ITEM NO.71 COURT NO.3 SECTION XVII

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

SUO MOTO CONTEMPT PETITION(CIVIL) No(s). 1/2025

IN RE : FILLING OF VACANT POSTS IN THE STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARDS AND POLLUTION CONTROL COMMITTEES

(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, ADVOCATES)

Date : 19-05-2025 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ABHAY S. OKA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN

By Courts Motion

Ms. Aparajita Singh,Sr.Adv. (Amicus Curiae)
Ms. Uttara Babbar,Sr.Adv. (Amicus Curiae)
Ms. Shibani Ghosh,Adv. (Amicus Curiae)
Mr. Siddhartha Chowdhury,Adv.

For the parties:
Mr. Aditya Sondhi,Sr.Adv.
Mr. Aman Panwar,Adv.
Mr. Abhinav Kumar,Adv.
Mr. Anubhav Kumar,Adv.
Mr. Shrey Brahmbhatt,Adv.
Ms. Ananya Basudha,Adv.
Mr. Ravindra Pal Singh,Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, AOR

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

We have perused the affidavit of Shri Dharmendra, Chief Secretary, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Signature Not Verified
Digitally signed by ANITA MALHOTRA
Date: 2025.05.23 17:47:41 IST
Reason:

Out of sanctioned strength of 344, as of today, only 83 have been actually filled in. The process of filling in of 36 vacancies is in progress.

We cannot tolerate the laxity being shown by the Delhi Government, especially when Delhi is worst affected in terms of air pollution, at least three months in every year.

We, therefore, direct the State to ensure that all 204 vacancies are filled in by the end of September, 2025. The affidavit of compliance to be filed by 15th October, 2025.

We make it clear that if all the vacancies are not filled in, it will be a case of aggravated contempt.

We direct the State Government to start the process of filling in anticipated vacancies at least six months in advance. Even compliance on this shall also be reported.

The Contempt Petition shall be listed on 28th October, 2025.

For the time being, the personal presence of the Chief Secretary is dispensed with.

(ANITA MALHOTRA)
AR-CUM-PS

(AVGV RAMU)
COURT MASTER