

ITEM NO.1 Court 3 (Video Conferencing) SECTION IX

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

Miscellaneous Application No. 377/2018 in SLP(C) No. 29645/2016

DANANE SHWETA SUNIL AND ORS. Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS. Respondent(s)

(Office report for directions)

Date : 13-09-2021 This application was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE DR. JUSTICE D.Y. CHANDRACHUD
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Biju P Raman, AOR
Mr. Chandrashekar Reddy, Adv.
Ms. Madhavi Reddy, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. Sanjay Jain, ASG
Mr. R. Bala, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, Adv.
Mr. Apoorv Kurup, Adv.
Mr. Deepak Goel, Adv.
Mr. Anukalp Jain, Adv.
Mr. Adit Khorana, Adv.

Mr. Sachin Patil, AOR
Mr. Rahul Chitnis, Adv.
Mr. Aaditya A. Pande, Adv.
Mr. Geo Joseph, Adv.

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

- 1 In the State of Maharashtra, about 19,000 children have lost a parent due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It is estimated that 593 children have lost both parents due to the pandemic. The Government of Maharashtra has formulated a policy on 17 June 2021 envisaging that an amount of Rs 5,00,000 will be placed in fixed deposit for the children who have lost both their parents due to the Covid-19

- pandemic and the moneys will be payable to them after they attain the age of maturity.
- 2 The amount of Rs 20 crores which was deposited in pursuance of the order dated 2 December 2016 stands enhanced to Rs 25,53,25,548 as a result of accretions of interest.
 - 3 Mr Sachin Patil, Counsel for the State of Maharashtra has submitted a note as an officer of the Court suggesting the manner in which the amount of Rs 25,53,25,548 can be utilized in the interests of children who have lost both parents during the Covid-19 pandemic in Maharashtra. The estimated figure of 593 children is stated to have been uploaded on the website of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) under the Bal Sangopan Yojana. The Court is also apprised of the fact that the estimated figure is subject to further verification.
 - 4 We appreciate the objective assistance which has been rendered by Counsel for the State of Maharashtra in suggesting that the amount of Rs 25,53,25,548 can be utilized for the benefit of children who have lost one or both parents due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Before we direct the disbursal of the moneys lying in deposit with the Registry, to the State of Maharashtra, a concrete statement should be placed on affidavit before the Court of the manner in which the money will be utilized for the benefit of the children affected by the death of either or both parents due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Secretary, Women and Child Development of the State of Maharashtra shall file an affidavit within a period of three weeks. The Court shall thereafter pass an appropriate order after scrutinizing the proposal.

- 5 List the Miscellaneous Application on 4 October 2021.

(SANJAY KUMAR-I)
AR-CUM-PS

(SAROJ KUMARI GAUR)
COURT MASTER