

ITEM NO.26

COURT NO.2

SECTION PIL-W

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

SUO MOTO WRIT PETITION(CIVIL) NO. 2/2026

IN RE: ILLEGAL SAND MINING IN THE NATIONAL CHAMBAL SANCTUARY
AND THREAT TO ENDANGERED AQUATIC WILDLIFE

IA No. 101645/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 98538/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

WITH

T.C.(C) NO. 151/2026 (XVI-A)

Date : 14-05-2026 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKRAM NATH
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MEHTA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIJAY BISHNOI

By Courts Motion

AMICUS CURIAE Mr. Nikhil Goel, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Rupali Samuel, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Shiv Mangal Sharma, A.A.G.
Mr. Saurabh Rajpal, Adv.
Ms. Arushi Rathore, Adv.
Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR

Mr. Rohit K. Singh, AOR
Mr. Pritam Bishwas, Adv.
Mr. Yashveer Singh, Adv.
Mr. Kartikey Bansal, Adv.

Mr. Sharan Dev Singh Thakur, Sr. A.A.G.
Ms. Ruchira Goel, AOR
Mr. Sharanya, Adv.
Ms. Rishika Rishabh, Adv.
Ms. Ritika Rao, Adv.
Ms. Ayushi Srivastava, Adv.

Mr. S.V.Raju, A.S.G.
Ms. Manisha T. Karia, A.A.G.

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Mr. Harmeet Singh Ruprah, AOR
Mr. Sarthak Raizada Ga, Adv.
Mr. Kanishk Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Karan Singh, Adv.
Mr. Aryansh Shukla, Adv.

Mr. Anil Kaushik, ASG
Mr. Gaurav Arya, Adv.
Mr. Pranjal Singh, Adv.
Mr. Digvijay Dam, Adv.
Mr. Rajat Rana, Adv.

Mr. Sharan Dev Singh Thakur, Sr. A.A.G.
Mr. Sudeep Kumar, AOR
Mr. Abhishek Saket, Adv.
Ms. Manisha, Adv.
Ms. Rupali, Adv.
Ms. Harshita Chawla, Adv.

Mr. Rohit Kumar-I, AOR
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Mr. D.P.Singh, Adv.
Ms. Tara Elizabeth Kurien, Adv.
Ms. Anchal Kanthed, Adv.

Mr. Pradeep Misra, AOR
Mr. Daleep Dhyani, Adv.
Mr. Anupam Misra, Adv.
Mr. Suraj Singh, Adv.

Mr. Pritam Singh, Adv.
Mr. Umesh Kumar Shukla, Adv.
Mr. Ankit Bhatnagar, Adv.

Mr. Ram Narayan Mohanty, Adv.
Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Adv.

O R D E R

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Mehta have passed a signed order. The

operative portion of the order reads thus:

"12. In view of the aforesaid state of affairs, and having regard to the grave issues involved, we feel it expedient to pass the following directions: -

A. The Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department; the Principal Secretary, Department of Mining and Geology; the Principal Secretary, Finance Department; the Principal Secretary, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Department; and the Principal Secretary, Transport and Road Safety Department, State of Rajasthan, are directed to remain personally present before this Court on the next date of hearing. The aforesaid officers shall also file comprehensive individual compliance affidavits placing on record the steps undertaken in furtherance of the directions issued by this Court *vide* orders dated 2nd April, 2026 and 17th April, 2026, as well as the present order, together with the timelines within which the remaining measures proposed to be undertaken shall be fully implemented.

B. The Principal Secretary, Transport and Road Safety Department, State of Madhya Pradesh, is also directed to remain personally present before this Court on the next date of hearing along with a detailed affidavit specifically addressing the concerns noted hereinabove in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the present order. The affidavit shall, *inter alia*, disclose the enforcement measures undertaken to identify and prevent the operation

of unregistered and unidentified vehicles involved in mining and transportation activities; the steps taken to ensure strict compliance with the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989; the action initiated against erring officials and violators, if any; and the further corrective and preventive measures proposed to be implemented within a definite timeline.

C. The National Highways Authority of India is directed to be impleaded as a party respondent in the present proceedings. The National Highways Authority of India shall file a detailed affidavit on or before the next date of hearing specifically indicating the measures undertaken or proposed to be undertaken for safeguarding the structural integrity and security of the aforementioned bridge in light of the continuing illegal mining activities in its vicinity. The affidavit shall also indicate as to why this Court should not direct the National Highways Authority of India to install appropriate CCTV surveillance and monitoring mechanisms on and around the said bridge so as to ensure effective real-time monitoring of illegal mining and transportation activities. The National Highways Authority of India having been impleaded as a party in the present proceedings, the Registry is directed to forthwith communicate a copy of this order as well as order dated 17th April, 2026 to the learned Standing Counsel representing the said Authority.

13. List the matter on 20th May, 2026 for further

consideration.”

2. List these matters on 20.05.2026 for further consideration.

(POOJA SHARMA)
AR-CUM-PS

(RANJANA SHAILEY)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

(Signed order is placed on the file.)