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

+ LPA 130/2017

RAMAKRISHNA SR SEC SCHOOL & ANR

.....Appellants

versus

COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW OF SCHOOL FEES & ANR

.....Respondents

- + W.P.(C) 7777/2009 & CM APPL. Nos. 5957/2018, 23567/2018, 38143/2022
- + W.P.(C) 7997/2014 & CM APPL. 21993/2023
- + W.P.(C) 6337/2020 & CM APPL. 22496/2020
- + W.P.(C) 5734/2017 & CM APPL. 22620/2023
- + W.P.(C) 5744/2017 & CM APPL. 22621/2023
- + W.P.(C) 1176/2015 & CM APPL. 44457/2017
- + W.P.(C) 5899/2016
- + W.P.(C) 4018/2017 & CM APPL. 17708/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7269/2017
- + W.P.(C) 1942/2020 & CM APPL. 6801/2020
- + W.P.(C) 3547/2015
- + W.P.(C) 6946/2016
- + W.P.(C) 9624/2016
- + W.P.(C) 5221/2017 & CM APPL. Nos. 4786/2018, 39818/2023
- + W.P.(C) 5239/2017
- + W.P.(C) 5270/2017
- + W.P.(C) 5288/2017
- + W.P.(C) 5313/2017
- + W.P.(C) 5314/2017 & CM APPL. 46025/2017
- + W.P.(C) 5503/2017
- + W.P.(C) 5742/2017
- + W.P.(C) 5743/2017
- + W.P.(C) 5765/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6162/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6219/2017 & CM APPL. 9969/2019
- + W.P.(C) 6248/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6255/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6257/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6258/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6356/2017



- + W.P.(C) 6366/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6372/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6426/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6443/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6445/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6627/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6647/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6676/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6713/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6764/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6765/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6772/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6806/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6810/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6811/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6812/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6813/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6814/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6817/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6818/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6820/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6845/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6850/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6861/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6862/2017 & CM APPL. 12387/2020
- + W.P.(C) 6863/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6864/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6875/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6876/2017 & CM APPL. 40351/2022
- + W.P.(C) 6877/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6881/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6882/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6884/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6885/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6886/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6887/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6888/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6889/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6897/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6898/2017
- + W.P.(C) 6899/2017



- + W.P.(C) 7013/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7018/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7043/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7044/2017 & CM APPL. 33924/2020
- + W.P.(C) 7047/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7079/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7085/2017 & CM APPL. 44161/2022
- + W.P.(C) 7089/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7126/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7130/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7169/2017 & CM APPL. 38521/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7188/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7194/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7231/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7232/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7233/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7247/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7255/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7298/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7304/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7311/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7327/2017 & CM APPL. 3217/2026
- + W.P.(C) 7328/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7329/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7333/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7375/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7443/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7444/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7829/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7830/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7831/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7832/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7858/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7860/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7901/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7918/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7919/2017
- + W.P.(C) 7947/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8097/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8102/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8132/2017



- + W.P.(C) 8193/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8250/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8349/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8358/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8393/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8415/2017 & CM APPL. 25987/2023
- + W.P.(C) 8429/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8434/2017 & CM APPL. 42148/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8445/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8453/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8477/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8488/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8501/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8573/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8617/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8631/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8802/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8899/2017 & CM APPL. 43978/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8913/2017 & CM APPL. 36466/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8950/2017 & CM APPL. 36580/2017
- + W.P.(C) 8951/2017 & CM APPL. 36583/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9002/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9024/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9038/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9041/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9052/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9076/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9122/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9136/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9161/2017 & CM APPL. 37476/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9168/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9208/2017 & CM APPL. 37655/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9218/2017 & CM APPL. Nos. 37669/2017, 40733/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9277/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9323/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9350/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9357/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9363/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9366/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9368/2017
- + W.P.(C) 9369/2017



- + W.P.(C) 9941/2017 & CM APPL. 40513/2017
- + W.P.(C) 10367/2017
- + W.P.(C) 10609/2017
- + W.P.(C) 11126/2017
- + W.P.(C) 11239/2017
- + W.P.(C) 11290/2017
- + W.P.(C) 527/2018
- + W.P.(C) 532/2018
- + W.P.(C) 533/2018
- + W.P.(C) 1642/2018
- + W.P.(C) 2089/2018
- + W.P.(C) 2742/2018
- + W.P.(C) 5904/2018
- + W.P.(C) 6217/2018 & CM APPL. 24000/2018
- + W.P.(C) 6275/2018 & CM APPL. 24210/2018
- + W.P.(C) 6289/2018 & CM APPL. 24231/2018
- + W.P.(C) 6845/2018 & CM APPL. Nos. 26005/2018 , 47449/2018
- + W.P.(C) 6965/2018 & CM APPL. 28406/2018
- + W.P.(C) 6978/2018
- + W.P.(C) 6992/2018
- + W.P.(C) 6993/2018
- + W.P.(C) 9098/2018 & CM APPL. 35118/2018
- + W.P.(C) 11226/2018
- + W.P.(C) 11245/2018
- + W.P.(C) 11752/2018 & CM APPL. Nos. 45522/2018, 45523/2018
- + W.P.(C) 11855/2018 & CM APPL. 45920/2018
- + W.P.(C) 13673/2018
- + W.P.(C) 42/2019 & CM APPL. 23325/2023
- + W.P.(C) 1430/2019 & CM APPL. 6559/2019
- + W.P.(C) 1543/2019 & CM APPL. 7127/2019
- + W.P.(C) 1588/2019 & CM APPL. 7324/2019
- + W.P.(C) 2495/2019
- + W.P.(C) 3114/2019
- + W.P.(C) 3120/2019
- + W.P.(C) 7710/2019
- + W.P.(C) 8989/2019 & CM APPL. 50778/2019
- + W.P.(C) 8994/2019 & CM APPL. 50903/2019
- + W.P.(C) 9111/2019
- + W.P.(C) 11439/2019 & CM APPL. Nos. 47031/2019, 47032/2019
- + W.P.(C) 12361/2019 & CM APPL. 50590/2019
- + W.P.(C) 12616/2019



- + W.P.(C) 12622/2019
- + W.P.(C) 12628/2019
- + W.P.(C) 12654/2019 & CM APPL. Nos. 51656/2019, 51657/2019
- + W.P.(C) 12665/2019
- + W.P.(C) 12702/2019
- + W.P.(C) 12703/2019
- + W.P.(C) 12790/2019
- + W.P.(C) 12798/2019
- + W.P.(C) 13381/2019 & CM APPL. 54313/2019
- + W.P.(C) 822/2020
- + W.P.(C) 3476/2020 & CM APPL. 12337/2020
- + W.P.(C) 6571/2020 & CM APPL. 22963/2020
- + W.P.(C) 7231/2020 & CM APPL. Nos. 24417/2020, 24418/2020
- + W.P.(C) 10275/2020 & CM APPL. Nos. 32529/2020, 32530/2020
- + W.P.(C) 207/2021 & CM APPL. 561/2021
- + W.P.(C) 1875/2021 & CM APPL. Nos. 5446/2021, 10413/2021
- + W.P.(C) 10573/2021 & CM APPL. 32609/2021
- + W.P.(C) 13728/2021 & CM APPL. 43378/2021
- + W.P.(C) 13914/2021 & CM APPL. 43916/2021
- + W.P.(C) 1524/2022 & CM APPL. Nos. 4367/2022, 4368/2022
- + W.P.(C) 6082/2022
- + W.P.(C) 11257/2022 & CM APPL. 33053/2022
- + W.P.(C) 11509/2022 & CM APPL. 34042/2022
- + W.P.(C) 11658/2022 & CM APPL. Nos. 34618/2022, 34619/2022
- + W.P.(C) 11736/2022 & CM APPL. 34908/2022

APPEARANCE:-

Advocates for the petitioners:

Mr. Abhijat, Sr. Advocate with Mr. Harkirat Singh and Mr. Harshwardhan, Advocates in Item No. 16.

Mr. K.P. Sundar Rao and Mr. Shubham Choudhary, Advocates in Item Nos. 11, 25, 31 to 36, 40 to 52, 59 to 61, 63 to 72, 99, 106 to 113, 116, 117, 127, 130, 135, 136, 139 to 142, 144, 147, 149 to 154, 157, 159 to 163, 186 to 188, 195 to 197, 199 to 203.

Mr. Ashok Agarwal, Mr. Kumar Utkarsh, Mr. Manoj Kumar and Ms. Ashna Khan, Advocates in Item No. 2.

Mr. Vipul Garg and Ms. Kamna Rai, Advocates in Item No. 15.

Mr. Siddharth, Advocate in Item No. 14.

Mr. Abhishek Puri and Mr. Sahil Grewal and Ms. Surbhi Gupta, Advocates in Item No. 13.



Mr. Kamal Gupta, Ms. Tripti Gupta, Mr. Sparsh Aggarwal, Mr. Vishal Kumar Malhotra and Mr. Siddharth Arora, Advocates in Item Nos. 104, 119, 126, 166, 168, 179, 198, 206 & 216.

Mr. Pranav Rishi, Mr. Gaurav Mishra and Ms. Sukriti Kamra, Advocates in Item Nos. 169 & 170.

Mr. Pramod Gupta, Ms. Yogita & Ms. Himanshi Mehta, Advocates in Item Nos. 10, 27 to 30, 56, 58, 63, 80, 86, 87, 89, 90, 121 to 125, 138, 156, 164, 167, 173, 174, 175, 184, 185, 189, 190 to 192, 194, 204, 211, 217 to 220.

Ms. Diya Kapur, Sr. Adv with Mr. Vedanta Varma, Mr. Aditya Dhankar, Mr. Aditya Ladha & Mr. Raghav Kumar, Advocates for IA Nos. 8 & 182.

Mr. Puneet Mittal, Sr. Advocate with Ms. Sakshi Mendiratta, Advocate in Item Nos. 26, 37 to 39 & 83.

Mr. M. Tarique Siddiqui, Mr. Abhishek K Tanwar and Mohd. Faisal Khan & Ms. Laxmi, Advocates in Item No. 93.

Mr. H. L. Tikku, Senior Advocate with Mr. Yashmeet Kaur, Mr. Hitesh Wadhwa & Mr. Rahul, Advocates in Item Nos. 172 & 183.

Ms. Awantika Manohar, Mr. Aman Kr Pandey and Mr. Savvik Singh, Advocates in Item Nos. 17 and 181.

Mr. Amitesh Kumar, Ms. Priti Kumari & Mr. Pankaj Kumar Ray, Advocates in Item No. 176.

Mr. Santosh Kumar Pandey, Advocate in Item 209.

Mr. Rajesh Mohan Sinha, Mr. Prateek Mohan Sinha, Ms. Namita Sinha, Ms. Nandini Harsh and Mr. Krishnendu Das, Advocates in Item Nos. 131 to 134 & 143, 155.

Mr. Vedanta Varma, Mr. Vibhor Kush and Mr. Aditya Dhankar, Advocates in Item Nos. 148, 207 & 208.

Ms. Aarzoo Aneja & Ms. Roopashi Aggarwal, Advocate in Item No. 146.

Mr. Onkar Prasad, Advocate in Item No. 97.

Mr. Dhiraj Sachdeva, Advocate in Item No. 84.

Mr. Romy Chacko, Sr. Advocate with Mr. Joe Sebastian, Mr. Ashwin Romy Advocates in Item Nos. 9, 213 & 214.

Ms. Srishty Kaul, Mr. Vierat K Anand, Mr. Kumar Shashank, Mr. Harish Nadda and Ms. Navita, Advocates in Item No. 7.

Mr. Ravi Kr. Aggarwal and Mr. Ishaan Aggarwal, Advocates in Item No. 21.

Mr. Paras Choudhary, Advocate in Item No. 193.

Ms. Apurva Tyagi, Mr. Eish Kesarwani & Mr. Parth Gautam, Advocates in Item No. 18.

Mr. Shekhar Dasi & Mr. Ayush Dassi, Advocates in Item No. 212.

Advocates for the respondents:

Mr. Raghvendra Upadhyay, Panel Counsel with Ms. Purnima Jain, Advocate



for GNCTD in Item No. 2, 163, 169, 176, 180.

Mr. Anurag Lakhotia, Advocate in Item Nos. 177, 178 & 215.

Mr. Sameer Vashisht, Standing Counsel (Civil) GNCTD with Ms. Harshita Nathrani, Advocate for DOE in Item Nos. 1- 220.

Mr. Vikrant N. Goyal with Ms. Priyanka S. Aneja, Advocate for UOI in Item 2.

Ms. Tajinder Viridi, Standing Counsel for MCD in Item No. 2.

Mr. Tushar Sannu and Mr. Fajallh Rehman, Advocates for GNCTD in Item No. 2 & 214.

Mr. Pramod Gupta with Ms. Yogita & Ms. Himanshi, Advocates for R-3/Action Committee in Item 2.

Ms. Avni Singh, Panel Counsel for GNCTD/DOE in Item Nos. 3, 10, 12, 34, 38, 40, 54, 73, 79, 96 & 187.

Mr. Bhagwan Swarup Shukla, CGSC with Mr. Mukesh Kumar Pandey, Advocates for UOI in Item No. 163.

Mr. Anubhav Gupta & Ms. Vaishli Gupta, Panel Counsels with Mr. Kartik Sharma, Advocate for GNCTD in Item Nos. 13, 16, 17, 18, 26, 31, 36, 39, 41, 45, 61, 75, 77, 78, 94, 100, 102, 109, 110, 112, 116, 122, 128, 130, 131, 138, 139, 143, 144, 146, 152, 157, 160, 161, 162, 166, 217.

CORAM:

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TEJAS KARIA

ORDER

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17.01.2026

1. As to what amount of fee can be charged from the students by the privately managed, recognized, but non-funded schools in Delhi, has been a perennial issue coming up before this Court time and again.

2. This Court while disposing of a public interest litigation petition, namely W.P. (C) 7777/2009, on 12.08.2011 formed a Committee headed by a retired judge of this Court, Mr. Justice Anil Dev Singh, to look into the individual cases of the institutions and make recommendations as to what amount of fee should be charged by the schools. These recommendations made by the said Committee are under challenge in this bunch of petitions, which have been filed by the individual institutions. Several other institutions



did not challenge the said recommendations and they appear to have accepted the same.

3. The recommendations by Justice Anil Dev Singh's Committee was made in the year 2017. On a challenge being made by individual institutions in the writ petitions which form the instant bunch to the recommendations made by the Committee, this Court passed an interim order to make a deposit of 75% of the principal amount as recommended for refund by Justice Anil Dev Singh's Committee either by way of cash or bank guarantee in favour of the Registrar General of this Court or Fixed Deposit Receipt in the name of the petitioner institutions with an endorsement for lien in favour of the Registrar General of this Court inscribed on the same.

4. Pursuant to these orders, the institutions are said to have either made the deposit or extended the bank guarantee or have submitted the FDRs in the manner as described above.

5. Much water has flown down the bridge since the recommendations were made by the Committee formed under the orders of this Court passed in W.P. (C) 7777/2009. The State has now come up with a new legislative scheme by way of enacting Delhi School Education (Transparency in Fixation and Regulation of Fees) Act, 2025, which has been brought in force w.e.f. 10.12.2025. The entire gamut of the fee being charged by these privately owned, recognized, and non-funded institutions in Delhi will now be governed by this new enactment.

6. We also note that in case the petitions filed by the institutions succeed, the money deposited by them pursuant to the interim orders passed by the Court, shall go with them and in case the petitions fail, the money deposited ought to be refunded to the individual students from whom the same was



charged by the institutions concerned. However, there is another aspect of the matter. In case of failure of these petitions, the money, as observed above, will be required to be refunded to the students from it was charged, but many of the students might have graduated from the schools and it looks difficult to identify each individual student for the purposes of refunding the money said to have deposited by the individual student. Such an exercise appears not only arduous but unfathomable as well.

7. We have been informed by Sh. Khagesh B. Jha, learned counsel who represents the parents of the wards, that there are several petitions filed on behalf of the parents, which are pending before learned Single Judge, wherein a prayer has been made for refund of the amount. Accordingly, we request the learned counsel to submit a list of those matters within a week. Once the said list is received by the Registry, all those matters shall also be tagged along with this bunch.

8. In the peculiar facts and circumstances, which have emerged in this matter on account of pendency, the nature of dispute as also on account of new legislation having brought into force w.e.f. 10.12.2025, we propose that the money deposited by the individual institutions pursuant to the interim orders passed by this Court in the writ petitions of this bunch, may be utilized for ensuring the welfare of the students and institutions as well. For the said purpose, however, we require cooperation from the institutions, State Government as also from the parents.

9. We, thus, propose to set-up a Committee under whose supervision the amount, which has been deposited by the institutions pursuant to the interim orders, may be utilized/spent. We, thus, issue the following directions:

9.1. The Registry will work out the entire amount deposited by the



institutions pursuant to the interim orders passed by this Court along with the interest which might have accrued till 31.12.2025;

9.2. We also request learned counsel representing the institutions to give a common list containing three persons as representatives of the institutions, who may be co-opted as members of the Committee at whose disposal the expenditure in the interest of the welfare of the students and institutions may rest;

9.3. The learned counsel representing the parties, including Sh. Ashok Aggarwal are requested to make suggestions by the next date of listing as to in what manner the money which stands deposited pursuant to the interim orders passed by this Court, can be put to best possible use to farther welfare of the students and the institutions.

9.4. We also expect fullest cooperation from the Directorate of Education, Government of NCT of Delhi.

10. List on 31.01.2026.

DEVENDRA KUMAR UPADHYAYA, CJ

TEJAS KARIA, J

JANUARY 17, 2026

“shailndra”