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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. Piyush Sharma, Advocate.

versus

SHRI VINAY SHEEL SAXENA & ORS. Respondents

Through: Mr. Shadan Farasat, ASC for GNCTD
along with Mr. Shourya Dasgupta,
Advocate.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAJMI WAZIRI

ORDER
% **18.02.2021**

The hearing was conducted through video conferencing.

- 1 The learned ASC for the GNCTD submits that Standard Operating Procedure ('SOP') have been issued. However, *ex facie*, there is some error in the SOP insofar as it states that no digging shall be started by the PWD within a one-metre radius of a tree, whereas the instructions/advisory of the Tree Officer is that, no digging should be done within a two-metre radius of a tree.
- 2 Let the instructions/advisory of the Tree Officer be duly incorporated in the SOP and a revised SOP, duly approved by the Tree Officer, be circulated to all Government Departments, Municipal Corporations and government agencies in Delhi.



- 3 The learned ASC further submits that on 23.02.2021, a training workshop has been scheduled by the Forest Department, GNCDT, for all government departments and other local bodies in Delhi, apropos the legislative framework as well as directions issued by judicial for a, regarding preservation of trees in Delhi. The workshop is to be addressed, inter alia, by senior officers, scientists/academicians and the Chief Conservator of Forests.
- 4 Let another affidavit, with better particulars, be filed by the SHO concerned before the next date.
- 5 List on 04.03.2021.
- 6 The order be uploaded on the website forthwith.

NAJMI WAZIRI, J

FEBRUARY 18, 2021

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