

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGSSUO MOTO WRIT PETITION(CIVIL) No(s). 2/2026IN RE: ILLEGAL SAND MINING IN THE NATIONAL CHAMBAL SANCTUARY AND  
THREAT TO ENDANGERED AQUATIC WILDLIFE Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF RAJASTHAN

Respondent(s)

FOR ADMISSION, Shri Nikhil Goel, Senior Advocate, Amicus Curiae and  
Ms. Rupali Samuel, AOR, Amicus Curiae

Date : 02-04-2026 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKRAM NATH  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MEHTA*Amicus Curiae* : Mr. Nikhil Goel, Sr. Adv.  
Ms. Rupali Francesca Samuel, Adv.For Petitioner(s) : By Courts Motion, AOR  
Mr. Umesh Kumar Shukla, Adv.  
Mr. Ram Naryan Mohanty, Adv.For Respondent(s) :  
Mr. Shiv Mangal Sharma, A.A.G.  
Mr. Saurabh Rajpal, Adv.  
Ms. Arushi Rathore, Adv.  
Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, AOR  
  
Ms. Ruchira Goel, AOR  
  
Ms. Manisha T. Karia, AAG/Sr. Adv. (M.P.)  
Mr. Varun Khetwani, Adv.  
Mr. Deepin Deepak Sahni, Adv.  
Mr. Harmeet Singh Ruprah, AOR  
Mr. Sarthak Raizada, GA, Adv.  
Mr. Kanishk Sharma, Adv.Mr. Sharan Dev Singh Thakur, AAG/Sr. Adv.(U.P.)  
Mr. Abhishek Saket, Adv.  
Mr. Sudeep Kumar, AOR  
Ms. Manisha, Adv.  
Ms. Rupali, Adv.

Mr. Rohit K. Singh, AOR (UP Irrigation Dept.)

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

1. The *Amicus Curiae* has submitted the First Report dated 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2026. Copies thereof have been provided to the learned counsel representing the State of Madhya Pradesh, State of Rajasthan and State of Uttar Pradesh. Learned counsel are granted four weeks' time to file their responses to the Report no. 1 submitted by the *amicus curiea* and Report No. 8 submitted by Central Empowered Committee(CEC).

2. Mr. C.P. Goyal on behalf of CEC is present in the Court today. He has prayed for and is granted six weeks' time to furnish a detailed report.

3. The State of Uttar Pradesh and the State of Rajasthan have filed their affidavits. The State of Madhya Pradesh is granted four weeks' time to file its affidavit.

4. Mr. Anil Kaushik, learned Additional Solicitor General, to obtain instructions from the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOEA) and file an appropriate affidavit within four weeks.

5. The National Board for Wild Life is permitted to be impleaded as respondent.

6. Issue notice to the newly impleaded respondent, returnable on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2026. The matter be listed on the said date.

7. In the meantime, the notification dated 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2025 issued by the State of Rajasthan, published on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2026, under Section 18 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, shall remain stayed.

8. Further, O.A. No. 248 of 2022 pending before the National Green Tribunal (NGT), initiated as a *suo motu* proceeding, is transferred to this Court.

9. The Registrar, NGT, is directed to transfer the records of the said case to the Registry of this Court forthwith. Upon receipt, the matter shall be assigned a fresh number and be tagged with the present case.

(SONIA BHASIN)  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR-CUM-PS

(RANJANA SHAILY)  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR