



**HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD
LUCKNOW**

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION (PIL) No. - 3436 of 2020

Gomti River Bank Residents Thru.Secy.Mr.Girdhar
Gopal

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

State Of U.P.Through Prin.Secy.Housing And
Urban Dev. And Ors.

.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Petitioner(s)	: Devak Vardhan, Abhinav Bhattacharya (Amicus Curiae, Ashok Kumar Singh, Santosh Kumar Yadav
Counsel for Respondent(s)	: C.S.C., Akhilesh Kumar Kalra, Anand Kumar Kaushal, Chandra Bhushan Pandey, Raj Kumar Singh, Ratnesh Chandra, Shailendra Singh Chauhan, Siddharth Lal Vaish, Sudhanshu Chauhan, Tushar Mittal, Vinay Singh

Court No. - 5

**HON'BLE ALOK MATHUR, J.
HON'BLE BRIJ RAJ SINGH, J.**

1. Heard Sri Abhinav Bhattacharya, learned Amicus as well as Sri Sudeep Kumar, learned Additional Advocate General alongwith Sri Vivek Shukla, learned counsel appearing for the State respondents and Sri Raj Kumar Singh, learned counsel appearing for the Union of India. Application filed by the learned Amicus is taken on record.
2. Ms. Raveena Tyagi, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Lucknow is present in the Court.
3. Learned Additional Advocate General has drawn attention of this Court towards previous order of this Court dated 20.07.2026, where in paragraph 3, this Court has observed that all personals who are to be involved in the inspection work of the schools, their credentials have to be verified by the State. In this regard it is submitted that about 2000 staff have been asked to be provided by the successful bidder and said staff are undergoing orientation/training so that they can inspect the said schools.
4. It was submitted that the agency themselves has the entire data and

credentials of the persons/inspecting staff which shall be forwarded to the State Government, but in case the State is also tasked to verify the credentials then entire process of inspection will be delayed further.

5. Accordingly, we accept the objection raised by the Additional Advocate General and therefore, our previous order stands modified as under :

"The successful bidder shall forthwith transmit all the data they have of the persons who have been entrusted with the task of inspection of the schools. The State Government in due course shall look into the data and take steps for its verification at their end.

Needless to say that the inspection of the schools to be undertaken will not be the subject matter of verification of credentials of the inspection staff."

6. Accordingly, previous order stands modified to the aforesaid extent.

7. It has been further stated by learned Amicus that apart from the structural dangers certain non-structural dangers also have to be looked into. In this regard he has submitted that there are over approximately 4000 schools in the State of U.P. where high tension electricity lines are passing over the said schools. It was stated that already some incidents have been reported where these high tension electricity lines have fallen upon the schools leaving the lives of such schools children in danger. Learned Amicus has submitted that the study in this regard has also been conducted and published in "Hindustan Times" daily news paper on 25.07.2026.

8. Considering the aforesaid facts this Court is of the considered view that an important issue has been brought to our knowledge, which also needs to be looked into.

9. Accordingly, "U.P. Power Corporation Ltd. through its Managing Director", is directed to be impleaded as respondent in the present case. Learned Additional Advocate General is directed to communicate this order to the competent authority and also seek their views in this regard,

by the next date of listing.

10. We have been further informed that despite the fact that this Court is seized of the present present writ petition to look into the structural safety of the educational institutions. We find that numerous incident are being reported in the daily news papers where dilapidated structures have fallen. One of such incident has been reported in the e-edition of daily news paper "Dainik Bhaskar" that the entire school building of Samri Primary School, Police Station - Mirganj, Block - Mungrabadshahpur, District - Jaunpur has fallen, fortunately on the fateful day, it was holiday and no children were in the school.

11. Similarly, we have been informed that in the premises of the school operated by the Department of Divyangjan Sashaktikaran (Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) in Lucknow on Saturday morning, triggered outrage among local residents due to death of a eight year old boy who was crushed under the heavy weight iron gate of the said school which collapsed.

12. Mention of the aforesaid facts is only to show that the task at hand is very important and urgent and accordingly we expect the State and agencies to act in a manner so that greatest efforts can be made to make the educational institutions a safe place for our children.

13. The Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Lucknow has submitted the a preliminary report with regard to compliance made by various schools with regard to deployment of Marshalls. As per the said report seven schools fall in good category, five schools in average category and five other schools in poor category in terms of deployment of Marshalls. The said preliminary report is taken on record. A list of such schools have also been annexed therein where comments have also been included with regard to their performance.

14. Learned Amicus has also informed that SOP which was to be prepared with assistance of the educational institutions is under final stage and shall be presented before this Court by the next date of listing.

15. Another concern which was expressed was with regard to running of

school buses and vans for carrying the students from their homes to schools and vice versa. In this regard it was submitted that various incidents have been reported regarding minor children having been sexually harassed by the drivers of the school buses and vans.

16. The Transport Department, it seems that has collected data and from the Police verification it has been found that 527 drivers out of total 2370, school vehicle drivers have been found having adverse report under "Mission Bharosa". It is again serious issue which directly effects safety of minor children. Number of member across the Bar have stated that it can be considered that the schools van drivers should, if possible, be female drivers to ensure safety of the school children.

17. Learned Additional Advocate General submits that he shall duly consider this aspect and seek instructions in this regard.

18. It was further pointed out that as per Section 222(b) of the U.P. Motor Vehicle Rules, all the licenses given to the private busses or the agreement entered into between the schools and private transport agencies, there shall be mention of such terms, which cater to this glaring issue. It is further submitted that similar provisions are required even for the school vans, where the school management should take steps for verifying the credentials of the drivers of the vans which are engaged for the purpose.

19. In this regard, learned Additional Advocate General submits that that he shall duly bring this issue to the notice of the concerned authorities and seek their response which will be intimated to this Court on the next date of listing.

20. Lastly, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Lucknow submits that one major step taken in regard to manage the traffic situation in real time from the "control room" around the educational institutions is regarding installation of CCTV cameras at the entry gates of the schools.

21. Accordingly, it was submitted that on the next date of listing, number of CCTV cameras required at various points and their estimated cost shall be intimated to this Court on the next date of listing.

22. List this case on 18.08.2026.

July 30, 2026
A. Verma

(Brij Raj Singh,J.) (Alok Mathur,J.)