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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**
+ CONT.CAS(C) 660/2020, CM APPL. 26651/2020 & CM APPL. 5145/2021

NEW DELHI NATURE SOCIETY Petitioner

Through: Mr. Aditya N. Prasad and Mr. Harsh Vardhan, Advocates.

versus

SHRI VINAY SHEEL SAXENA & ORS. Respondents

Through: Mr. Shadan Farasat, ASC, GNCTD with Mr. Shourya Dasgupta, Advocate for R-1 & R-2.

Ms. Punya Rekha Angara, Advocate for Mr. N. Hariharan, Sr. Advocate (*Amicus Curiae*).

Mr. Satyakam, ASC with Ms. Pallavii Singh, Advocate and SI Satyam PandeyKumar, PS-Lodhi Colony for R-3/Delhi Police.

Mr. Gautam Narayan, ASC, GNCTD/Department of Forests along with Mr. Harshit Goel, Advocate.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAJMI WAZIRI

ORDER
08.02.2023

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The hearing has been conducted through hybrid mode (physical and virtual hearing).

1. The learned counsel for the petitioner has brought to the court's notice

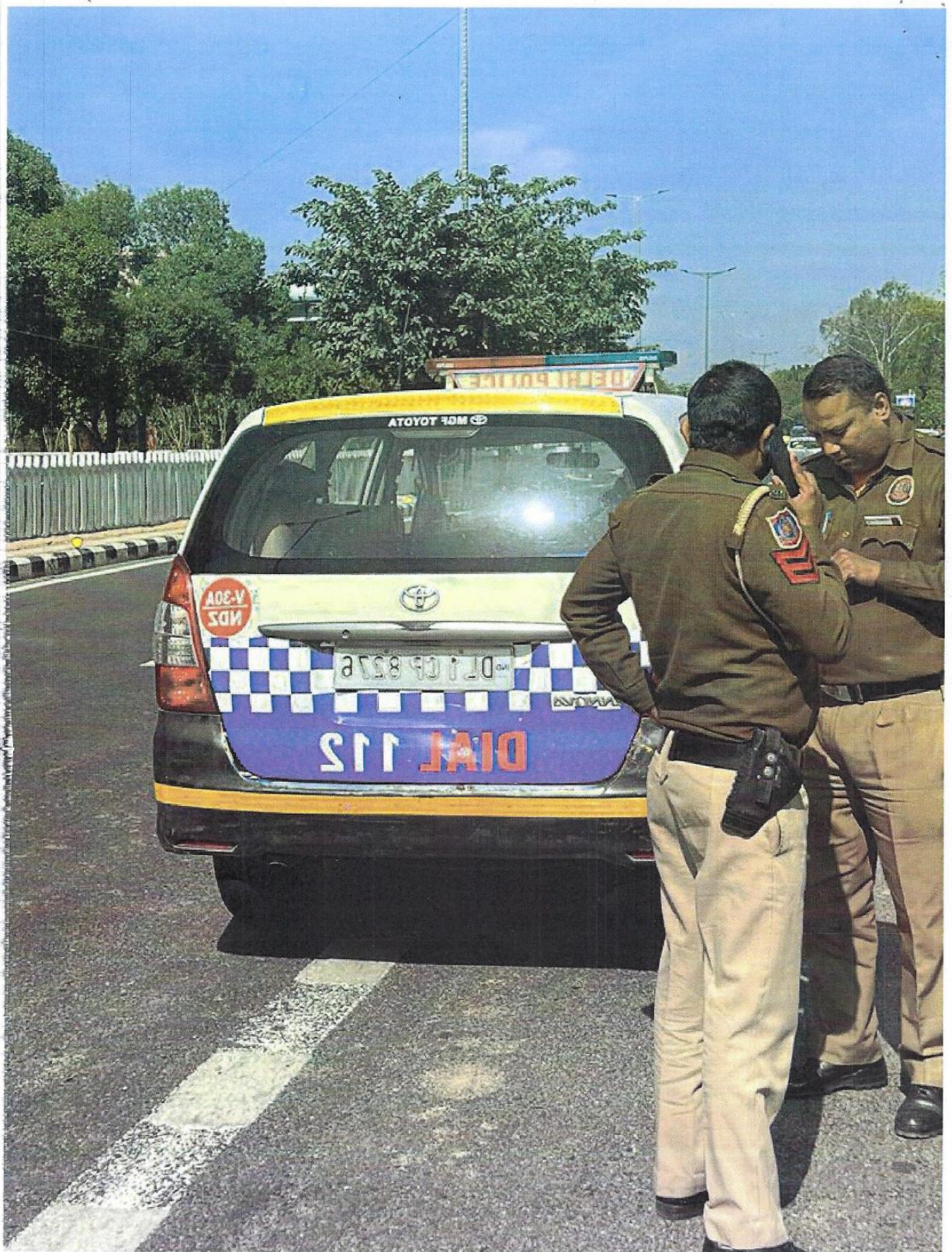


an alarming development which has taken place today. He submits that earlier in the day after conclusion of a hearing in the Supreme Court when he was coming towards the High Court of Delhi, he found that a tree was being cut by some workmen, by a chain saw on Mathura Road, right outside Gate No. 7 of Pragati Maidan. Photographs shown by him are of a tree which would have protection under the Delhi Preservation of Trees Act, 1994. He along with his lawyer colleague tried to stop this but the workmen did not stop. The work was being carried out under the instructions of PWD. The photographs have also been shown to the learned ASC for PWD and are reproduced hereunder:













2. A PCR was called at 12:30 hours, which reached the spot. His complaint was received by SHO, PS: Tilak Marg, New Delhi. A call was made by him to the Tree Helpline but it was hardly of any consequence as the Quick Response Team ('QRT') requested by him did not arrive.
3. Let the matter be brought to the notice of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests as well as Engineer-in-Chief, PWD for their appropriate response.
4. List on 20.02.2023.

NAJMI WAZIRI, J

FEBRUARY 8, 2023

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