



\$~4(SB), 2(SB), 3(SB), 5(SB), 6(SB), 7(SB), 1(OS) to 30(OS)

* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ **FAO 36/2021, CM APPLs.2914/2021, 10442/2021, 10444/2021, 20904/2021, 23819/2021, 25868-70/2021, 25884-85/2021, 26495/2021, 29121/2021, 38063/2021, 38289/2021, 39643/2021, 43944-46/2021, 3172/2022, 3455/2022, 5641-42/2022, 5803/2022, 5865/2022, 7745/2022, 13472/2022, 16153/2022, 17039/2022, 18207/2022, 18247-48/2022, 21768/2022, 21801-03/2022, 22125/2022, 23093/2022, 29624/2022, 32296/2022, 34552-53/2022, 39754-55/2022, 40548/2022, 43723/2022, 53179/2022, 876/2023, 13658/2023, 14509/2023, 15812-13/2023, 22230/2023, 25196/2023, 27387/2023, 28558-59/2023, 29981/2023, 31169/2023, 40347-48/2023, 52644-45/2023, 61839/2023, 63979/2023, 21810-12/2024, 49963/2024, 1174/2025, 16642-43/2025, 47638/2025, 61621/2025 & 63907/2025**

NEETA BHARDWAJ & ORS.

..... Appellants

Through:

versus

KAMLESH SHARMA

..... Respondent

Through:

+ **CM (M) 323/2021, CM APPLs. 14178/2021, 20945/2021, 20949/2021 & 40269/2021**
+ **CONT.CAS(C) 614/2021**
+ **RFA 413/2021**
+ **CONT.CAS(C) 1240/2024**
+ **RSA 109/2018 & CM APPLs.30168/2018, 70/2019, 48979/2023**
+ **CS(OS) 524/2021**
+ **CS(OS) 528/2021**
+ **CS(OS) 531/2021 & I.As.9648/2023, 9962/2024, 10430/2024**
+ **CS(OS) 552/2021, CCP(O) 106/2024, I.As. 16148/2021 & 16149/2021, 46222/2024, 46223/2024**
+ **CS(OS) 553/2021&I.A. 10650/2025**
+ **CS(OS) 557/2021**
+ **CS(OS) 559/2021**
+ **CS(OS) 683/2021&I.A. 10726/2025**
+ **CS(OS) 56/2022 &I.As. 12340/2022, 6194/2025, 6595/2025, 16986/2025, 16987/2025, 16988/2025&I.A. 23612/2025**



- + **CS(OS) 57/2022**
- + **CS(OS) 446/2024&I.A. 30542/2024, 6912/2025, 6914/2025, 7430/2025&17444/2025**
- + **CS (OS) 2499/2010**
- + **CS (OS) 511/2021**
- + **CS(OS) 512/2021**
- + **CS (OS) 526/2021 & I.A. 7511/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 527/2021, I.As. 1717/2022 & 1718/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 533/2021, I.As. 1721/2022SIDD & 1722/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 535/2021 & I.A. 7552/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 538/2021, I.As.1725/2022 & 1726/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 539/2021, I.As.9063/2022 & 9064/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 540/2021 & I.A. 7940/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 541/2021, I.As. 1723/2022 & 1724/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 542/2021, I.As. 9031/2022 & 9032/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 544/2021, I.As. 1719/2022 & 1720/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 545/2021**
- + **CS (OS) 547/2021, I.As.1715-16/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 554/2021, I.As. 9061/2022 & 9062/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 579/2021, I.As. 9981/2022 & 9982/2022**
- + **CS (OS) 240/2023**
- + **CS (OS) 284/2023, I.As.10300/2023, 10301/2023, 10302/2023, 10303/2023 & 10304/2023**

Appearances:

Ms. Nisha Thakur and Ms. Samiksha Jain, Advs. (9212786555)
Mr. Siddharth Panda with Mr. Anil Pandey Advs. (9891488088)

Mr Sarvesh Bhardwaj, Adv. (9350301058)
Mr. Siddharth Aggarwal and Mr. Lalit Sharma, Advs.
Mr. Arun Birbal and Mr. Sanjay Singh, Advs. (M: 9958118327)
Mr. Anuj Chaturvedi and Ms. Shivani Thakur, Adv. for DUSIB.
Mr. Devesh Sharma, Adv. with Mr. Gagandeep Singh, Petitioner in person.
Ms. Sonia Singhani, Ms. Vidhi Gupta and Mr. Kultar Chandel, Adv.
Mr. Kamal Mehta, Adv. for D-2.
Mr. Samman Vardhan Gautam, Adv. (9560616087)
Mr. R. K. Bhardwaj, Adv.



Mr. K.G. Chhokar, Adv. (M:9896030124)
Ms. Renu, Ms. Shivani Verma, Ms. Pragya Jaishwal and Ms. Arpita Sing, Advs. for Mr. Kamlesh Kumar Mishra. (M: 9354971142)
Mr. Akarshan Bhardwaj, Adv. (M: 9711549953)
Ms. Anjali Chauhan, Ms. Dipti Chauhan, Mr. Ankur Gupta and Mr. Rishabh Mishra, Advs. for Applicant in CM APPL.1174/2024.
Mr. Thakur Sumit, Mr. Gaurav Rathor & Mr. Mohd. Afaq, Advs. (M: 9899714472)
Mr. Farman Ali, SPC with Ms. Usha Jamnal, Adv. for Delhi Police.
Mr. Samman Vardhan Gautam, Adv. for Defendant.
Ms. Sumita Hazarika, Mr. Prabhaskh Chandra, Adv. for R-10.
Mr. Zoheb Hossain, Amicus.
Ms. Anshita Choudhary, Adv. for D-2.
Ms. Avni Singh, Adv.
Mr. Satish Sahai, Adv.

CORAM:

JUSTICE PRATHIBA M. SINGH

ORDER

% **13.02.2026**

1. This hearing has been done through hybrid mode.

CS(OS) 528/2021, CS(OS) 531/2021, CS(OS) 553/2021 & CS(OS) 683/2021

2. In these cases, it is submitted by Id. Sr. Counsel that Mr. Sat Dev, the original Plaintiff in **CS(OS) 531/2021** has died.

3. The said matter is listed before the Joint Registrar on 7th April, 2026 for substitution of legal heirs of the deceased.

4. Let the substitution of legal heirs take place and, thereafter, the matters *i.e.*, **CS(OS) 528/2021, CS(OS) 531/2021, CS(OS) 553/2021 & CS(OS) 683/2021** be listed before Court on 21st May, 2026.

CS(OS) 56/2022 (Shiv Narain Sharma & Anr. v. Kirpa Ram & Ors.)

5. In **CS(OS) 56/2022** there are several applications pending for impleadment of legal heirs of certain Defendants who have passed away.



6. Issue notice to all the proposed legal heirs in ***I.A. 6595/2025, I.A. 16986/2025, I.A. 16987/2025, I.A. 16988/2025.***
7. List ***CS(OS) 56/2022*** before the Joint Registrar on 9th March, 2026 for completion of impleadment of legal heirs in the above mentioned applications.
8. Issue fresh notice in ***I.A. 23612/2025*** in ***CS(OS) 56/2022.***
9. Let reply be filed in the application within four weeks. Rejoinder, thereto, be filed within four weeks thereafter.
10. Ld. Counsel for Respondent No.2 in ***CS(OS) 56/2022*** also submits that there is mediation pending in respect of another matter being ***CS (OS) 55/2022*** arising from the dispute pertaining to Tuglak Road Mandir, which is listed before the Mediator on 23rd February, 2026.
11. Since all these parties are part of the same family, thus, in order to enable them to explore mediation, list ***CS(OS) 56/2022*** for mediation as well, before the Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre on 23rd February, 2026 along with ***CS (OS) 55/2022.***
12. Let a copy of this order be communicated to the Secretary, Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre for necessary information and compliance.
13. List ***CS(OS) 56/2022*** before Court on 17th April, 2026.
FAO 36/2021 (Neeta Bhardwaj & Ors. v. Kamlesh Sharma) and other connected cases
14. In ***FAO 36/2021*** an application, being ***CM APPL. 47638/2025*** is filed by M/s Measure Techno Services, seeking release of the amount which was to be paid to the agency for carrying out the demarcation as per the order dated 12th March, 2024.



15. *Vide* order dated 12th March, 2024, the Court had directed release of the said amount to the Applicant.

16. Let Id. Counsel for the Applicant– M/s Measure Techno Services approach the Registrar (Cash Branch), Delhi High Court, to seek release of the amount within two weeks.

17. Thereafter, a compliance report be placed on record in ***CM APPL. 47638/2025***.

18. ***CM APPL. 47638/2025*** is disposed of in said terms.

19. The Court further notes that a letter received by the Court, which is stated to have been written by '*The Victims, All shopkeepers (Kalkaji Temple, New Delhi-110019*', has been put up by the Registry. The content of the said letter dated 20th January, 2026, is extracted hereunder:



To,

The Hon'ble *Justice Pratibha M. Singh*
256, Lawyers Chamber Block - I Delhi High Court
New Delhi - 110003.

Date: January 20, 2026

Subject: Regarding contempt of court by the priests of Kalkaji Temple.

Respectfully, I submit that the Kalkaji Temple Management and Improvement Committee, in collusion with the police administration (SHO), is involved in a multi-crore rupee racket every month. There are no facilities for devotees and the general public. A contract worth 3 crore rupees is awarded every month, and this doubles to 6 crore rupees during Navratri. Recently, a murder occurred here, and during Navratri, some people died and others were injured due to electric shock. **Surendra Nath Avdhoot who is a Mahant of Kalkaji temple** he was organized a religious gathering (Jagran) without taking permission by **J.R. Midha (Retd. Judge High court)** due to that some people died and others were injured.

The priests/committee/police administration are engaging in the following illegal activities:

- 1) **As per the order in SLP No-6344-6346/2024, the status quo is to be maintained at the Kalkaji Temple**, yet the police/priests/committee are installing iron railings/doors/gates and I have observed that tiles and corrugated iron sheets are being installed in the market area.
- 2) **As per the High Court order in FAO No-36/2021, only five temporary stalls were allotted near Dhupia in front of the Kalkaji Temple by the court and a retired judge (Mr. J.R. Midha), with permission to sell only specific items such as dried coconut, lemons, lamps, nutmeg, betel nuts, and betel leaves.** Despite this, the chief priest (who is in charge for the month), with the help of the committee/police, has set up 10 additional stalls under the guise of these five stalls. These stall owners are not allowed to sell flowers, offerings, garlands, scarves, or coconuts, yet the priests and police are illegally earning 40 lakh rupees by allowing these stalls to operate. Furthermore, five more stalls have been illegally set up behind the temple, also selling flowers and offerings. When officials arrive, these stalls are removed for half an hour and then set up again. Please ensure that all stalls inside the temple premises, except for the five near the Dhupia area, are removed, and that only the items permitted by the court order are allowed to be sold. The contract for flowers and offerings is worth 40 lakh rupees per month; this contract system should be abolished, and the recycling of flowers should be stopped.



3) Hair Cutting Ceremony: According to the court, a receipt of 251 rupees should be issued, but 1100 rupees is being charged per hair cutting ceremony. An additional 500 rupees is also being forcibly taken from devotees as a donation. The contract for hair cutting ceremonies is worth 15 lakh rupees per month; this should be stopped.

4) Shoe and Slipper Stand: Previously, 5 rupees per pair was charged, but now they have started charging 10 rupees per pair. The shoe and slipper stand operator also illegally runs a flower and offerings stall; this should be stopped, and the shoe and slipper stand should be made free of charge.

5) Outer Ring Road Kalkaji Temple Gate No. 1 to Gate No. 2: All stalls, vendors, and flower and offerings stalls inside the temple premises should be removed because the shopkeepers have vacated the area (due to redevelopment), and the priests are illegally occupying the space by setting up their own stalls and vendors, which is a legal offense. Approximately 25-30 stalls are being set up illegally by the priests with the connivance of the **SHO of Kalkaji Police Station**. This encroachment should be removed immediately, and legal action should be taken against them. **Some goons of the priests, including Kake, Sonu (iron contractor), the chief priest, the chairman of the management committee, the secretary, committee members, Praveen, Ashok, Mukesh Pandit, etc.,** beat up the shopkeepers and threaten to kill them, due to which no shopkeeper even dares to visit the temple out of fear. Please take strict action against all of them.

6) Offerings of liquor/chicken/goat/grains/etc. are made, and the contract for this is worth Rs. 40 lakhs. Liquor is sold illegally; on days when liquor shops are closed in the city, liquor is readily available on the black market at the Kalkaji temple. The contract for this is worth Rs. 20 lakhs. Liquor is sold illegally every day in the temple premises, both at the ancient Sarkata Bhairav temple and the main temple (Kalkaji temple). The Excise Department should conduct a raid and put a stop to this.

7) Parking—The parking near Rampiau is illegal and is being run jointly by the priests and the police. This land belongs to the DDA, and the contract for it is worth Rs. 20 lakhs.

8) Thread Tiers – These people stand right at the exit point of the temple, near the door, causing inconvenience to devotees after their darshan (visit) inside the temple, as they have to face a crowd. There are approximately 10 thread tiers who forcibly tie threads on people's wrists and charge ₹10 per person. This operation is reportedly worth ₹20 lakh per month. Please have this stopped.

9) Offerings – Gold and silver are offered daily at the Kalkaji Temple in kilograms, and approximately ₹10 lakh in cash is offered daily.



10) **Shopkeepers** – These shopkeepers have been operating for 35 to 40 years and have even given an undertaking to the High Court for the redevelopment of the temple premises. 104 shops have been allotted to the shopkeepers outside the temple premises in an outside area, with a rent of ₹15,000 per month. Due to this high rent, no shopkeeper has taken a shop yet. Some shopkeepers did take shops during Navratri, but they suffered losses.

Therefore, the shopkeepers should be given shops within the temple premises at a reasonable rent, as they have been unemployed and struggling for the past 5 years, and several shopkeepers have even died of heart attacks.

Therefore, we request that a trust be formed for the Kalkaji Temple under the supervision of the Supreme Court so that the temple can be improved and developed, and facilities can be provided for the devotees. The contract system by the priests should be abolished, as it is the root cause of corruption. The priests should receive 25% of the income, and the shopkeepers should be given shops within the temple premises at a reasonable rent.

Thank you

The Victims

All Shopkeepers(Kalkaji Temple) New Delhi-110019

SLP No– 32452-53/2013- 32845/2013

20. In view of the fact that in the said letter, a prayer has been made for formation of a Trust under the supervision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, a copy of this letter, along with all the annexures and the photographs etc., be forwarded by the Registry to Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, Id. ASG, for necessary information and further action, if any.

21. List on 21st May, 2026.

PRATHIBA M. SINGH, J.

FEBRUARY 13, 2026

dj/ss