

ITEM NO.8 Court 5 (Video Conferencing) SECTION XVII-A

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

Civil Appeal No(s). 674/2021

C.C.E. AND S.T., SURAT I

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

BILFINDER NEO STRUCTO CONTSRUCTION LTD.

Respondent(s)

(WITH IA No.7355/2021-EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT and IA No.7354/2021-EX-PARTE STAY)

WITH

C.A. No. 4465-4466/2021 (XVII-A)

(WITH IA No.12176/2021-EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT and IA No.12175/2021-STAY APPLICATION)

Date : 06-08-2021 These appeals were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE DR. JUSTICE D.Y. CHANDRACHUD

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.R. SHAH

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Balbir Singh, ASG
Mr. Vikramjit Banerjee, ASG
Mr. A.K. Panda, Sr. Adv.
Mr. S.A. Haseeb, Adv.
Mr. Shyam Gopal, Adv.
Mr. Adit Khorana, Adv.
Mr. Merusagar Samantray, Adv.
Mr. Rupesh Kumar, Adv.
Ms. Swarupama Chaturvedi, Adv.
Ms. Priyanka Das, Adv.
Mr. Raturaj Satapathy, Adv.
Mr. B. Krishna Prasad, AOR
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR

For Respondent(s) Ms. Charanya Lakshmikumaran, AOR
Mr. Aditya Bhattacharya, Adv.
Ms. Apeksha Mehta, Adv.
Ms. Mounica Kasturi, Adv.

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

- 1 These proceedings have been consistently adjourned at the request of the Union of India after the Court issued certain preliminary directions on 15 February 2021. Thereafter, the proceedings were adjourned on 15 March 2021, 18 March 2021, 23 March 2021, 13 April 2021 and 20 April 2021. The purpose of the adjournments was to enable the Union Government to indicate to this Court the modalities which will be followed for monitoring the litigation to which Union of India is party in revenue matters, particularly with the aid of technology.

- 2 The patience of this Court is now wearing thin by the failure of the Union Government to come forward with any concrete response. The proposal for adopting a technology based solution for monitoring revenue proceedings and litigation at all levels will ultimately subserve the legitimate interests of the Revenue. Hence, the delay in responding to the Court is beyond comprehension. We find the recalcitrance on the part of the Ministry of Finance in the Department of Revenue unacceptable. However, before we take the next step of issuing a contempt notice, we give a last and final opportunity to the Union Government to sort out the issue and come before this Court with a concrete plan of action, beyond circulars. We clarify that if, on the next date, no such proposal is forthcoming, the Court will be constrained to take recourse to the coercive arm of the law against the officers involved.

- 3 List the appeals on 20 August 2021.

**(SANJAY KUMAR-I)
AR-CUM-PS**

**(SAROJ KUMARI GAUR)
COURT MASTER**