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

+ CONT.CAS(C) 660/2020, CM APPL. 26651/2020 & CM APPL.
5145/2021

NEW DELHI NATURE SOCIETY Petitioner

Through: Mr. Aditya N. Prasad, Mr. Armaan
Verma and Mr. Nishank Bhardwaj,
Advocates.

versus

SHRI VINAY SHEEL SAXENA & ORS. Respondents

Through: Mr. Shadan Farasat, ASC for GNCTD
with Ms. Mreganka Kukreja,
Advocate.

Mr. Tushar Sannu, ASC for NDMC
with Mr. Abhishek Singh, Mr.
Moolchand Yadav, Head Assistant,
NDMC and Mr. Ajay Kumar, SO,
Horticulture.

Mr. N. Hariharan, Sr. Advocate
(Amicus Curiae) with Ms. Punya
Rekha Angara, Mr. Siddharth Yadav,
Mr. Prateek Bhalla, Mr. Sharian
Mukherji and Mr. Mohammad Qasim,
Advocates.

Mr. Kamal Mohan Gupta and Mr.
Mohd. Aslam Khan, Advocates.

Ms. Mrganka Kukreja, Advocate for
Mr. Shadan Farasat, Advocate.

Mr. Anupam Srivastava, ASC for
GNCTD with Mr. Dhairya Gupta,

Advocate along with Ms. Vishnupriya Pandey, LA-DCF(S) and Mr. Sarosh Ali, LA-DCF(C) for Department of Forest, GNCTD.

Mr. Satyakam, ASC with SI Satyam Pandey, PS Lodhi Colony, Insp. Vishwanath, PS Ashok Vihar alongwith Mr. Sunil Kumar, Addl. SHO.

Ms. Vishnupriya Pandey, Executive Project Associate Legal, O/o DCF (South).

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAJMI WAZIRI

ORDER

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07.07.2023

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

1. Mr. Satyakam, the learned ASC, GNCTD/Delhi Police states upon instructions that instead of 100 trees, the police officers have planted 120 saplings around Delhi Parade Ground. The photographs show that along the boundary wall of the Parade Ground, some trees which are not native to Delhi have been planted. It would be better for the Police Department to plant some more suitable indigenous trees such as (i) Pilkhan (ii) Kala Siris/Safed Siris (iii) Amaltas (iv) Pilkhan (v) Kachnaar, etc. Each tree shall have a minimum of three-years' nursery age and a trunk height of eight feet. Compliance affidavits, along with photographs showing the position both before and after the plantation, duly protected by tree- guards/fences, shall be filed both by the DCF concerned and the respondents before the next date.

2. The photographs filed along with the Status Report by the NDMC, in terms of the orders of this court in order dated 24.05.2023, show that the concrete around many trees at Aurobindo Marg has been removed and pits have been dug up for fresh plantation. The court is assured that the trees shall be tended to on regular basis. The assurance is accepted. In this regard, the assistance of Mr Tushar Sannu, the learned ASC, NDMC is much appreciated.
3. Renotify on 11.07.2023.

NAJMI WAZIRI, J

JULY 7, 2023

RD