

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s). 9487/2026

[Arising out of impugned judgment and order dated 05-03-2026 in WP No. 4915/2026 passed by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh Principal Seat at Jabalpur]

SOM DISTILLERIES PVT. LTD. & ANR.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF MADHYA PRADESH & ANR.

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 75970/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT, IA No. 75971/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T. and IA No. 75968/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES)

WITH

ITEM NO. 47

SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) Diary No(s). 14429/2026

(IA No. 79617/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT, IA No. 79610/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., IA No. 79605/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES and IA No. 79608/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE SLP WITHOUT CERTIFIED/PLAIN COPY OF IMPUGNED ORDER)

Date : 16-03-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Mukul Rohatgi, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Sumeer Sodhi, AOR
Mr. Kapil Wadhwa, Adv.
Mr. Arjun Nanda, Adv.
Ms. Apoorva Maheshwari, Adv.

Mr. Sumeer Sodhi, AOR

For Respondent(s) : Mr. Vikas Singh, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Shweta Singh Parihar, AOR
Mr. Sudeep Chandra, Adv.
Mr. Kshitij Padhi, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

1. IA No. 79608/2026 is allowed.
2. The issue pertains to interim relief sought by the petitioners against the suspension of its liquor license and/or to participate in the fresh tender issue for the grant of license for the year 2026-2027. The High Court has not granted any ad-interim relief "*without taking reply of the opposite party*". The matter is now listed before the High Court on 20.03.2026.
3. We direct the State of Madhya Pradesh or any other contesting respondent(s) to file the counter affidavit, if so advised, by 18.03.2026, so as to enable the High Court to consider the prayer for ad-interim relief, on merits.
4. However, we request the High Court to consider such a prayer for ad-interim relief on merits on the date fixed, even if no counter affidavit/reply is filed by the respondent(s).
5. We may hasten to add that the question of grant of ad-interim relief will have to be examined by the High Court in light of Section 31(1) of the Madhya Pradesh Excise Act, 1915. Section 3 of the Indian Merchandise Marks Act, 1889, as amended by the Act No. IV of 1889 shall also have a direct bearing on the interim prayer sought by the petitioners. We, therefore, request the High Court to pass appropriate orders in accordance with the law, taking into consideration the legislative regime referred to above.
6. It is, however, clarified that we have not expressed any opinion on the merits of the case.

7. With the above, the Special Leave Petitions stand disposed of with pending application(s), if any.

(NITIN TALREJA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI T.C.)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR