

ITEM NO.301

COURT NO.9

SECTION XIV

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

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s). 12213/2019

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 20-02-2019 in WPC No. 4099/2018 passed by the High Court of Delhi at New Delhi]

RAJEEV SURI

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

Date : 16-05-2025 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHANSHU DHULIA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AHSANUDDIN AMANULLAH

Court Commissioner : Mr. Gopal Sankaranarayanan, Sr. Adv.
Assisted by
Mr. Vishal Sinha, Adv.
Ms. Ishita Chowdhury, Adv.

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Shikhil Shiv Suri, Sr. Adv.
Mrs. Madhu Suri, Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Suri, Adv.
Ms. Ishita Ahuja, Adv.
Mr. Vibhor Choudhary, Adv.
Mr. Saurabh Jha, Adv.
Mr. Deva Vrat Anand, Adv.
Mr. T. R. B. Sivakumar, AOR

For Respondent(s) : Mr. S. D. Sanjay, A.S.G.
Mr. Siddhant Kohli, Adv.
Mr. Raman Yadav, Adv.
Mr. Chitvan Singhal, Adv.
Mr. Mrigank Pathak, Adv.
Mr. Sarthak Karool, Adv.
Mr. Sudarshan Lamba, AOR

Mr. Amrish Kumar, AOR

Mr. Udai Khanna, Adv.
Mr. Kanu Agrawal, Adv.
Ms. Shivika Mehra, Adv.
Ms. Sunita Sharma, Adv.
Mr. B. L. N. Shivani, Adv.
Ms. Satvika Thakur, Adv.
Mr. Shreekant Neelappa Terdal, AOR

Mr. Arvind Gupta, AOR

Mr. Shubhranshu Padhi, AOR

Mr. Jai Nirupam, Adv.

Mr. D. Girish Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Pranav Giri, Adv.

Mr. Ekansh Sisodia, Adv.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR

Mr. Prasenjeet Mohapatra, Adv.

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Tyagi, Adv.

Ms. Neelakshi Bhadauria, Adv.

Mr. Praveen Swarup, Adv.

Ms. Pareena Swarup, Adv.

Ms. Nidhi Singh, Adv.

Mr. Devesh Maurya, Adv.

Mr. Ravi Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Praveen Swarup, AOR

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

Mr. Praveen Swarup, learned counsel appearing for the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), has apprised this Court, on instructions, that the office has been vacated and the keys will be handed over to the Land & Development Officer (L&DO) today itself by 05.00 PM. We make it clear that the 'keys' means not only the keys of the MCD, but also of the Delhi Jal Board and other offices and spaces under the control and possession of the MCD.

Though Delhi Jal Board is not a party before this Court, but the officers of MCD shall ensure that the keys from Delhi Jal Board are obtained and the possession be handed over to the Department of Archeology today itself.

Once the keys are handed over to the L&DO, it shall further hand over the same to the Department of Archeology, Govt. of NCT of Delhi for the onward compliance of this Court's order and for the

work which has presently been undertaken by them. The MCD, along with the Department of Archeology, shall undertake the exercise to clear the entire area. The amount of Rs. 40 Lakhs, which has been received by the Department of Archeology from the Defence Colony Welfare Association, shall be used for the said purpose.

We have also been informed by the learned Court Commissioner that the small tiled wall, which had blocked the view of the Heritage Building from the main entry point, has already been removed.

A statement has been given by Mr. Shubhranshu Padhi, learned counsel, on instructions, that final sanction has already been taken for declaration of the monument as 'a protected monument' and it is likely that the notification will be issued very shortly.

Re-list the matter on 23.07.2025 at 03.00 PM.

In the meanwhile, we request the learned Court Commissioner to survey the area once again and prepare his interim Report, which shall be submitted to this Court along with any suggestions in the matter. The parties to this case would also be at liberty to remove their doubts through the Court Commissioner, subject to the final decision of this Court.

(JAYANT KUMAR ARORA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(RENU BALA GAMBHIR)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR