

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). 13029/1985

M.C. MEHTA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

([TO BE TAKEN UP AT 3:30 P.M.]----- IN RE: COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT (CAQM) (AIR POLLUTION) AND MODIFICATION OF APPLICABILITY OF GRAP IV 1) I.A. Nos. 270761 AND 270763/2024 (APPLICATIONS FOR DIRECTION AND INTERVENTION) NAME OF THE FOLLOWING ADVOCATES MAY BE TREATED TO HAVE BEEN SHOWN IN THE LIST: MR. HARISH N. SALVE, SR. ADVOCATE (A.C.) MS. APARAJITA SINGH, SR. ADVOCATE (A.C.) MR. A.D.N. RAO, SR. 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, MR. SAURABH AGRAWAL ADVOCATES)

Date : 05-12-2024 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ABHAY S. OKA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AUGUSTINE GEORGE MASIH

Ms. Aparajita Singh, Sr. Adv. (Amicus Curiae)
Mr. A.D.N. Rao, Sr. Adv. (Amicus Curiae)
Mr. Siddhartha Chowdhury, Adv.(Amicus Curiae)
Ms. Shibani Ghosh, Adv.
Mr. Ishank Ranjan, Adv.

Mr. Aditya N. Prasad, Adv./Court Commissioner
(Co-ordinator)
Mr. Manan Verma, Adv./Court Commissioner
Mr. Pratyush Jain, Adv./Court Commissioner
Mr. Jatin Kumar, Adv./Court Commissioner
Mr. Sumit Kumar, Adv./Court Commissioner
Ms. Savi Nagpal, Adv./Court Commissioner

Mr. Aditya Bharat Manubarwala, Adv./Court
Commissioner

Ms. Manisha Chava, Adv./Court Commissioner
Mr. Abhinav Aggarwal, Adv./Court Commissioner
Ms. Srishti Mishra, Adv./Court Commissioner

Mr. Mohit Siwach, Adv./Court Commissioner
Mr. Abhishek Budhiraja, Adv./Court Commissioner

For the Parties

Mrs. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.
Mrs. Archana Pathak Dave, A.S.G.
Mrs. Ruchi Kohli, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Swarupma Chaturvedi, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Wasim Quadri, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR
Mrs. Suhasini Sen, Adv.
Mr. Rajesh Kr. Singh, Adv.
Mr. Subhranshu Padhi, Adv.
Mr. S S Rebello, Adv.
Mr. Jagdish Chandra Solanki, Adv.

Mr. Shadan Farasat, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, AOR
Ms. Ananya Basudha, Adv.
Mr. Prannav Dhawan, Adv.
Ms. Natasha Maheshwari, Adv.

Mr. Gopal Sankaranarayanan, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Manali Singhal, Adv.
Ms. Diksha Rai, AOR
Ms. Aanchal Kapoor, Adv.
Mr. Deepak Singh Rawat, Adv.
Ms. Shreya Singhal, Adv.
Mr. Santosh Sachin, Adv.
Mr. Vishal Sinha, Adv.
Ms. Shreya Nair, Adv.
Ms. Apurva Sachdev, Adv.
Mr. Piyush Vyas, Adv.
Ms. Purvat Wali, Adv.
Mr. Pradyut Kashyap, Adv.

Dr. Menaka Guruswamy, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, AOR
Ms. Ananya Basudha, Adv.
Mr. Utkarsh Pratap, Adv.
Ms. Arunima Das, Adv.
Ms. Aditi Tripathi, Adv.

Ms. Garima Prashad, Sr. A.A.G.
Mr. Sudeep Kumar, AOR
Ms. Manisha, Adv.
Ms. Rupali, Adv.

Mr. Sanjiv Sen, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Sanjay Vashishtha, Adv.
Ms. Anjali Singh, Adv.
Mr. Pragyan Mishra, Adv.
Mr. Prahalad Balaji, Adv.

Ms. Shyel Trehan, Sr. Adv.
Chirayu Jain, Adv.
Mr. Rohan Poddar, Adv.
Ms. Vidhi Jain, Adv.
Mr. Garvit Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Shivendra Singh, AOR

Mr. Shankey Agarwal, AOR

Applicant-in-person, AOR

Petitioner-in-person

Mr. Ramesh Babu M. R., AOR

Mr. Rajesh Kumar Chaurasia, AOR

Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, AOR

Mr. P.K. Jain, AOR

Mr. Nishe Rajen Shonker, AOR
Mrs. Anu K Joy, Adv.
Mr. Alim Anvar, Adv.

Mr. Rakesh Kumar-I, AOR

Mr. Parijat Sinha, AOR

M/S. Saharya & Co., AOR

Mr. Pavan Kumar, AOR

M/S. S. Narain & Co., AOR

Mr. Chirag M. Shroff, AOR

Mr. Ejaz Maqbool, AOR

Dr. Menaka Guruswamy, Sr. Adv.
Mr. S. Wasim A Quadri, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Praveen Swarup, Adv.
Mr. Ajay Bansal, Adv.
Mr. Ravi Kumar, Adv.
Dr. Ravinder Kumar Singh, Adv.
Mr. Navneet Kansal, Adv.
Mr. Praveen Swarup, AOR

Mr. Prashant Kumar, AOR

Mr. Mahesh Agarwal, Adv.
Mr. E.C. Agrawala, AOR

Ms. Hemantika Wahi, AOR
Ms. Binu Tamta, AOR
Mr. Radha Shyam Jena, AOR
Mr. Pradeep Kumar Bakshi, AOR
Mr. Ashok Mathur, AOR
Mr. V. K. Verma, AOR
Mr. Alok Gupta, AOR
Mr. Ajit Pudussery, AOR
Mrs. Bina Gupta, AOR
Mr. Rakesh K. Sharma, AOR
Ms. Sujeeta Srivastava, AOR
Mr. Anil Kumar Jha, AOR
Mr. Mukesh K. Giri, AOR
M/S. Parekh & Co., AOR
Mr. Sudhir Mendiratta, AOR
Mrs. Anil Katiyar, AOR
Mr. Hardeep Singh Anand, AOR
Mr. Sandeep Narain, AOR
Mr. Sushil Kumar Singh, AOR
Mrs. Rani Chhabra, AOR
Mr. G. Prakash, AOR
Ms. Nandini Gidwaney, AOR
Mr. Shri Narain, AOR
Mr. Umesh Kumar Khaitan, AOR
Ms. Shalini Kaul, AOR
Mr. Lokesh Sinhal, Sr. A.A.G.

Mr. B.K. Satija, A.A.G.
Mr. Akshay Amritanshu, AOR
Mr. Rahul Khurana, Adv.
Ms. Himanshi Shakya, Adv.
Mr. Nikunj Gupta, Adv.
Ms. Drishti Saraf, Adv.
Ms. Pragya Upadhyay, Adv.
Ms. Swati Mishra, Adv.
Ms. Aakanksha, Adv.

Mr. K.R. Sasiprabhu, AOR

Mrs. K. Sarada Devi, AOR

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Visen, AOR

Mrs. Priya Puri, AOR

Ms. Manjula Gupta, AOR

Mr. T. V. Ratnam, AOR

Mr. Balaji Srinivasan, AOR

Mr. Rajiv Ranjan Dwivedi, AOR

Mr. Vishal, Adv.

Mrs. Subhadra Dwivedi, Adv.

M/S. Khaitan & Co., AOR

Mr. S. S. Shroff, AOR

Mr. Sushil Kumar Jain, AOR

Mr. Aniruddha Deshmukh, AOR

Mr. Ravindra Bana, AOR

Mr. Surya Kant, AOR

Mrs. B. Sunita Rao, AOR

Mr. Abhishek, AOR

Mr. Sarvam Ritam Khare, AOR

Mr. Anuj Agarwal, Adv.

Mr. R. P. Gupta, AOR

Mr. P. Parmeswaran, AOR

Mr. Mohit D. Ram, AOR

Mr. Pramod Dayal, AOR

Mr. Satya Mitra, AOR

M/S. M. V. Kini & Associates, AOR

Ms. Pritha Srikumar Iyer, AOR

Mr. Talha Abdul Rahman, AOR

Mr. Guntur Pramod Kumar, AOR
Mr. Dhruv Yadav, Adv.

Ms. K. Enatoli Sema, AOR

Ms. Nidhi Mohan Parashar, AOR

Mr. P. Parmeswaran, AOR

Mrs. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.
Mrs. Archana Pathak Dave, A.S.G.
Mr. Raj Bahadur Yadav, AOR
Mrs. Alka Agarwal, Adv.
Ms. Sonali Jain, Adv.
Mrs. Ruchi Kohli, Adv.
Mr. Ashok Kumar B, Adv.
Ms. Baby Devi Bonia, Adv.
Mr. Anirudh Bhat, Adv.
Mr. Prashant Singh II, Adv.

Mr. Nirnimesh Dube, AOR

Mr. Ravindra S. Garia, AOR

Mr. Sahil Tagotra, AOR
Mr. Sujay Jain, Adv.
Mr. Zubin Dash, Adv.

Mr. Akhil Anand, AOR

Mr. Prafull Bharat, Sr. Adv.
Mrs. Prerna Dhall, Adv.
Mr. Piyush Yadav, Adv.
Ms. Akanksha Singh, Adv.
Ms. Pearl Sharma, Adv.
Mr. M N Gopinadh, Adv.
Mr. Prashant Singh, AOR

Ms. Shyel Trehan, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Chirayu Jain, Adv.
Mr. Rohan Poddar, Adv.

Ms. Vidhi Jain, Adv.
Mr. Garvit Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Shivendra Singh, AOR
Ms. Prakriti Rastogi, Adv.

Mr. M.P. Devanath, AOR

Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Srishti Mishra, Adv.
Mr. Sumeet Mishra, Adv.
Mr. R.C. Kohli, AOR

Mr. D. Abhinav Rao, AOR

Mr. Prakash Ranjan Nayak, AOR

Mr. Nitin Saluja, AOR

Mr. Deepayan Mandal, AOR
Mr. Naman Varma, Adv.
Mr. Mridul Bansal, Adv.

Ms. Shalu Sharma, AOR

Ms. Asha Gopalan Nair, AOR

M/S. Ahmadi Law Offices, AOR
Mr. Shariq Ahmed, Adv.

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.
Ms. Archana Pathak Dave, A.S.G.
Ms. Suhasini Sen, Adv.
Mr. Rajesh Kr. Singh, Adv.
Mr. Subhranshu Padhi, Adv.
Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv.
Mr. Sweksha, Adv.
Dr. N. Visakamurthy, AOR

Ms. Vanya Gupta, AOR

Mr. Pranav Sachdeva, AOR

Mr. Sameer Shrivastava, AOR

Mr. Debojit Borkakati, AOR

Mr. Aakarshan Aditya, AOR

Mr. Satya Mitra, AOR

Mr. Prasanna S., AOR

Ms. Mithu Jain, AOR

Mr. S. Gowthaman, AOR

Ms. Neeru Vaid, AOR

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.

Ms. Archana Pathak Dave, A.S.G.

Mr. Shreekant Neelappa Terdal, AOR

Ms. Suhashini Sen, Adv.

Mr. Subhranshu Padhi, Adv.

Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv.

Mr. Raghav Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Rajesh Kumar Singh, Adv.

Ms. Kanu Agrawal, Adv.

Mr. Bhuvan Kapoor, Adv.

Mr. Varun Chugh, Adv.

Mr. Krishna Kant Dubey, Adv.

Mr. Indira Bhakar, Adv.

Mr. Avi Singh, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Saurabh Agrawal, AOR

Mr. Shiven Varma, Adv.

Mr. Dhruv Malik, Adv.

Ms. Komal Mundhra, Adv.

Ms. Surabhi Sanchita, AOR

Mr. Vinod Sharma, AOR

Dr. Ram Sankar, Adv.

Mrs. Harini Ramsankar, Adv.

Ms. Sujatha Bagadhi, Adv.

Mr. G Anandan, Adv.

Mr. B Sasikumar, Adv.

For M/S. Ram Sankar & Co, AOR

Mr. Mahfooz Ahsan Nazki, AOR

Mr. Vinodh Kanna B., AOR

Mr. Sandeep Singh, AOR

Ms. N. Annapoorani, AOR

Mr. Vikrant Singh Bais, AOR

Mr. Alok Gupta, AOR

Mr. K.V. Mohan, AOR

Mr. Yash S. Vijay, AOR

Mr. Vivek Gupta, AOR

Mr. Vinay Garg, AOR

Ms. G. Indira, AOR

Mr. Sagar Roy, Adv.

Ms. Charanjeet Sidhu, Adv.

Ms. Deepmala, Adv.

Ms. Anki Kashyap, Adv.

Mr. Abhishek Sahay, Adv.

Mr. Sunil Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Nepal Singh, Adv.

Ms. Avni Singh, Adv.

Mr. N.B. Tiwari, Adv.

Mr. Subhro Sanyal, AOR

Ms. Misha Rohatgi, AOR

Mr. Ravi Prakash, AOR

Mr. Pukhrambam Ramesh Kumar, AOR

Mr. Karun Sharma, Adv.

Ms. Rajkumari Divyasana, Adv.

Ms. Ankita Sharma, AOR

Mr. Arjun D. Singh, Adv.

Mr. Kumar Dushyant Singh, AOR

Ms. Surbhi Mehta, AOR

Mr. Shovan Mishra, AOR

Ms. G. Indira, AOR

Mr. Yoginder Handoo, AOR

Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR

Mr. Rakesh Kumar-I, AOR

Mr. Parminder Singh Bhullar, AOR

Mr. Chandrakant Sukumar Sarkar, Adv.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Singh, Adv.

Mr. Ikshit Singhal, Adv.

Mr. C M Dwivedi, Adv.

Mr. Shantanu Jugtawat, Adv.

Ms. Vipin Sandu, Adv.

For M/S. Mukesh Kumar Singh And Co., AOR

Mr. Raghvendra Kumar, AOR

Mr. Anando Mukherjee, AOR

Ms. Sanjivani Aggarwal, Sr. Adv.

Ms. Jyoti Aggarwal, Adv.

Mr. Pradeep Shekhawat, Adv.

Ms. Filza Moonis, AOR

Mr. Mukesh Verma, Adv.

Mr. Pankaj Kumar Singh, Adv.

Mr. Vatsala Tripathi, Adv.

Mr. Yash Pal Dhingra, AOR

Mrs. Rajshri Dubey, Adv.

Mr. Abhishek Chauhan, Adv.

Mr. Amit P Shahi, Adv.

Mr. Amit Kumar, Adv.

Mr. H B Dubey, Adv.

Mr. Rahul Sethi, Adv.

Mr. Shashibhushan Nagar, Adv.

Mr. Sumant A Khan, Adv.

Mrs. Sona Khan, Adv.

Mr. Rajendra Anbhule, Adv.

Mr. Ashutosh Dubey, AOR

Mr. Chandra Prakash, AOR

Mr. Anuj Bhandari, AOR

Mr. Anil Kumar, AOR

Ms. Lubna Naaz, AOR

Ms. Shashi Kiran, AOR

Ms. Aastha Mehta, Adv.

Ms. Deepanwita Priyanka, AOR

Ms. Prerana Mohapatra, Adv.

Ms. Prina Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Yashraj Singh Bundela, AOR

Mr. Ramesh Thakur, Adv.

Mr. Chanakya Baruah, Adv.

Ms. Saloni, Adv.

Mr. Rohan Singla, Adv.

Mr. Pulkit Agarwal, AOR

Mr. S S Bandyopadhyay, Adv.

Mr. Abhaya Nath Das, Adv.

Mr. Pinaki Chowdhury, Adv.
Mr. Soumya Kundu, Adv.
Mr. B C Bhatt, Adv.
Mr. N D Kaushik, Adv.
Ms. Monica Goel, Adv.
Mrs. Barnali Basak, Adv.
Mr. Shubham Pundhir, Adv.
Mr. Vinod Kumar Shukla, Adv.
Mr. Hukum Deo Prasad, Adv.
Mr. Yogenndra Kumar Verma, Adv.
Mr. Satish Kumar, AOR

M/S. Karanjawala & Co., AOR

Mr. V.N. Raghupathy, AOR

Ms. Charu Ambwani, AOR

Ms. Astha Sharma, AOR
Ms. Muskan Surana, Adv.

Mr. Rajesh Kumar Maurya, Adv.
Mr. Neeraj Shekhar, AOR
Mr. Ashok Kumar Rai, Adv.

Mr. Mohit Paul, AOR

Mr. Nischal Kumar Neeraj, AOR
Mr. Shalen Bhardwaj, Adv.
Mr. Ashok Kumar Panigrahi, Adv.
Ms. Lakshmi, Adv.
Ms. Garima Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Virender Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Deepender Kumar Pathak, Adv.
Ms. Banisha Verma, Adv.

Mr. Nishit Agrawal, AOR

Ms. Rakhi Ray, AOR

Ms. Ishita Jain, AOR
Mr. Anand Kumar Shrivastava, Adv.
Mr. Ankit Bhandari, Adv.

Mr. Manish Kumar Gupta, AOR

Mr. Gaurav, AOR

Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, AOR
Mr. Deepayan Dutta, Adv.
Mr. Saurabh Tripathi, Adv.

Ms. Divya Jyoti Singh, AOR

Mr. Vinay Garg, AOR

Mr. T.R.B. Sivakumar, AOR

Mr. Praveen Pathak, Adv.
Mr. Avadhesh Kumar Dubey, Adv.
Mr. Akanksha Singh, Adv.
Ms. Manju Jetley, AOR

Mr. Amrish Kumar, AOR

Mr. Harsh V. Surana, AOR

Mr. Puneet Taneja, AOR

Ms. Vrinda Bhandari, AOR

Ms. Charu Mathur, AOR

Ms. Tulika Mukherjee, AOR

Mr. Akshay Girish Ringe, AOR

Ms. Aswathi M.K., AOR

M/S. M.V. Kini & Associates, AOR

Mr. Pradeep Misra, AOR
Mr. Daleep Dhyani, Adv.
Mr. Suraj Singh, Adv.

Mr. Manish Kumar, AOR
Mr. Ravi Shanker Jha, Adv.

Ms. Maneka Guruswamy, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Shadan Farasat, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, AOR
Ms. Ananya Basudha, Adv.
Ms. Natasha Maheshwari, Adv.
Mr. Prannv Dhawan, Adv.

Ms. Rooh-e-hina Dua, AOR

Mr. Mudit Gupta, AOR

Ms. Sakshi Kakkar, AOR

Ms. Shagun Matta, AOR

Mr. Gaurav, AOR

Mr. Gopal Jha, AOR

Mr. Shishir Deshpande, AOR

Mr. D. Kumanan, AOR

Ms. Deepa S, Adv.

Mr. Sheikh F Kalia, Adv.

Mr. Veshal Tyagi, Adv.

Mr. Chinmay Anand Panigrahi, Adv.

Ms. Pritha Srikumar Iyer, AOR

Mr. Vikas Mehta, AOR

Mr. Niraj Gupta, AOR

Mrs. Anshu Gupta, Adv.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Jain, Adv.

Ms. Divya Roy, AOR

M/S. S. Narain & Co., AOR

Mr. Sandeep Kumar Jha, AOR

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

Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, Adv.

Ms. Shalini Singh, Adv.

Mr. Saurabh Rajpal, Adv.

Ms. Puja Sharma, AOR

Mr. Gautam Narayan, AOR

Mr. Neeraj Kumar Gupta, AOR

Mr. Danish Zubair Khan, AOR

Mr. Ajay Vikram Singh, AOR

Mr. K. Paari Vendhan, AOR

Mr. Gurminder Singh, AG Punjab, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Rahul Mehra, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Prashant Manchanda, A.A.G.

Mr. Vivek Jain, D.A.G.

Mr. Karan Sharma, AOR

Mr. Shekhar Kumar, AOR

Mr. Rajan Narain, AOR

Mr. Ayush Sharma, AOR

Mr. Anurag Kishore, AOR

Ms. Mayuri Raghuvanshi, AOR

Dr. Brij Bhushan K Jauhari, Adv.

Mr. Deepak Jyoti Ghildiyal, Adv.

Mr. Harsh Mahan, Adv.

Mr. Satya Vir Singh Rana, Adv.

Ms. Purnima Jauhari, AOR

Mr. Hiren Dasan, AOR

Ms. Malvika Kapila, AOR

Mr. Gaurav Kejriwal, AOR

Mr. Sameer Abhyankar, AOR

Mr. Rahul Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Aryan Srivastava, Adv.

Mr. Aakash Thakur, Adv.

Ms. Jaikriti S. Jadeja, AOR

Ms. Astha Tyagi, AOR

Mr. Sunil Fernandes, AOR

Mr. Kuldip Singh, AOR

Ms. Anushree Prashit Kapadia, AOR

Mr. Ketan Paul, AOR

Dr. Ram Sankar, Adv.

Mrs. Harini Ramsankar, Adv.

Ms. Sujatha Bagadhi, Adv.

Mr. G Anandan, Adv.

Mr. B Sasikumar, Adv.

M/S. Ram Sankar & Co, AOR

Mr. Ajay Pal, AOR

Mr. Dhananjaya Mishra, AOR

Mr. Rahul Khurana, AOR

Mr. S. S. Shroff, AOR

Ms. Madhumita Bhattacharjee, AOR

Ms. Debarati Sadhu, Adv.

Ms. Srija Choudhury, Adv.

Mr. Anas Tanwir, AOR

Mr. Vikrant Singh Bais, AOR

Mr. Soumya Dutta, AOR

Mr. Sameer Kumar, AOR

Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, AOR

Mr. Gaurav Choudhary, AOR

Mr. Ravindra Kumar, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Shivam Saxena, Adv.

Mr. Vipin Kumar Saxena, Adv.

Mr. Binay Kumar Das, AOR

Ms. Priyanka Das, Adv.

Ms. Neha Das, Adv.

Mr. Vikas Bharti, Adv.

Mr. V P Pandey, Adv.

Mr. Rajiv Yadav, AOR

Mr. Vipin Nair, AOR

Mr. Rishi Matoliya, AOR

Mr. D. Abhinav Rao, AOR

Mr. Durga Dutt, AOR

Mr. Avijit Mani Tripathi, AOR

Mr. T.K. Nayak, Adv.

Ms. Marbiang Khongwir, Adv.

Mr. Daniel Lyngdoh, Adv.

Ms. Rashmi Malhotra, AOR

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

IN RE: SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE

1. Firstly, we deal with the issue of payment requisite amount for subsistence to construction workers. The Chief Secretary of the Delhi Government is present through video conference. He states that a sum of Rs.2,000/- (Rupees Two Thousand) each has been

paid 90,693 workers who have been registered on the portal and remaining amount of Rs.6,000/- (Rupees Six Thousand) will be paid immediately. However, the Delhi Government has made no efforts to inform other eligible construction workers that they will be entitled to receive subsistence amount if they register themselves on the portal. Perhaps, from what the Chief Secretary said before us, it appears to us that the Delhi Government was not aware that there may be much more workers than 90,693 registered on the portal. We direct the Delhi Government to immediately convene a meeting of all the unions of the construction workers and appeal to them to instruct the eligible workers to register themselves on the portal.

2. As far as the State of Rajasthan is concerned, two districts have been affected. There are 3,526 identified workers, out of which, only 2,063 have been paid the amount. However, the learned counsel appearing for the State is not clear about how much amount has been paid to each worker. These details must be placed on record before the next date. Apart from making complete payment to the identified workers, the directions which are issued in the case of Delhi Government will also apply to the Government of Rajasthan.

3. As far as the State of Haryana is concerned, total 14 districts have been affected. There are 2,57,000 registered workers on the portal, out of which 1,06,000, who applied for help, have been paid the amount at the rate of Rs.423.14 per day. The directions which are issued to the Delhi Government will also apply

to the State of Haryana, which will ensure that those who have not registered themselves, will also register themselves so that they can get the benefit of subsistence amount.

4. As far as the State of Uttar Pradesh is concerned, 08 districts have been affected and as of today, 4,88,246 workers are registered on the portal. Unfortunately, only 8,000 have been paid till yesterday. Even the Government of Uttar Pradesh could not specify how much amount is being paid to each worker. Apart from taking steps which we have directed in the case of Delhi Government, we direct the Government of Uttar Pradesh to ensure that all the eligible workers are paid the money immediately.

5. As regards the payment of compensation by way of subsistence allowance, the concerned Governments will file further affidavits on or before the next date. The personal presence of the Chief Secretaries of the NCR States is dispensed with.

IN RE: GRADED RESPONSE ACTION PLAN MEASURES

6. Now we deal with the question of the measures under the Graded Response Action Plan (for short, "the GRAP").

7. Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, learned ASG, has tendered across the Bar a brief note prepared by the Commission. The note indicates that the average AQI levels from 30th November till 4th December, 2024 were 346, 285, 280, 268 and 178 respectively. Therefore, her submission is that now even Stage-I of the GRAP will not apply. Her further submission is that in view of the improvement in the

situation, the applicability of the GRAP measures be left to the Commission.

8. We have perused the figures of AQI from 18th November, 2024 till 4th December, 2024. Upto 30th November, 2024, the AQI levels were consistently above 300 and it is only during the last four days that the AQI levels have come down below 300. It is true that at some stage, the Court will have to leave it to the Commission to decide about the applicability of Stages under the GRAP.

9. Considering the data placed before us which we have referred above, we do not think that it will be appropriate, at this stage, to allow the Commission to go below Stage-II of the GRAP. Perhaps, further monitoring on the part of this Court is necessary. Though we permit the Commission to go down to Stage-II for the present, it will be appropriate if the Commission considers of incorporating certain additional measures which are part of Stage-III of the GRAP. While we permit the Commission to do so, we must record here that if the Commission finds that the AQI goes above 350, as a precautionary measure, Stage-III measures will have to be immediately implemented. If the AQI crosses 400 on a given day, Stage-IV measures will have to be reintroduced.

10. Further directions on this aspect will be issued on 12th December, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.

11. Considering the scope of this Petition, we are of the view that Ms. Aparajita Singh, learned Senior Advocate appointed as

Amicus Curiae, is overburdened. Therefore, we leave it her to give her suggestions so that we can appoint few other members of the Bar as Amicus Curiae. Ms. Aparajita Singh, learned Amicus Curiae, is free to give her suggestions by sending an email so that appropriate orders can be passed.

12. We make it clear that the appointment of the Court Commissioners will continue so long as the GRAP measures are in force and they are free to submit their reports to this Court in terms of the earlier orders. The orders passed by this Court earlier regarding giving protection to the Court Commissioners will continue to operate.

13. We direct the Delhi Government to pay the remuneration to the Court Commissioners which is payable to the Panel 'B' counsel fixed by the Union of India. The Delhi Government to take action immediately.

14. We are informed that while issuing show-cause notices to those who violated the GRAP norms, the Delhi Pollution Control Committee has named the Court Commissioners appointed by this Court in the notices. None of the authorities who are taking action for violation of the GRAP norms shall incorporate the names of the Court Commissioners hereafter.

15. Shri Balram Singh, Station House Officer of Police Station Baba Haridas Nagar, New Delhi is present in the Court who has tendered an affidavit. The copies thereof be supplied to the

concerned Court Commissioners, who can submit their response on the next date. For the time being, the personal presence of Shri Balram Singh is dispensed with.

(ASHISH KONDLE)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(ANU BHALLA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)