

ITEM NO.301

COURT NO.10

SECTION II-C

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

PETITION FOR SPECIAL LEAVE TO APPEAL (CRL.) NO.11263/2025

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 05-03-2025 in CRLRC No.373/2025 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Madras]

G. GANESH

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF TAMIL NADU & ORS.

RESPONDENT(S)

IA No. 180112/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 180113/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 72070/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT

IA No. 88992/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

Date : 05-08-2026 This matter was called for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AHSANUDDIN AMANULLAH

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE R. MAHADEVAN

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Ms. Mukta Gupta, Sr. Adv.
Mr. S.D. Sanjay, Sr. Adv.
Mr. H.S. Phoolka, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Aparna Bhat, Sr. Adv.
Dr. P.M. Nair, IPS (Retd.)
Mr. Veerender Mishra, IPS

AOR FOR COMMITTEE: Mr. Anuj P. Agarwala, Adv.
Ms. Nitya Gupta, Adv.
Mr. Akshat Gupta, Adv.
Mr. Divyam Aggarwal, Adv.
For PBA Legal LLP

For Petitioner(s) :Ms. Aarthi Rajan, AoR
Mr. Arvind Srevatsa, Adv.
Mr. S. Santanam Swaminadhan, Adv.
Ms. Abhilasha Shrawat, Adv.

Mr. Kartik Malhotra, Adv.
Mr. Aman Rawat, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Sabarish Subramanian, AoR

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Mr. Akshat Agarwal, Adv.
Ms. Disha Thakkar, Adv.
Mr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Guntur Pramod Kumar, AoR
Ms. Prerna Singh, Adv.
Mr. Dhruv Yadav, Adv.

Ms. Eliza Barr, Adv.
Ms. Akansha, AoR
Ms. Anjali Saxena, Adv.
Mr. Govind Sharma, Adv.

Ms. Disha Singh, AoR
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Mr. Aaditya Singh Rajawat, Adv.

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Ms. Mrinalini Ramesh, Adv.

Mr. Manish Kumar, AoR
Mr. Divyansh Mishra, Adv.
Mr. Kumar Saurav, Adv.

Mr. Vinayak Sharma, Standing Counsel
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Ms. Kritika Yadav, Adv.

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Ms. Neha Singh, Adv.
Ms. Apoorva Anand, Adv.

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Ms. Nidhi Narwal, Adv.
Mr. Aman Dev Sharma, Adv.
Ms. Sabarni Som, Adv.
Ms. Srishti Jain, Adv.
Mr. Deepak Chopra, Adv.
Ms. Archana Sonthalia, Adv.
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Mr. Anukirat Singh, Adv.
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Mr. Shiv Mangal Sharma, A.A.G.
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Mr. Sudarshan Singh Rawat, AoR
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Mr. Sharathh Nambiar, Adv.
Mr. Anuj Srinivasan Udupa, Adv.

Mr. Kartikeya Asthana, Adv.
Ms. Nikita Kapoor, Adv.

Mr. Anando Mukherjee, AoR
Mr. Shwetank Singh, Adv.
Mr. Utkarsh Anand, Adv.
(For State of Mizoram)

O R D E R

We have heard learned Senior Counsel(s)/Counsel(s) for the parties, especially the Committee constituted by this Court, headed by Ms. Mukta Gupta, learned Senior Counsel, and Mr. S.D. Sanjay, Convenor/Coordinator.

2. At the outset, we have been informed that in terms of the earlier order dated 22.05.2026, all the States were required to register an FIR upon receipt of any information regarding any missing person.

3. Today, we are shocked to learn that some of the States are under the impression that the expression "person" refers only to children and does not include adults. We find this to be a deliberate and *mala fide* bogey raised by such States. The language of our earlier order is clear and unambiguous. The expression "person" means every person, irrespective of age or gender. If any State/Union Territory has failed to comply with the order in its true letter and spirit, notice of contempt shall be issued to the concerned Chief Secretary and Director General of

Police. They shall remain personally present before this Court and file their respective show-cause affidavits explaining why they should not be proceeded against and punished for their deliberate defiance and non-compliance with the orders of this Court.

4. At this stage, we record that Mr. S.D. Sanjay, who was earlier representing the Union of India as the learned Additional Solicitor General and is now holding the office of the Advocate General for the State of Bihar, is requested to continue as the Convenor/Coordinator for the present exercise. Since he is no longer representing the Union of India, Ms. Archana Pathak Dave, learned Additional Solicitor General, shall represent the Union of India. Accordingly, she is also made a member of the Committee.

5. We have been informed that two Zonal Consultation Meetings have already been held and that the third meeting is scheduled to be held on 8th August, 2026. Three more meetings are proposed to be held thereafter, which would take about one month's time. It has also been submitted that all stakeholders and agencies concerned with, or in any manner connected to the issue in hand shall be invited to participate in such Consultation Meetings.

6. We have also been informed that substantial progress has been made in the exercise.

7. Mr. Divyam Aggarwal, learned counsel, who has been assisting the Committee as a Consultant, shall continue to assist the Committee in the said capacity.

8. We find that the Union Territory of Ladakh has not filed any response as reflected in the Office Report as well as according to the learned Consultant. Accordingly, a personally affirmed affidavit shall be filed by the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Union Territory of Ladakh explaining why appropriate action should not be taken against them for such non-compliance.

9. All the States/Union Territories, which have not filed their affidavits despite the earlier directions of this Court are, *prima facie*, in contempt. Accordingly, notice of contempt shall be issued to the Chief Secretaries and Director Generals of Police of the concerned States/Union Territories. They shall remain personally present before this Court and file their respective show-cause affidavits explaining why proceedings for contempt should not be initiated against them for their failure to comply with the specific directions issued by this Court.

10. Ms. Archana Pathak Dave, learned Additional Solicitor General, is requested to communicate the concern of this Court to the concerned agencies with regard to the integration of all the relevant portals across the country. The said exercise shall be completed within six

weeks.

11. As we find that members of the Bar are showing keen interest in assisting this Court in the matter, we request the Committee to receive and consider the suggestions made by all such learned Advocates.

12. List the matter on 05.10.2026 at 2.00 p.m.

(POOJA SHARMA)
AR-CUM-PS

(ANJALI PANWAR)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR