

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT JAMMU
(Th. Virtual Mode)

CM No. 5457/2026 in
WP(C) PIL No. 13/2025

Arjun Gandotra

.....Appellant(s)/Petitioner(s)

Through: Mr. Sunil Sethi, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Navyug Sethi, Advocate.

vs

UT of J&K and others

..... Respondent(s)

Through: Ms. Monika Kohli, Sr. AAG with
Ms. Sagira Jaffar, Advocate for R- 1, 3 & 4
Mr. Vishal Sharma, DSGI with
Mr. Karan Sharma, CGSC for R- 2, 5, 6 & 7
Mr. Basit Manzoor Keng, Advocate for R-8
(Th. VC)

Coram: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJNESH OSWAL, JUDGE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MOHD YOUSUF WANI, JUDGE (TH. VC)

ORDER
14.08.2026

CM No. 5457/2026

1. This is an application seeking recalling of order dated 06.02.2026 and for revival of the writ petition filed by the petitioner, in public interest, on the ground that despite lapse of six months, no construction activity or even the preparatory work for construction is visible on the ground.
2. Issue notice to the respondents.
3. Ms. Sagira Jaffar, Advocate waives notice on behalf of respondent Nos. 1, 3 and 4. Mr. Karan Sharma, learned CGSC waives notice on behalf of respondent Nos. 2, 5, 6 and 7. Mr. Basit Manzoor Keng, Advocate waives notice on behalf of respondent No. 8.
4. For the reasons set out in the application, duly supported with an affidavit, coupled with the submissions made by Mr. Sunil Sethi, learned Senior Counsel for the petitioner/applicant, the same is

allowed and the order dated 06.02.2026 is recalled and the main writ petition is revived to its original number.

5. Application stands **disposed of**.

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6. **Main petition is taken on board.**

7. This writ petition has been filed in public interest by the petitioner, who is now a practising advocate, for commanding the respondents, more particularly, respondent Nos. 1, 2 and 7 to release and allocate the full amount of Rs. 922 Crore for the construction of High Court Complex at Raika within a period of three months and further for commanding the respondent Nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6 to file comprehensive action taken report regarding steps taken and timelines for implementation of the project for construction of High Court Complex at Raika.

8. Mr. Sunil Sethi, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner submits that initially the proceedings in the present writ petition were closed in terms of order dated 06.02.2026, after this Court took notice of the submissions made by the learned counsel for the respondent No. 8 that substantial progress was made in formulation of proposal for the construction of new building of Jammu Wing of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh at Raika, but despite lapse of six months, there is no visible progress on the ground.

9. *Prime facie* case for issuance of notice is made out.

10. Issue notice to the respondents.

11. Ms. Sagira Jaffar, Advocate waives notice on behalf of respondent Nos. 1, 3 and 4. Mr. Karan Sharma, learned CGSC waives notice on

behalf of respondent Nos. 2, 5, 6 and 7. Mr. Basit Manzoor Keng, Advocate waives notice on behalf of respondent No. 8.

12. The respondents shall file status report with regard to steps taken by them for raising construction of High Court Complex at Raika by the next date of hearing.
13. List on **29.08.2026**.

(MOHD YOUSUF WANI)
JUDGE

(RAJNESH OSWAL)
JUDGE

Jammu
14.08.2026
Sahil Padha

