

ITEM NO.303

COURT NO.9

SECTION PIL(W)

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s).318/2006

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN COMMTT., C.L., LABOUR

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA &amp; ORS

Respondent(s)

(With appln.(s) for impleadment and office report)  
(For final disposal)

WITH

CONMT.PET.(C) No. 52/2013 in W.P.(C) No. 318/2006

Date : 21/08/2015 These petitions were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MADAN B. LOKUR  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UDAY UMESH LALIT

Mr. Vivek K. Tankha, Sr. Adv. (A.C.)

For Petitioner(s)

Mr. Colin Gonsalves, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Divya Jyoti Jaipurkar, Adv.  
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, AOR

For Respondent(s)  
Union of India

Mr. Yashank Adhyaru, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Bharat Singh, Adv.  
Mr. S. Wasim A. Qadri, Adv.  
Mr. Chandra Prakash, Adv.  
Ms. Sunita Sharma, Adv.  
Ms. Gunwant Dara, Adv.  
Mr. D.S. Mahra, AOR  
Mr. Shreekant N. Terdal, AOR

For States of  
Andhra Pradesh

Mr. Guntur Prabhakar, Adv.  
Ms. Purna Singh, Adv.

Assam

Signature Not Verified

Mr. Riku Sarma, Adv.  
Mr. Navnit Kumar, Adv.

Digitally signed by

Sanjay Kumar

Date: 2015.08.24

16:16:21 IST

Reason:

Ms. Deepika Singh, Adv.

Arunachal Pradesh

Mr. Anil Shrivastav, AOR  
Mr. Rituraj Biswas, Adv.

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Bihar

Mr. Gopal Singh, AOR  
Mr. Manish Kumar, Adv.  
Mr. Chandan Kumar, Adv.

Chhattisgarh

Mr. C.D. Singh, AAG  
Mr. Sandeepan Pathak, Adv.

Gujarat	Ms. Hemantika Wahi, AOR Ms. Jesal Wahi, Adv. Ms. Puja Singh, Adv. Ms. Vinakshi Kadan, Adv.
Haryana	Ms. Nupur Choudhary, Adv. for Mr. T. V. George, AOR
H.P.	Mr. Suryanaryana Singh, AAG Ms. Pragati Neekhara, Adv.
Jharkhand	Mr. Anil Kumar Jha, AOR Mr. R.K. Ojha, Adv.
Karnataka	Mr. V.N. Raghupathy, Adv. Mr. Parikshit P. Angadi, Adv.
Kerala	Ms. Bina Madhavan, AOR
Madhya Pradesh	Mr. Naveen Sharma, Adv. Mr. Mishra Saurabh, Adv.
Maharashtra	Mr. Shirish K. Deshpande, Adv.
Manipur	Mr. Sapam Biswajit Meitei, Adv. Mr. Ashok Kumar Singh, AOR Mr. Z.H. Isaac Haiding, Adv. Mr. S. Vijayanand Sharma, Adv. Ms. B. Khusbansi, Adv.
Meghalaya	Mr. Ranjan Mukherjee, AOR Mr. S.C. Ghosh, Adv. Mr. S. Bhowmick, Adv.
Mizoram	Mr. Pragyan Pradip Sharma, Adv. Mr. Ravi Kant Pal, Adv.
Nagaland	Mrs. K. Enatoli Sema, Adv. Mr. Edward Belho, Adv. Mr. Amit Kumar Singh, Adv. Mr. Balaji Srinivasan, AOR
Orissa	Mr. Sibbo Sankar Mishra, AOR
Punjab	Mr. Ajay Bansal, AAG
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	Mr. Gaurav Yadava, Adv.
Rajasthan	Mr. S.S. Shamsbery, Adv. Mr. Amit Sharma, Adv. Mr. Yishu Prayash, Adv. Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Adv.
Sikkim	Ms. Aruna Mathur, Adv. Mr. K. Vijay Kumar, Adv. for M/s Arputham Aruna & Co.
Tamil Nadu	Mr. B. Balaji, AOR Mr. R. Rakesh Sharma, Adv. Ms. R. Shase, Adv.
Telangana	Mr. S. Udaya Kumar Sagar, Adv. Mr. Krishna Kumar Singh, Adv.
Tripura	Mr. Gopal Singh, AOR Mr. Rituraj Biswas, Adv.

Uttar Pradesh Mr. V.K. Shukla, AAG  
Mr. Vibhu Tiwari, Adv.  
Mr. Ravi Prakash Mehrotra, AOR

Uttarakhand Mr. Mahendra Singh Pal, AAG  
Mr. Jatinder Kumar Bhatia, AOR  
Mr. Mukesh Verma, Adv.

West Bengal Mr. Anip Sachthey, Adv.  
Ms. Shagun Matta, Adv.  
Ms. Hancy Wadhwa, Adv.

A&N Islands Mr. K.V. Jagdishvaran, Adv.  
Mrs. G. Indira, Adv.

Puducherry Mr. V.G. Pragasam, AOR  
  
Mr. Abhijit Sengupta, AOR  
  
Mr. Arun K. Sinha, AOR  
  
Mr. Avijit Bhattacharjee, AOR  
  
Mr. B. S. Banthia, AOR  
  
Mr. Dharmendra Kumar Sinha, AOR  
  
Mr. Jagjit Singh Chhabra, AOR  
  
Mr. Khwairakpam Nobin Singh, AOR

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Mr. Milind Kumar, AOR

Mr. Naresh K. Sharma, AOR

Mr. T.L.V. Ramachandran, Adv.  
Mr. K.V.L. Raghavn, Adv.  
Mr. Hitesh Kumar Sharma, Adv.  
for Mr. P. V. Yogeswaran, AOR

Mrs. D. Bharathi Reddy, AOR

Mr. Shrish Kumar Misra, AOR

Mrs. Nandini Gore, AOR

Mr. Tara Chandra Sharma, AOR

Mr. T. Harish Kumar, AOR

Mr. Varinder Kumar Sharma, AOR

Ms. Kamini Jaiswal, AOR

Ms. Radha Rangaswamy, AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

We are extremely distressed on going through the  
affidavits filed which indicate that the State  
Governments/Union Territories have no clue what to do

with the thousands of crores that have been collected under the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996.

We also find from some of the affidavits that the amount is being used for purposes other than for what it was collected.

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This is particularly distressing since learned amicus curiae states that the total amount collected in question is in the region of about Rs.27,000 crores.

Mr. Yashank Adhyaru, learned senior counsel appearing for the Union of India will discuss the matter with the Secretary in the Ministry of Labour, Government of India and inform us what is proposed to be done with the amount collected. We had specifically mentioned this in our order dated 31st July, 2015, but none of the affidavits indicate what is proposed to be done with this amount.

If the State Governments/Union Territories and the Central Government are not in a position to utilise Rs.27000 crores, it would be perhaps more appropriate not to collect this money since it is not being utilized for the benefit of the persons for whom it is collected, but for other purposes.

We make it clear that the expenditure incurred by some of the State Governments/Union Territories, particularly NCT of Delhi on advertisements with the amount collected is not at all appropriate and the amount that has been spent by the NCT of Delhi and other Union Territories and States on advertisements should be returned to the accounts of the construction workers.

List the matter on 4th September, 2015.

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Presence of the Secretaries in the Department of Labour for the States of Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar

Pradesh and NCT of Delhi, as directed in our order dated

31st July, 2015 is dispensed with for the time being.

(SANJAY KUMAR-I)  
COURT MASTER

(JASWINDER KAUR)  
COURT MASTER