

ITEM NO.303

COURT NO.12

SECTION X

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

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 531/2025

AYESHA JAIN

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

AMITY UNIVERSITY, NOIDA & ORS.

RESPONDENT(S)

[PART-HEARD BY: HON. AHSANUDDIN AMANULLAH AND HON. N.V. ANJARIA,  
JJ.]

[SPECIAL BENCH]

IA No. 27061/2026 - CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING  
IA No. 30205/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT  
IA No. 104611/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.  
IA No. 26889/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.  
IA No. 4259/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.  
IA No. 7443/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION  
IA No. 173/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT  
IA No. 7444/2026 - PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON  
IA No. 176/2026 - PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON  
IA No. 27039/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL  
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES  
IA No. 26779/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL  
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

Date : 04-05-2026 This matter was heard today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AHSANUDDIN AMANULLAH  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE N.V. ANJARIA

For Petitioner(s) : Ms. Charu Mathur, AoR

For Respondent(s) :

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Ms. Priti Kumari, Adv.  
Mr. Pankaj Kumar Ray, Adv.  
Mr. Rajan Chawla, Adv.

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Mr. Gautam Chauhan, Adv.  
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Mr. Shadab Anwar, Adv.  
Mr. Zartab Anwar, Adv.  
Mr. Astik Gupta, Adv.  
Ms. Akanksha Tomar, Adv.  
Mr. Shravan Bagora, Adv.

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Ms. Pragya Baghel, Adv.  
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Ms. Anushka Raghunath, Adv.  
Mr. Surit Chaubey, Adv.

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Ms. Rishika Rishabh, Adv.

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Mr. Dhruv Yadav, Adv.  
Ms. Vanshika Singh, Adv.

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Mr. Siddhant Awasty, Adv.  
Ms. Eliza Bar, Adv.

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Mr. Saurabh Tripathi, Adv.  
Mr. Deepayan Dutta, Adv.

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Mr. Kashif Irshad Khan Faridi, Adv.

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Ms. Swati Tiwari, Adv.  
Mr. Gopal, Adv.

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Mr. Aman Dev Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Gaj Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Nikunj Gupta, Adv.  
Mr. Sarthak Arya, Adv.  
Mr. Yashvir Singh Hooda, Adv.  
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Mr. Rohit Beniwal, Adv.

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Intervenor-in-person, AoR

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Mr. K Sai Teja, Adv.  
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Mr. Himanshu Gupta, Adv.  
Mr. Amir Kaleem, Adv.

**O R D E R**

We have interacted with Dr. R.M. Sharma and Mr. Ashok Prasad, whom we have appointed as Officers of the Court

and entrusted them with the exercise detailed in the previous orders. Today, upon interaction, Mr. Ashok Prasad has informed that the investigation entrusted to him is progressing in a satisfactory manner and he is getting cooperation from the parties concerned.

2. Dr. R.M. Sharma has handed over a Consolidated Table on issue-wise compliance status, as also a separate Consolidated note on Issue No.2. From the same, we find that all the States have either not answered many of the issues, or have incompletely or partially answered majority of the issues, on which they were required to file affidavit. The affidavits in question were filed personally affirmed by the Chief Secretary of the concerned State/Union Territory(UT). In case of some of the States, with due permission of the Court, some other persons of the rank of Additional Chief Secretary/ Secretary of the concerned Department have also filed affidavit.

3. Be that as it may, for the present, let the said two notes, i.e., Consolidated Table of issue-wise compliance status, as also the separate Consolidated Note on Issue No.2, be provided to learned counsel appearing for all the States/UTs, as also to Mr. S.D. Sanjay, learned Additional Solicitor General, representing the Union of India and Ministry of Education.

4. All the Chief Secretaries of the States/UTs shall file their response to the aforesaid two notes. The same be done within two weeks. It is made clear that in the event this Court finds that the affidavits which have been filed by them is only by way of a formality, the Court may impose heavy personal cost against them. However, by way of indulgence, if before the next date the infirmities pointed out in their affidavits are removed and fresh affidavits are filed with regard to all the aforesaid points within two weeks from today, the Court, on the next date may take a lenient view.

5. Registry to comply with the directions to give copies of the aforesaid documents to learned Counsel for the States/UTs, for which a person from the concerned Section shall be specially deputed.

6. Copy of the aforesaid two documents can be obtained by learned counsel for the States/UTs from this Court, where the person so deputed shall be present, on 06.05.2026 and 07.05.2026, failing which it shall be deemed that the concerned Chief Secretaries are already aware of the position and they would be estopped from taking a plea that they were not aware of what has been written in the aforesaid two documents.

7. At this juncture, Dr. R.M. Sharma submitted that he has already filed separate consolidated notes dealing with

each of the affidavits of the States/UTs, in a sealed cover, in the Registry of this Court on 02.05.2026. The same is taken on record.

8. Dr. R.M. Sharma further submits that despite a categorical direction of this Court vide order dated 20.04.2026, to provide him with a competent English Stenographer by that day itself, till date the same has not been done. Mr. S.D. Sanjay, learned ASG, representing the Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India submits that the order was communicated and ought to have been complied with.

9. At this stage, Dr. R.M. Sharma has informed that initially the services of one Stenographer was provided to him, but he is not up to the mark and cannot take dictation/type, much less, in English and thus, in that background the Court had directed for providing a competent English Stenographer to him. Today, it is not in dispute that no fresh person has been provided to Dr. R.M. Sharma, in terms of our specific direction vide order dated 20.04.2026. Thus, tentatively, we are of the opinion that the Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India is in contempt.

10. In view thereof, the Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Government of India, is directed to be personally present, on the next date fixed in this case,

to show cause as to why the Court may not initiate proceedings for contempt against him.

11. Further, it is made clear that if the order is not complied with, both in letter and spirit, by tomorrow, i.e., 05.05.2026, this Court may not show any leniency to the Secretary.

12. At the request of Dr. R.M. Sharma, let Mr. Manoj Ranjan Sinha, learned Counsel appearing for the University Grants Commission and Mr. Siddhant Sharma, learned counsel for the State of Punjab, provide a copy of their affidavits to Mr. Hemant Sharma, learned counsel assisting Dr. R.M. Sharma, today itself.

13. Some learned counsel appearing for the States have drawn the attention of the Court to the difficulties faced in downloading the Court files/pleadings etc. from the portal of the Court. Let such counsel come to the Court at 4.15 p.m. on 05.05.2026/06.05.2026. A competent officer from the concerned department of the Registry should be here to solve such technical issues for the learned counsel.

14. List on 18.05.2026 at 1.00 p.m.

15. After the order was dictated, the petitioner, who is present in-person, submitted that she wanted to communicate certain things. We have indicated to her that whatever she wants to communicate, even of a confidential

nature, can be communicated to Mr. Ashok Prasad. We request Mr. Ashok Prasad, who is present with his team in the Court, to give some time, today itself, to the petitioner and hear her out. Further, learned counsel for the petitioner may also take Mr. Ashok Prasad into confidence with regard to whatever apprehension she has or with regard to any issue which she would like to bring to the notice of Mr. Ashok Prasad.

16. The documents/notes provided to the Court today by Dr. R.M. Sharma are also taken on Record.

17. In the meantime, let the Ministry of Education, Government of India transfer an amount of Rs.4,00,000/- (Rupees Four Lakhs), for the present, into the account of Dr. R.M. Sharma, details of which shall be given by him to Mr. S.D. Sanjay, learned ASG, today itself. The said amount is by way of interim honorarium for Dr. R.M. Sharma and his team, to be distributed, as per his discretion.

**(POOJA SHARMA)**  
**AR-CUM-PS**

**(ANJALI PANWAR)**  
**ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

(Two envelopes handed over by Dr. R.M.Sharma are annexed with the ROP)