek Gupta, AOR  
Mr. Vinay Garg, AOR  
M/S. Ram Sankar & Co, AOR  
Mr. P. Parmeswaran, AOR  
Mr. Durga Dutt, AOR  
Mr. Soumya Dutta, AOR  
M/S. Ram Sankar & Co, AOR  
Ms. Malvika Kapila, AOR

1. The Bench comprising Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India and Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Vinod Chandran has pronounced the Order.

2. The operative part of the order in terms of the signed order reads as under:

"In that view of the matter, as a temporary measure, we propose to follow the approach adopted by this Court in the year 2018 in **Arjun Gopal**. We, therefore, issue the following directions:

A. The sale of green crackers as uploaded on the website of NEERI shall be permitted commencing from 18.10.2025 and continuing only till 20.10.2025.

B. The sale of these products shall be permitted only from the designated locations in the entire National Capital Region which shall be identified by the District Collectors/Commissioners in consultation with the District Superintendent of Police and given wide publicity.

C. The police authorities, in consultation with the district administration shall constitute patrolling teams to keep a vigil on the designated locations of sale, including Officers as nominated from the Regional Offices of the State Pollution Control Boards. The patrol teams so constituted shall acquaint themselves with the green cracker products as uploaded in the website of NEERI and the registrations granted as also the QR Codes issued to individual

manufacturers.

D. The patrol teams shall conduct regular reconnaissance in the designated sites to ensure that only the permitted products shall be sold and that too having the QR Codes issued. They shall also take random samples for the purpose of analysis, which shall be transmitted to PESO. On violations noticed, the responsibility shall attach to those involved in manufacturing or sale of prohibited products who shall not only be penalised but also their licence/registration from PESO or with NEERI shall stand cancelled.

E. The district administration and the police shall ensure that use of firecrackers shall be confined between 6:00 AM to 7:00 AM and 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM on the two days i.e., the one before and on the Diwali day.

F. The sale shall be only through licensed traders and of the products i.e. the green crackers manufactured by those who are registered with the NEERI and obtained license from PESO. Any firecracker seized which are not manufactured by the registered/licensed manufacturers shall be immediately confiscated.

G. There shall be no firecrackers allowed into the NCR region from outside the said region.

H. The use of firecrackers with Barium and those not approved by the NEERI as green cracker, shall not be permitted and if found for sale or in the possession of individuals/traders, the same shall be confiscated immediately.

I. There shall be no manufacture or sale of firecrackers

joined in series (laris).

J. There shall be no sale or purchase of firecrackers through e-commerce networks and any supply of such products shall be detained and the product confiscated.

K. The licences of traders, expired or cancelled after the ban was introduced shall be renewed for the period stipulated by the statutory authorities.

L. The Central Pollution Control Board, in consultation with the State Pollution Control Boards and their respective regional offices within the districts coming under the NCR shall monitor the air quality index in their respective jurisdictions starting from 14.10.2025 till 25.10.2025 and file a report before this Court, specifying the air quality of each day indicated hereinabove. Along with such monitoring the Regional Offices of the State Pollution Control Boards shall also take samples of sand and water from sites having more density of use for analysis.

M. We make it clear that the relaxation is only on a test case basis and the same shall be only for the period specified.”

**25.** The present IAs are directed to be listed after three weeks from the date of this order for further directions. The Registry shall forward this order to the District Collectors of all the Districts coming within the NCR.”

(DEEPAK SINGH)  
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(ANJU KAPOOR)  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

[Signed Order is placed on the file]