

ITEM NO.19+3

COURT NO.1

SECTION PIL-W

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s).43/2022

ASHWINI KUMAR UPADHYAY

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

Respondent(s)

WITH

W.P.(C) No.87/2022 (PIL-W)
(FOR ADMISSION)

W.P.(C) No.474/2022 (PIL-W)

W.P.(C) No.496/2022 (PIL-W)

W.P.(C) No.383/2022 (PIL-W)

W.P.(C) No.121/2022 (PIL-W)

Date : 03-08-2022 These petitions were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KRISHNA MURARI
HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE HIMA KOHLI

For Petitioner(s) In WP(C)43/22	Mr. Vikas Singh, Sr.Adv. Mr. Ashwani Kumar Upadhyay, Adv. Mr. Ashwani Kumar Dubey, AOR
In WP(C)No.121/22	Mr.Vijay Hansaria, Sr.Adv. Mr. Ashwani Kumar Upadhyay, Adv. Mr. Ashwani Kumar Dubey, AOR Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Adv. Ms. Kavya Jhawar, Adv.
In WP(C)No.87/22	Ms. Tanya Srivastav, Adv. Mr. Ashwani Kumar Upadhyay, Adv. Mr. Chandra Shekhar, Adv. Mr. Nirmal Kumar Ambastha, AOR
In WP(C)474/22	Mr. Pranav Sachdeva, Adv. Mr. Kamal Upadhyay, Adv. Ms. Tanya Srivastava, Adv.
In WP(C)No.496/22	Mr. Gaurav Kumar Bansal, Adv. Ms. Shomila Bakshi, Adv. Ms. Nandita Bansal, Adv.
In WP(C)No.383/22	Mr. Barun Kumar Sinha, Adv. Mrs. Pratibha Sinha, Adv.

Mr. Mudit Kaul, Adv.
Mr. Abhishek, AOR

For Respondent(s) Mr. Tushar Mehta, SG
Mr. K.M. Nataraj, ASG
Mr. Shailesh Madiyal, Adv.
Mr. Kanu Agrawal, Adv.
Mr. Vivek Narayan Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Mayank Pandey, Adv.
Mr. Anuj Srinivas Udapa, Adv.
Mr. Nakul Chengappa, Adv.
Mr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, AOR

For ECI Mr. Amit Sharma, AOR
Mr. Dipesh Sinha, Adv.
Ms. Pallavi Barua, Adv.

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

1. Heard Mr. Vikas Singh and Mr. Vijay Hansaria, learned Senior counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner, Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General appearing on behalf of the Union of India as also Mr. Amit Sharma, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the Election Commission of India at length and carefully perused the material placed on record.

2. Keeping in mind the prayers made in these petitions which relate to distribution of freebies by political parties, we are of the considered view that it would be appropriate to constitute an Expert Body with representatives of all the stakeholders: the beneficiaries, those opposing freebies, Central Government, State Governments, opposition parties, Finance Commission, Reserve Bank of India, Niti Ayog etc., to name a few, to take a holistic and comprehensive view of the matter and making their recommendations.

3. Accordingly, the parties are directed to make their suggestions about the composition of such a body within one week's time.

4. We request Mr. Kapil Sibal, learned Senior counsel also to give his suggestions regarding the same.

5. List on 11.08.2022.

(SATISH KUMAR YADAV)
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

(R.S. NARAYANAN)
COURT MASTER (NSH)