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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ CONT.CAS(C) 846/2018, & CM APPLs. 26971/2019, 28473/2019,
28474/2019, 28475/2019 & 35330/2019

MERCK SHARP & DOHME CORP & ANR Petitioners

versus

ABHAYAKUMAR DEEPAK & ANR Respondents

+ CONT.CAS(C) 47/2020 & CM APPL. 1194/2021

APARNA BHAT Petitioner

versus

SAKSHI SINGH & ORS Respondents

Through: Mr. Anupam Srivastava, ASC for
GNCTD with Mr. Dhairya Gupta,
Advocate.

Ms. Prabhsahay Kaur, SC for DDA
with Mr. Shashi Pratap Singh, Panel
Counsel, Ms. Bhavna Vijay, Ms.
Pragati Singli, Ms. Abhilasha and Ms.
Urvashi, Advocates.

Mr. Avishkar Singhvi, ASC with Mr.
Naved Ahmed and Mr. Vivek Kumar,
Advocates for PWD.

Mr. Tushar Sannu, ASC for NDMC
with Mr. Abhishek Singh, Advocates.

Ms. Rashmi Chopra, Ms. Vatsala
Chaturvedi, Mr. Puneet Rathi and Ms.
Sehr Chopra, Advocates.

Ms. Kanika Agnihotri, Advocate for
DJB.

Ms. Pratima N. Lakra, CGSC with
Chandan Prajapati for CPWD



CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAJMI WAZIRI

ORDER

% **25.05.2023**

The hearing has been conducted through hybrid mode (physical and virtual hearing).

1. Under various directions of this court, for nearly half a decade the Department of Forests and Wildlife, GNCTD has planted lakhs of trees in hundreds of acres of forest lands in the Central and Southern Ridge and nurtured them as *Insaaf Bagh* (Justice Park) and *Muafi Bagh* (Atonement Park) respectively. The orders for plantation of trees extended to other parts of the city as well. At the time of plantation, it was to be ensured by the Deputy Conservator of Forests ('DCF') that the trees had a minimum nursery-age of three years and a height of not less than 6ft.
2. The learned ASC, GNCTD submits that 35,000 more trees have been planted in *Muafi Bagh* in compliance of the order dated 30.08.2022. In effect the total number of trees planted in *Muafi Bagh* is in the range of 2,55,000 and approximately 67,000 trees have been planted as *Insaaf Bagh*. Another 14,000 trees have been planted under court orders by DDA in the Central Ridge and along the Yamuna river belt. Quite a few of the trees are about almost eight years old now and some have attained a height of over 35 feet.
3. Let the Department of Forests file an affidavit demarcating on a map the area, along with geo coordinates, in which *Insaaf Bagh* and *Muafi Bagh* have been nurtured. The affidavit shall also indicate the equivalent compensatory plantations carried out by the GNCTD in



terms of its assurance to this court on earlier dates. Six monthly reports shall be filed in this regard along with photographs and satellite images/drone photographs to show the progress of growth in the said two large areas and other areas in which further plantation is being carried out.

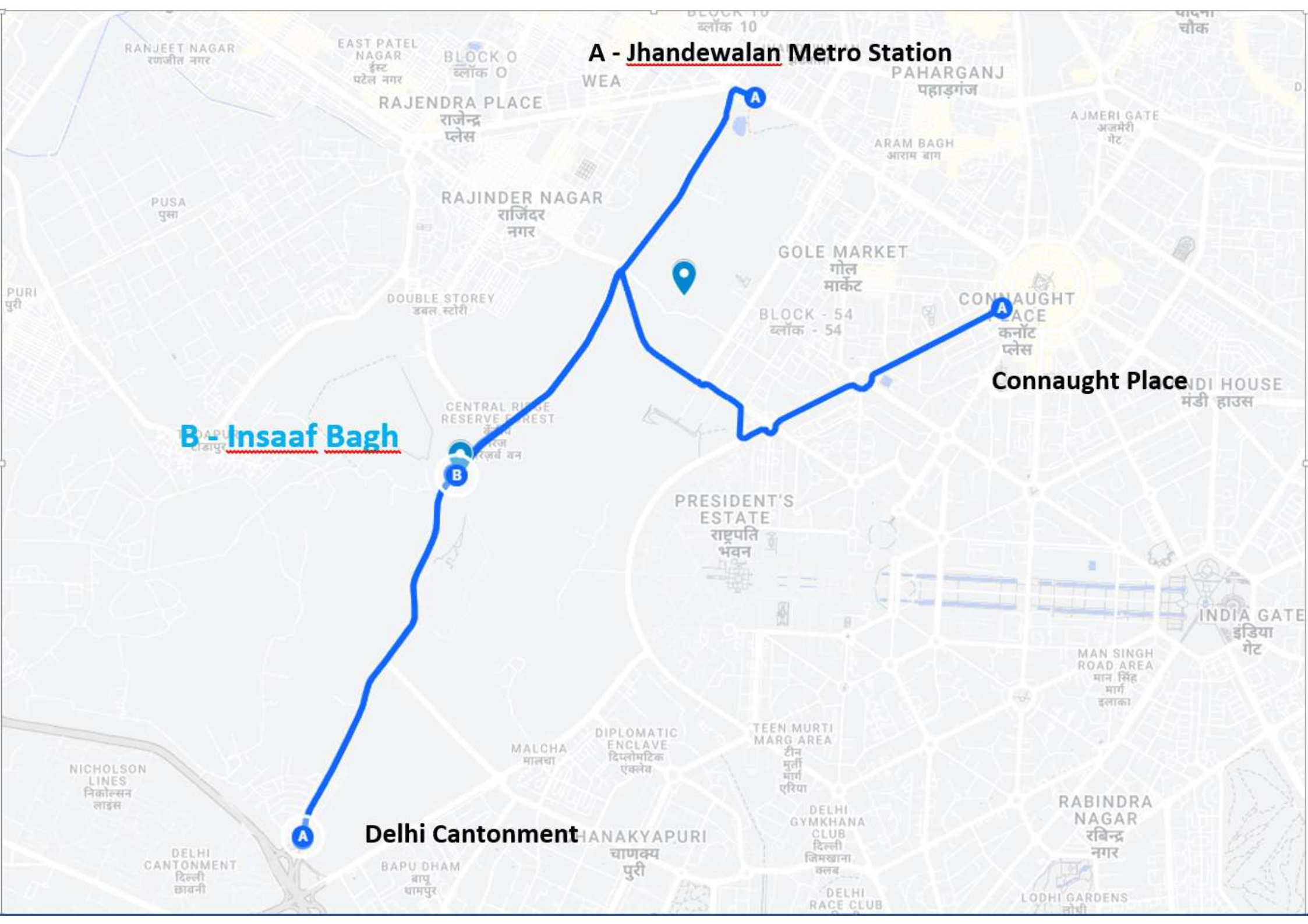
4. It is a matter of record that the lakhs of trees planted by the Department of Forests and Wildlife, GNCTD, were procured from the millions of rupees deposited as costs, in scores of cases before this court. The resultant rejuvenation of the otherwise barren areas of the city, be it the Ridge or the city's arterial roads, or some District Parks, neighbourhood/ colony parks, is because of the collective efforts of Department Forests (GNCTD), the learned Court Commissioners, government counsel, lawyers and litigants. There has been active community participation. This needs to be acknowledged and encouraged. Community participation inculcates a sense of duty to protect one's environment and an immediate affinity to one's neighbourhood and the city. It would therefore be appropriate that there be signages and street directions to guide both, the curious and the enthusiast, to these green areas in particular to *Insaaf Bagh* and to *Muafi Bagh*. It would be expected of the PWD and MCD and other road-owning agencies to install appropriate road/street signages at multiple places. The signages shall be put up at places which may be identified by the learned Court Commissioners. The DCF (HQ) is made the Nodal Officer in this regard for coordination with the road-owning agencies such as the PWD, MCD, NDMC and DDA. Compliance affidavit be filed.



5. List on 07.07.2023.

NAJMI WAZIRI, J

MAY 25, 2023/ss



A - Jhandewalan Metro Station

B - Insaaf Bagh

Delhi Cantonment

Connaught Place

RANJEET NAGAR
रणजीत नगर

EAST PATEL
NAGAR
ईस्ट
पटेल नगर

BLOCK O
ब्लॉक O

WEA

PAHARGANJ
पहाड़गंज

RAJENDRA PLACE
राजेन्द्र
प्लेस

ARAM BAGH
आराम बाग

AJMERI GATE
अजमेरी
गेट

PUSA
पुसा

RAJINDER NAGAR
राजिंदर
नगर

GOLE MARKET
गोल
मार्केट

BLOCK - 54
ब्लॉक - 54

CONNAUGHT
PLACE
कनॉट
प्लेस

INDIA HOUSE
मंडी हाउस

DOUBLE STOREY
डबल स्टोरी

CENTRAL RIDGE
RESERVE FOREST
सेंट्रल
रिजर्व वन

PRESIDENT'S
ESTATE
राष्ट्रपति
भवन

INDIA GATE
इंडिया
गेट

MAN SINGH
ROAD AREA
मान सिंह
मार्ग
इलाका

NICHOLSON
LINES
निकोलसन
लाइंस

MALCHA
मालचा

DIPLOMATIC
ENCLAVE
डिप्लोमटिक
एन्क्लेव

TEEN MURTI
MARG AREA
टीन
मूर्ती
मार्ग
एरिया

DELHI
GYMKHANA
CLUB
दिल्ली
जिमखाना
क्लब

RABINDRA
NAGAR
रबिन्द्र
नगर

DELHI
CANTONMENT
दिल्ली
कावनी

BAPU DHAM
बापु
धामपुर

HANAKYAPURI
चाणक्य
पुरी

DELHI
RACE CLUB

LODHI GARDENS
लोधी

Indicative Map for reaching Maffi Bagh

