

ITEM NO.66

COURT NO.9

SECTION II-D

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

Criminal Appeal No.1425/2025

AMIT KUMAR & ORS.

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

[MS. APARNA BHAT, AMICUS CURIAE]

Date : 21-07-2025 This appeal was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE J.B. PARDIWALA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE R. MAHADEVAN

For Appellant(s) :

Mr. Mehmood Pracha, Adv.
Mr. R. H. A. Sikander, AOR
Mr. Jatin Bhatt, Adv.
Mr. Sanawar, Adv.
Mr. Kshitij Singh, Adv.
Ms. Nujhat Naseem, Adv.
Mr. Sikander Raza, Adv.
Ms. Sadiya Sultan, Adv.
Mr. Chirag Verma, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :

Mr. K.M. Nataraj, A.S.G.
Mr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, AOR
Mr. Chitransh Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Vatsal Joshi, Adv.

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Ms. Chhavi Khandelwal, Adv.

Mr. Brijender Chahar, A.S.G.
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR
Mr. Abhijit Pandove, Adv.
Mr. Amit Sharma Ii, Adv.
Mrs. Bani Dikshit, Adv.
Mr. Varun Chugh, Adv.
Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv.
Mr. Jagdish Chandra, Adv.

Mr. Sanpreet Singh Ajmani, AOR
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Ms. Amitoz Kaur, Adv.

Ms. Shivani Agrahari, Adv.

Mr. Sameer Abhyankar, AOR

Ms. Yashika Sharma, Adv.

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Mr. Jagdish Chandra, Adv.

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Mr. Amith Krishnan H, AOR

Mr. K M Natraj, A.S.G.

Mr. Shiv Mangal Sharma, A.A.G.

Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR

Mr. Mahesh Agarwal, Adv.

Mr. Rishi Agrawala, Adv.

Mr. Aroon Menon, Adv.

Ms. Madhavi Agarwal, Adv.

Mr. Sanjeevi Seshadri, Adv.

Mr. Akshay Agarwal, Adv.

Mr. Manish Sharma, Adv.

Mr. E. C. Agrawala, AOR

Ms. Aparna Bhat, Amicus Curiae

Mr. Mayank Sapra, AOR

Ms. Madhulika Mohta, Adv.

Ms. Lalima Das, Adv.

Mr. Kunal Mimani, AOR

Mr. Prashant A., Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

1. Taking into consideration the averments made in the Interlocutory Application No.158510/2025 filed by the learned Amicus seeking exemption from liability of deduction of tax at source (TDS) on payment made by the National Task Force, the relief in terms of the prayer in the said application is allowed.

2. Heard Ms. Aparna Bhat, the learned *Amicus* and Mr. K.M. Nataraj, the learned Additional Solicitor General appearing for the Union of India and the State of Rajasthan.

3. Taking into consideration the averments made in the Interlocutory Application No.167294/2025 filed by the learned *Amicus* praying for directions on disbursal of funds from the Registry, the said application is allowed and the Registry is directed to disburse the amount lying earmarked to the National Task Force as and when a requisition authorized by the Chairperson is forwarded by the learned *Amicus* to the concerned Registrar and physically hand-over the cheque to the learned *Amicus* or electronically transfer to the account mentioned in the requisition.

4. We direct the Ministry of Education to support the NTF in opening the Bank Account by issuing letters as required by the Bank. Let this exercise should be completed within a period of four weeks from today.

5. We exempt the NTF from providing Permanent Account Number (PAN) and AADHAR to the Bank for opening its account.

6. IA stands disposed of.

7. It is the first day of the week and we have started it on a extremely sad note.

8. Two more suicides have been reported, one from the IIT, Kharagpur and another from a Medical College situated in Greater Noida.

9. A fourth year mechanical engineering student of the IIT, Kharagpur was found dead in his hostel room last Friday morning. He committed suicide three days after he returned to the Institute after two month summer break. He was pursuing a five year dual degree programme.

10. It is the fourth unnatural death at the Institute in past seven months.

11. The second incident is reported from Sharda University in Greater Noida, Knowledge Park, U.P. A twenty-one year old bachelor of dental surgery (BDS) second year student in the hostel of Sharda

University is said to have committed suicide leaving behind a suicide note.

12. We request the learned Amicus to provide us with all the necessary information as regards the two suicides.

13. We would like to know how promptly the FIRs were registered in both the cases. We would also like to know who registered the FIRs. We would also like to know how promptly the Management of the IIT, Kharagpur and Sharda University acted no sooner they learnt about the suicides. We would also like to know what has the preliminary investigation undertaken so far revealed in both the cases.

14. Let an appropriate Report be filed in this regard.

15. List on 28-7-2025 on top of the Board.

16. Issue notice to the Sharda University, Greater Noida, returnable on 28-7-2025.

(VISHAL ANAND)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(POOJA SHARMA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)