

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

SUO MOTO WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) No. 21/2026

IN RE: 135-YR-OLD LIBRARY, 8.5 LAKH BOOKS
AND NO ROOM IN THE NEW CENTRAL VISTA PLAN

FOR ADMISSION

Date : 05-10-2026 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV SACHDEVA

By Courts Motion

For Petitioner(s)

For Respondent(s) Mr. Tushar Mehta, SG(N/P)
 Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, ASG
 Mr. Bhuvan Kapoor, Adv.
 Ms. Poornima Singh, Adv.
 Mr. Koney Rama Mohan Rao, Adv.
 Mr. Himadri Sharma, Adv.

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

Issue notice, returnable 16.11.2026.

Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, learned Additional Solicitor General, who is present in Court, accepts notice for the Union of India and offers to file an affidavit with full details of the space that would be allotted for housing the library, along with the actual layout plans. The affidavit shall also address the issue whether the allotted space would be adequate to comfortably accommodate not only the books which are presently stored in Shastri Bhawan, New

Delhi, but also the books which are stated to be lying in cartons at R.K. Puram, New Delhi.

We request Ms. Haripriya Padmanabhan, learned senior counsel, to assist the Court in this matter.

Registry may furnish a full set of papers to Ms. Haripriya Padmanabhan, learned senior counsel, before the next date of hearing. Copies of the affidavit and plans filed by the Union of India shall also be served upon the learned *amicus curiae* well in advance.

(BABITA PANDEY)
AR-CUM-PS

(PREETI SAXENA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)