

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

SUO MOTO WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) No(s).1/2026

IN RE: SOCIAL SCIENCE TEXTBOOK
FOR GRADE - 8 (PART-2) PUBLISHED
BY NCERT AND ANCILLARY ISSUES

IA No. 105901/2026 - APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION OF PARTY DETAILS / CHALLENGED JUDGEMENT DETAILS, IA No. 100214/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 68156/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 83501/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No.105899/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No. 105382/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No. 105245/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No. 105249/2026 - MODIFICATION, IA No.105383/2026 - MODIFICATION OF COURT ORDER, IA No. 83503/2026 - PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON

Date : 22-05-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIPUL M. PANCHOLI

For Petitioner(s) :By Courts Motion, AOR

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General
Mr. K.M. Nataraj, A.S.G.
Mr. Bhuvan Kapoor, Adv.
Mr. Anuj Udupa, Adv.
Ms. Disha Thakkar, Adv.
Ms. Madhulika Upadhyay, AORMr. Shyam Divan, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Amit Pai, AOR
Mr. Suchindran B.N., Adv.
Ms. Pankhuri Bhardwaj, Adv.
Mr. Abhiyudaya Vats, Adv.
Mr. Tathagata Dutta, Adv.
Ms. Anshula Laroia, Adv.
Ms. Shanthini Sivakumar, Adv.
Mr. Kushal Dube, Adv.

Ms. Akansha, AOR

Mr. Sanchit Garga, AOR
Mr. Kunal Rana, Adv.
Mr. Shashwat Jaiswal, Adv.

Ms. Diksha Arora, Adv.
Mr. Bhanu Pratap Singh, Adv.

Ms. K. Enatoli Sema, AOR
Mr. Amit Kumar Singh, Adv.
Ms. Chubalemla Chang, Adv.
Mr. Prang Newmai, Adv.
Ms. Yanmi Phazang, Adv.

Mr. Lenin Singh Hijam, Adv. General (Sr. Adv.)
Mr. Pukhrambam Ramesh Kumar, AOR
Mr. Karun Shamra, Adv.
Ms. Anupama Ngangom, Adv.
Ms. Rajkumari Divyasana, Adv.

Dr. Abhishek Atrey, AOR
Ms. Rachna Gandhi, Adv.
Ms. Ambika Atrey, Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Verma, Adv.
Mr. Navneet Gupta, Adv.

Dr. Vivek Sharma, Adv.
Dr. Vijay Kumar Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Vivek Sharma, AOR

Mr. Anando Mukherjee, AOR
Mr. Shwetank Singh, Adv.
Mrs. Riya Dhingra, Adv.

Mr. Maninder Singh, A.A.G.
Mr. Siddhant Sharma, AOR

Ms. Devina Sehgal, AOR
Mr. Srikanth Varma Mudunuru, Adv.
Mr. Yatharth Kansal, Adv.

Mr. Guntur Pramod Kumar, AOR
Ms. Prerna Singh, Adv.
Mr. Keshav Singh, Adv.

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Tyagi, AOR
Mr. Prabhat Kr Rai, Adv.
Mr. Mridul Jain, Adv.
Mr. Pawan, Adv.

Mr. Gopal Sankaranarayanan, Sr. Adv.
Mr. S. Santanam Swaminadhan, Adv.
Ms. Aarthi Rajan, AOR
Ms. Abhilasha Shrawat, Adv.
Mr. Kartik Malhotra, Adv.
Mr. Shourya Dasgupta, Adv.
Ms. Trisha Chandran, Adv.

Mr. Aman Rawat, Adv.

Mr. J. Sai Deepak, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Ashutosh Nagar, AOR

Mr. Navtej Singh, Adv.

Mr. B. Sidhi Pramodh Rayudu, Adv.

Mr. Mukesh Kr. Verma, Adv.

Ms. Indira Bhakar, Adv.

Mr. Krishna Kant Dubey, Adv.

Mr. Yogesh Vats, Adv.

Mr. Shreekant Neelappa Terdal, AOR

Mr. Manish Kumar, AOR

Mr. Divyansh Mishra, Adv.

Mr. Kumar Saurav, Adv.

Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General

Mr. Manish Kumar Saran, AOR

Mr. Sidhant Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Aditya Mani Saran, Adv.

Mr. Sameer Abhyankar, AOR

Ms. Yachna Sharma, Adv.

Ms. Arushi Chopra, Adv.

Mr. Nalin Talwar, Adv.

Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, AOR

Mr. Saurabh Tripathi, Adv.

Mr. Deepayan Dutta, Adv.

Mr. Vaibhav Srivastava, A.A.G.

Ms. Sugandha Anand, AOR

Mr. Ashish Joshi, Adv.

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

1. The learned Solicitor General of India, at the outset, points out that he has come across cartoons, etc., contained in some textbook(s) published by NCERT, which, according to him, also need to be revisited/reviewed by the Expert Committee constituted by Government of India, headed by Hon'ble Ms. Justice Indu Malhotra, a former Judge of this Court. Shri Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General, submits and rightly so that the said textbook shall also

be referred to an Expert Committee headed by Justice Indu Malhotra, comprising the same members or in a different composition. An appropriate order in this respect shall be passed by the Government of India. Ordered accordingly.

2. We have heard Shri Shyam Divan, Shri Gopal Sankaranarayanan, and Shri J. Sai Deepak, learned Senior Counsel, in support of the prayers made in their respective applications, seeking modification of paragraph 8 of our order dated 11.03.2026.

3. While we reiterate, in no uncertain terms, that the curriculum contained in the textbook of Class 8 published by NCERT was wholly undesirable, the Government of India has begun to take necessary remedial steps to ensure inclusion of the true contents regarding the Indian Judiciary by constituting an Expert Committee headed by none other than a former Judge of this Court.

4. However, owing to the explanation given by the applicants, we deem it appropriate to modify paragraph 8 of the order and recall the directions given to Government of India/State Governments/Union Territories or other Universities and Institutions to disassociate the three applicants from academic activities. In this regard, we leave it to the Union of India/State Governments or the other Authorities to take an independent decision, without being influenced by the observations made in paragraph 8 of our above-stated order.

5. In this vein, the opening line in paragraph 8 of the order, to the extent *"and/or they deliberately and knowingly have misrepresented the facts in order to project a negative image of the Indian Judiciary to students of Class 8, who are at an*

impressionable age" is recalled, in view of the decision having been taken collectively. However, we may hasten to add that according to learned Solicitor General, the curriculum prepared by the applicants was not brought before the Committee at all levels, and as such, it cannot be termed as a collective decision.

6. Be that as it may, we leave it to the discretion of the Government of India to take an appropriate decision.

7. Post the matter on 14.07.2026.

(ARJUN BISHT)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI DILEEP KUMAR)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR