

ITEM NO.26

COURT NO.2

SECTION XVI

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).17403/2023

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 28-06-2023 in WPA(P) No.272/2023 passed by the High Court at Calcutta]

THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

DR. SANAT KUMAR GHOSH & ORS.

Respondent(s)

IA No. 248251/2023 - APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION OF PARTY
DETAILS / CHALLENGED JUDGEMENT DETAILS

IA No. 205750/2023 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 90345/2024 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 42979/2024 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 183555/2025 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 248307/2023 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 5484/2025 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 284901/2024 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 227841/2024 - CLARIFICATION/DIRECTION

IA No. 170406/2023 - DISCHARGE OF ADVOCATE ON RECORD

IA No. 156480/2023 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED
JUDGMENT

IA No. 165328/2023 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

IA No. 189570/2023 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

IA No. 165408/2023 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

IA No. 224771/2023 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT

IA No. 284709/2024 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT

IA No. 205787/2023 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT

IA No. 141578/2024 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT

IA No. 247100/2023 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT

IA No. 198176/2023 - MODIFICATION OF COURT ORDER

IA No. 156479/2023 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

IA No. 188065/2023 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

IA No. 287574/2024 - PERMISSION TO FILE APPLICATION FOR DIRECTION

Date : 22-09-2025 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NONGMEIKAPAM KOTISWAR SINGH

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Jaideep Gupta, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Kalyan Bandopadhyay, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Kunal Vajani, Adv.

Mr. Debanjan Mandal, Adv.
 Mr. Kunal Mimani, AOR
 Ms. Mahima Cholera, Adv.
 Mr. Amit Bhandari, Adv.
 Mr. Prashant Alai, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. R. Venkataramani, Attorney General for India
 Mr. Joydeep Mazumdar, Adv.
 Mr. Chitvan Singhal, Adv.
 Mr. Nishchaiy Sharma, Adv.
 Ms. Dhriti Chanda, Adv.
 Ms. Shalini Kaul, AOR

Dr. Ghaplesh Bandyopadhyay, Adv.
 Mr. Subhasish Bhowmick, AOR
 Ms.A. Mayee, Adv.
 Ms. Manisha Pandey, Adv.
 Mr. Rahul Kushwaha, Adv.
 Mr. Suraj Kumar Singh, Adv.
 Mr. Bishwani Kumar, Adv.
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Mr. Shyam D. Nandan, AOR
 Ms. Nandana Menon, Adv.

Mr. Amit Pawan, AOR
 Mr. Hassan Zubair Waris, Adv.
 Ms. Shivangi Singh Rawat, Adv.
 Mr. Suchit Singh Rawat, Adv.
 Ms. Aastha Shrestha, Adv.

Mr. Priyanshu Upadhyay, AOR
 Mr. Abhinav Sharma, Adv.
 Mr. Ashish Panday, Adv.
 Mr. Gangesh Kumar Jha, Adv.

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 Mr. Vishal Agrawal, Adv.
 Mr. Siddharth Sahu, Adv.
 Ms. Astha Singh, Adv.

Mr. Soumya Dutta, AOR

Mr. Kunal Chatterji, AOR
 Ms. Maitrayee Banerjee, Adv.
 Mr. Rohit Bansal, Adv.
 Mr. Varij Nayan Mishra, Adv.

Mr. Anand Varma, AOR
Mr. Subhasish Bhowmick, AOR

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

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Uday U. Lalit (Retd.), the Chairman of the Search-cum-Selection Committee, vide forwarding letter dated 04.09.2025, has sent the recommendations of the Selection Committees in a sealed envelope. The same has been opened in the Court. The Search-cum-Selection Committees held their preliminary virtual meeting on 09.08.2025, and thereafter, interviews/interactions were undertaken from 19.08.2025 to 21.08.2025. After considering the academic record and administrative experience of the candidates, the opinion of the Chief Minister and the Hon'ble Chancellor, as well as the Vision Statements given by the candidates, the Search-cum-Selection Committees have given their own preference list for 15 Universities.
2. The Report further reveals that with respect to 12 Universities, the Search-cum-Selection Committees were unanimous in reaching the conclusions. However, with respect to 3 Universities, two different preference lists are prepared by different groups within the Committees.
3. With regard to the other two Universities, namely, the West Bengal State University and Cooch Behar Panchanan Barma University, the Report reveals that the interaction with the concerned candidates will be undertaken today, i.e., 22.09.2025.
4. As of now, it seems to us that there should not be any controversy with respect to appointment of Vice-Chancellors for 12 Universities where the Search-cum-Selection Committees have taken unanimous decision. With a view to facilitate appointments, xerox copies of the unanimous recommendations made by the Search-cum-Selection Committees along with the forwarding letter of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Lalit (Retd.), the Chairman of the Selection Committee, have been handed over to the learned Attorney General for India as well as Mr. Jaideep Gupta and Mr. Kalyan Bandopadhyay, learned

Senior Counsel appearing on behalf of the State of West Bengal. They are requested to have formal instructions in terms of the observations made hereinabove.

5. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Lalit (Retd.) has also sought a clarification with respect to our order dated 01.08.2025 pertaining to appointment of Vice-Chancellor in the West Bengal State University.

6. In this regard, it is clarified that the Search-cum-Selection Committee will consider the rest of the candidates who were initially recommended by the Committee in alphabetical order. On re-consideration, the Search-cum-Selection Committee shall fix their inter-se order of merit.

7. List the matter for further consideration on 26.09.2025.

(SATISH KUMAR YADAV)
ADDITIONAL REGISTRAR

(PREETHI T.C.)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR