

IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD

R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 1 of 2021
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 1 of 2022
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 1 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR AMENDMENT) NO. 1 of 2025
In CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 9 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 2 of 2022
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 2 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR AMENDMENT) NO. 2 of 2025
In CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 10 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 3 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR VACATING INTERIM RELIEF) NO. 3 of 2025
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 4 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR AMENDMENT) NO. 4 of 2025
In CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 10 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 5 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR AMENDMENT) NO. 5 of 2025
In CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 9 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 6 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 7 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 8 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019

With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 9 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019
 With
CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR DIRECTION) NO. 10 of 2024
In R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 23158 of 2019

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BABUBHAI SAMPATBHAI PATELIYA & ORS.

Versus
 STATE OF GUJARAT & ORS.

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Appearance:

PETITION/APPEAL WITHDRAWN/DISMISSED for the Petitioner(s) No.
 1,47,49,50,51

VYOM H SHAH(9387) for the Petitioner(s) No.

10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,3
 3,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,48,5,6,7,8,9

GOVERNMENT PLEADER for the Respondent(s) No. 1,2,3,4

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CORAM: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP N. BHATT

Date : 18/08/2025

ORAL ORDER

1. Pursuant to the earlier order dated 8.8.2025, this Court has received the report from the Registrar General.

2. On perusing the said report, this Court is surprised to know that though the order of installation of CCTV cameras is passed in Special Criminal Application No.996 of 2020 at the end of the year 2023 and is supposed to be implemented by January, 2024, the events narrated in the report and documents indicate that such process though initiated, but delayed and not completed yet. This Court had passed the order by way of exhortation to see that the functioning which is going on in the premises of the highest Court of this State is transparent and in case of some

wrongs which are alleged in the process, the same can be traced out with the help of such CCTV footages and therefore this Court had passed the order to install CCTV cameras in every corner of the Registry by covering every table as well as the important places in the corridors of the High Court as well as other important places of the High Court campus. It seems that this attempt is misunderstood as renegade by the concerned persons.

3. This Court is reiterating that such direction in that order was required to be given for the larger interest of this august institution and considering the CCTV as desideratum and with a hope that the Registrar and concerned higher officials will consider the same as a bellwether for the other Courts, but unfortunately, it seems that the said order is considered as 'a storm in a tea cup' and viewed by predilection and therefore, though the Registry has initially made attempts to place such order before the concerned Committees for the purpose of implementation in true sense and the Purchase Committee as well as the IT Committee of this Court has also approved, thereafter, it seems that the concerned Registrar (IT) at the relevant point of time has tried to place this matter under the carpet by misleading the concerned persons. Otherwise, this much time which has taken for the completion of this process is

unacceptable and this process can be equated with the process of the other departments of some of the government institutions whereby the Courts are observing that it is nothing but red tapism. It is clarified that 'red-tape' refers to excessive or unnecessary bureaucratic rules, regulations and formalities that hinder or delay action, decision-making, or implementation processed. It is characterized by rigid adherence to formal procedures, often involving complex paperwork, multiple approvals and lengthy processes, even when those procedures add little or no value. Though this High Court as well as the Hon'ble Apex Court is insisting for implementation of CCTV cameras in all the important institutions like police stations, highways and important roads and offices of government institutions, such delay in the implementation of the order passed by this Court for installation of the CCTV cameras in the High Court is *prima facie* unbelievable and this Court is showing helplessness in such situation. In fact, the Registrars and Registry of this Court should be considered as Omnia paratus. Unfortunately, in the present case, for the reasons best known to the concerned Registrar, more particularly, Registrar (IT), the process is delayed and yet not completed. Even from the report, it transpires that it is still at the stage of finalization of specifications of the necessary cameras and for tendering for the procurement of the same. This Court expects that the

order of this Court will be complied with in its true letter and spirit by the concerned persons in the Registry as expeditiously as possible.

4. With the above observations, considering the fact that above observations are having some relevance for the issue which cropped up in the present matters, the present applications are listed for further consideration on 26.8.2025.

5. The report which is submitted by the Registrar General be again put in sealed cover and kept with the Court Master till the matter is pending before this Court. Thereafter, the Court Master will submit the report to the Registrar (Judicial) for placing it in the file.

SRILATHA

(SANDEEP N. BHATT,J)