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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(C) 4374/2024 & CM APPL. 17925/2024

SIKANDER SINGH THAKUR & ORS. Petitioner

Through: Mr. Nikhil Palli, Mr. Kshitij Pal and
Mr. Arinjay Singh, Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR. Respondent

Through: Ms. Prtha Srikumar, Ms. Anusha
Murthi, Mr. Atharv Gupta, Advs. for
Intervenor/ PETA.

+ W.P.(C) 4460/2024 & CM APPL. 18302/2024, CM APPL.
18303/2024, CM APPL. 21316/2024

CANINE WELFARE ORGANISATION Petitioner

Through: Mr. Gaurav Varma, Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR. Respondent

Through: Mr. Rajesh Gogna, CGSC with Ms.
Neha Sharma, GP, Ms. Priya Singh
and Ms. Karnika Bahuguna, Advs.
with Mr. Chandravanshi, AWBI.
Ms. Manali Singhal, Mr. Mustafa
Alam, Ms. Yashima Sharma, Ms.
Heeba Ansari, Ms. Anchal Kapoor,
Mr. Deepak, Advs. in C.M.
22572/2024

+ W.P.(C) 4653/2024 & CM APPL. 19057/2024

SACHIN KUMAR JAISWAL & ANR. Petitioner

Through:



versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

..... Respondent

Through: Mr. Rajesh Gogna, CGSC, Mr. Rohan Jaitley, CGSC with Mr. Hussain Taqvi, GP and Mr. Dev Pratap Shahi, Adv.

CORAM:

HON'BLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE MANMEET PRITAM SINGH ARORA

ORDER

% **16.04.2024**

CM APPL. 22346/2024 in W.P.(C) 4374/2024

CM APPL. 22572/2024 in W.P.(C) 4460/2024

1. Keeping in view the averments in the applications, the same are allowed subject to just exceptions. The applicants are impleaded as respondents in the respective petitions, without prejudice to the rights and contentions of the parties.

W.P.(C) 4374/2024 & CM APPL. 17925/2024

W.P.(C) 4460/2024 & CM APPL. 18302/2024, CM APPL. 18303/2024, CM APPL. 21316/2024

W.P.(C) 4653/2024 & CM APPL. 19057/2024

2. Present batch of writ petitions has been filed challenging the circular dated 12th March, 2024, issued by the respondent No.1 (Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying) prohibiting import, breeding and selling of twenty-four dog breeds as mentioned therein.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners state that the impugned circular is perverse and illegal and it has been passed in violation of the undertaking



given to this Court (as recorded in the order dated 06th December, 2023, passed in W.P.(C) No. 15673/2023) that due opportunity to all the stakeholders would be given before passing any order prohibiting import, breeding and selling of dogs dangerous for human life.

4. Learned counsel for the Petitioners state that the impugned circular has been quashed by the Karnataka High Court vide judgment and order dated 10th April, 2024 in Writ Petition No. 8409 of 2024 (GM - RES).

5. Some of the private respondents state that certain directions given by the Karnataka High Court are based on Rules which have been repealed.

6. Learned counsel for the Union of India admits that other than Government bodies, no private body was heard before the impugned circular was issued. He states that he has no objection if the impugned circular is set aside with a direction to the respondents to issue a fresh circular/notification after giving an opportunity to all the stakeholders to raise their objections.

7. Keeping in view the aforesaid statement by learned counsel for Union of India, the impugned circular dated 12th March 2024 is set aside.

8. However, as it is not possible to give an oral hearing to each and every dog owner, this Court directs that the respondents shall issue a public notice in a national newspaper as well as on the respondents' official website inviting written objections to the proposed/ draft notification/ amendment to the rules within two weeks.

9. The objections filed in response to the advertisement/ publication on the website shall be examined and decided by the respondents before issuing the final notification.

10. With the aforesaid directions, the petitions stand disposed of. This Court clarifies that it has neither commented upon nor dealt with the



judgment of the Karnataka High Court. The rights and contentions of the parties are left open.

ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE

MANMEET PRITAM SINGH ARORA, J

APRIL 16, 2024
N.Khanna