

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).647/2025

MOHAMMED JAVED

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 156604/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., IA No.156603/2025
- GRANT OF INTERIM RELIEF)

WITH

SLP(C) No.18316/2025 (XIV)

(IA No. 161697/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED
JUDGMENT)

Date : 16-07-2025 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Gaurav Bhatia, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Pulkit Agarwal, AOR
Mr. Shreeyash Lalit, Adv.
Mr. Sudhanshu Kaushesh, Adv.
Mr. Anubhav Lamba, Adv.
Mr. Neelmani Guha, Adv.
Mr. Vaibhav Dabas, Adv.
Mr. Sudhanshu Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Ma Chaudhary, Adv.
Mr. Utkarsh Singh, Adv.
Mr. Vikas Tiwari, Adv.

Dr. Menaka Guruswamy, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Pyoli, Adv.
Mr. Ejaz M. Qureshi, Adv.
Ms. Shaswati P., Adv.
Mr. Utkarsh Pratap, Adv.
Ms. Pyoli, AOR

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Kapil Sibal, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Fuzail Ahmad Ayyubi, AOR
Mr. Ibad Mushtaq, Adv.
Ms. Rupali Samuel, Adv.
Ms. Rashmi Singh, Adv.
Ms. Sumedha, Adv.
Ms. Akanksha Rai, Adv.

Ms. Gurneet Kaur, Adv.

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

1. The Special Leave Petition (C) No.18316/2025 has arisen out of the judgment dated 10.07.2025 passed by a Division Bench of the High Court of Delhi, whereby the release of the film "Udaipur Files" has been stayed till the application moved by Maulana Arshad Madani (respondent no.1), invoking powers of the Central Government under Section 6 of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (in short, the "1952 Act"), is decided by the Central Government, for which the High Court granted one week time. The Producer of the movie being aggrieved is before us.
2. The connected Writ Petition (C) No.647/2025 under Article 32 of the Constitution of India has been filed by Mohammed Javed, who is one of the accused facing trial in the 2022 murder case of Kanhaiya Lal Tailor. In relation thereto, National Investigating Agency has registered FIR No.RC-27/2022/NIA/DLI on 29.06.2022. His precise contention is that during the pendency of the trial before the Special NIA Court, Jaipur, where witnesses are still being examined, the release of the movie will have a direct impact on the pending trial proceedings, thereby causing irreversible prejudice to the accused and thus would lead to violation of the fundamental principles of criminal jurisprudence.
3. We have heard learned senior counsel for the parties/intervenors for some time.
4. It is a matter of record that the High Court vide impugned judgment has not expressed any opinion on merits, especially in

respect to the contents or nature of the movie. The High Court has, in fact, relegated the writ petitioner (respondent no.1) to avail the statutory remedy of Revision Petition under Section 6 of 1952 Act, which vests adequate and substantial powers with the Central Government, including to declare a film to be uncertified. It goes without saying that the Central Government is also empowered to issue interim measures such as suspension of film from exhibition. With a view to enable the respondent no.1 to avail the aforesaid remedy, the High Court as an interim measure directed that the release of the film shall remain stayed till the revision petition under Section 6 of 1952 Act is decided by the Central Government. The High Court further has directed that the revision petition be decided within one week.

5. A photostat copy of the order dated 15.07.2025 passed by Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India has been handed over to us, whereby the competent Authority has constituted a Committee for the purpose of examination of the petition submitted by Maulana Arshad Madani (respondent no.1) to the Ministry on 14.07.2025 under Section 6 of 1952 Act. We are informed that the Committee, so constituted, has fixed the matter for hearing today at 2.30 p.m.

6. In such situation, we deem it appropriate to defer the further hearing and await the outcome of the proceedings which are now pending before the Central Government.

7. We have impressed upon the learned senior counsel for the parties to join the proceedings today at 2.30 p.m. before the Committee constituted by the Central Government and extend their

full cooperation and assistance for an early adjudication of the revision petition. In this regard, we also permit Mohammed Javed - the petitioner in Writ Petition No.647/2025 to enter appearance before the Central Government in the pending revision petition through counsel and accord hearing to him as well (without filing any fresh petition).

8. Having regard to the nature of the proceedings, we expect that the Committee constituted by the Central Government will decide the revision petition immediately without any loss of time.

9. Shri Gaurav Bhatia, learned senior counsel for the Producer has submitted at this stage that the Producer and Director of the film as well as son of the victim, who was brutally murdered in 2022 at Udaipur, are getting continuous threats to their life in the event they pursue the release of the movie. In this regard, we grant liberty to all of them to immediately represent the Superintendent of Police/Commissioner of Police of the jurisdictional area, who shall then assess the threat perception and in case it is found that there is any merit in such apprehension, necessary steps to ensure that no harm is caused to the life and liberty of the representationist.

10. Post the matters for further consideration on 21.07.2025.

(ARJUN BISHT)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI T.C.)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR