

SECTION XVI

For Respondent(s)	Mr. P.S. Patwalia, Sr. Adv. Ms. Bansuri Swaraj, Adv. Mr. Siddhesh Kotwal, Adv. Mr. Rajdeep Majumdar, Adv. Ana Upadhyay, Adv. Ms. Manya Hasija, Adv. Mr. Akash Singh, Adv. Ms. Preeti Singh, Adv. Ms. Harshika Verma, Adv. Mr. Nirnimesh Dube, AOR
-------------------	--

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

- 1 We have heard Mr Rakesh Dwivedi, senior counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioners and Mr P S Patwalia, senior counsel for the first respondent, who is the original petitioner before the High Court.
- 2 The submission which has been urged on behalf of the petitioners is that by issuing a slew of directions, including among them the conducting of a forensic audit by the Central Forensic Science Laboratory, the High Court has transgressed the limits of its jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution, particularly after the election process has been concluded and the results have been declared.
- 3 The issue as to whether the directions which have been issued by the High Court can obviate the filing of an election petition for challenging the outcome of the elections merits further consideration. In order to enable the Court to do so, notice shall issue.
- 4 Mr P S Patwalia, senior counsel accepts notice on behalf of the first respondent.
- 5 Counter affidavit be filed within a period of four weeks. Rejoinder, if any, be filed within a period of three week thereafter.
- 6 List the Special Leave Petition on 26 July 2022.
- 7 Pending further orders, there shall be a stay of the impugned order of the High Court dated 26 April 2022 and the stay of further proceedings before the High Court in PIL No 91 of 2022

**(CHETAN KUMAR)
A.R. - cum - P.S.**

**(SAROJ KUMARI GAUR)
Court Master**