

CM No. 198-CWPIL-2025 in/and CWP PIL No. 9 of 2023,
CWP No. 27621-2013 (O&M),
CM Nos. 10751-2025 in/and RA-CW-252-2020,
RA CWs Nos. 259-2020, 261-2020, 268-2020, 69-2021
in CWP No. 18253-2009 and
IOIN-FAO-3313-2022 in FAO No. 3313-2022

Vinod Dhattewal and others

Vs.

Union of India and others

Present:- Mr. Aashish Chopra, Senior Advocate with
Mr. Varun Aryan Sharma, Advocate and
Mr. Abhijeet Chaudhary, Advocate for petitioner
in CWP-PIL-9-2023.

Mr. Aashish Chopra, Senior Advocate, with
Mr. Raman Walia, Advocate (through v.c.)
Ms. Nitika Sharma, Advocate,
Mr. Varun Aryan Sharma, Advocate,
for the applicant-petitioner in RA-CW-259-2020.

Mr. RS Randhawa, Advocate, for the applicant in
CM No. 10751-2025 in RA CW-252 of 2020.

Mr. Amit Jhanji, Senior Standing Counsel,
with Mr. Jaivir S. Chandail, Additional Standing Counsel,
for U.T., Chandigarh.

Mr. Satya Pal Jain, Additional Solicitor General of India,
with Mr. Dheeraj Jain, Senior Panel Counsel (through v.c.) and
Mr. Arun Gosain, Senior Panel Counsel for Union of India.

Mr. Brijeshwar Singh Kanwar, Senior Panel Counsel (through v.c.)
for respondent No. 4 in CWP-27621-2013.

Mr. Rajeev Anand, Advocate,
Ms. Seerat Saldi, Advocate,
Ms. Gauri C. Kaushal, Advocate, for respondent No. 9 in
CWP PIL No. 9 of 2023.

Mr. Rupinder S. Khosla, Senior Advocate,
with Mr. Yogender Verma, Advocate for HCBA in
CWP No. 27621-2013 and for respondent
in CWP PIL No. 9-2023.

Mr. Kanwaljit Singh, Senior Advocate, with
Ms. Muskan Sharma, Advocate,
for respondent No. 24 in CWP PIL No. 9 of 2023.

Mr. Sandeep Khunger, Advocate for Municipal Council,
Nayagaon.

Ms. Tanu Bedi, Advocate (Amicus Curiae) with
Ms. Arshdeep Kaur, Advocate in RA CW-252-2020
in CWP No. 18253-2009

Mr. KDS Hooda, Advocate, for respondent No.5
in CWP No. 27621-2013.

Mr. Deepak Balyan, Additional Advocate General, Haryana,

Mr. S.S. Narula, Advocate, President, Bar Association,
Punjab & Haryana High Court.

Mr. Nilesh Bhardwaj, Advocate, Vice President, HCBA.

Mr. Gagandeep Jammu, Advocate, Secretary, HCBA.

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CM No. 10751-2025 in RA-CW-252 of 2020 in CWP No. 18253-2009

The application shall be considered at the time of final hearing.

CM No. 198-CWP PIL of 2025 in CWP PIL No. 9 of 2023

In continuation of the earlier orders passed by this Court, U.T. Administration, Chandigarh has placed on record an affidavit dated 31.07.2025 by way of CM No. 198-CWPIL of 2025, which *inter-alia* reveals the following various aspects. The said status report by way of affidavit of Superintending Engineer, U.T. Chandigarh is taken on record. Application stands disposed of.

2. This Court, in short, reproduces the revelation so made and the consequential directions passed herein:-

i) **Allotment of building in Sector-17, Chandigarh for administrative Branches of the High Court.**

3. Letter dated 01.08.2025 of Executive Engineer, CP Division No.6, Chandigarh is produced in Court and the same is taken on record as Annexure-Z, which *inter-alia* reveals that repair/interior works of four floors of the said premises i.e. SCO No. 54-55-56 (basement, ground floor, first floor and second floor) Sector-17-A, Chandigarh, is ready for being physically handed over to High Court of Punjab and Haryana.

3.1 Shri Amit Jhanji, learned Senior Standing Counsel appearing for U.T. Administration, Chandigarh, has handed over keys of the aforesaid accommodation to Ms. Smriti Dhir, Additional District & Sessions Judge-cum-Registrar (Rules), who is present in Court.

3.2 Registrar (Rules) is accordingly directed to take physical possession of the aforesaid accommodation forthwith and start shifting branches as per the directions of the Building Committee. Registrar (Rules) is further directed to file a report regarding taking over possession of the said accommodation within a period of three days.

ii) **As regards Kutcha Parking**

4. A proposal for laying green pavers with plantation of trees and arrangement for parking has been placed by U.T. Administration before the Building Committee of High Court.

4.1 Learned Senior Standing Counsel for U.T. Administration, Chandigarh is directed to share the said proposal with the office bearers of Bar Association of Punjab & Haryana High Court. The Bar Association shall within one week submit it's comments qua the proposal by filing the same in the Registry of this Court. The Registry shall place the proposal of U.T.

Administration along with comments of the Bar Association before the Building Committee of High Court for approval.

iii) Construction of Verandah in front of Court Room No.1

5. Construction process with regard to Verandah in front of Court Room No.1 has started and as assured by learned Senior Standing Counsel for U.T. Administration, the same shall be concluded by 25.08.2025.

iv) As regards traffic jam in High Court

6. Another issue raised on behalf of President Bar Association Shri Narula is that there is dearth of traffic policemen to regulate heavy traffic in the morning and evening in the High Court premises, as a result of which there are traffic jams causing delay and inconvenience to the members of Bar and the litigants.

6.1 In this respect, U.T. Administration is directed to ensure posting of two Deputy Superintendents of Police (Traffic), U.T. Chandigarh from 08.30 A.M. to 10.30 A.M. and thereafter from 03.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M. every day along with team adequate number of traffic police personnel, to regulate the traffic in the High Court premises. This arrangement be made effective from 05.08.2025.

v) Allotment of alternate site for construction of new building

7. As regards alternative site for the High Court at village Sarangpur or at I.T. Park, both in Chandigarh, the counsel for U.T. Administration has not provided this Court with any acceptable plan. U.T. Administration is unable to provide any solution to the perennial problem of traffic congestion at Sector 12-PGIMER, Chandigarh Chauraha, which falls on the way to village Sarangpur except informing that an underpass can be constructed. An underpass may not be feasible and viable especially in rainy season. More so, with the proposed

relocation of the High Court from Sector-1, Chandigarh to village Sarangpur, the entire traffic of Chandigarh as well as Panchkula and partly of Mohali will take the route which passes through Sector 12, PGIMER, chauraha for reaching village Sarangpur. This in all likelihood will cause delay and inconvenience to the Judges, members of the Bar, employees, litigants as well as other stake holders.

7.1 On the other hand, as regards I.T. Park, Chandigarh is concerned, U.T. Administration has raised objection of environmental clearance and various building restrictions which may not be granted by the Wild Life Board due to I.T. Park lying under the flying path of migratory birds which visit Sukhna Lake.

7.2. Since there is no feasible and viable solution coming forth from either of the parties, it would be appropriate and in the fitness of things to revert back to explore the possibility of holistic plan being made feasible and viable.

8. Bar Association of Punjab & Haryana High Court has agreed to hold a joint meeting with the competent authorities of U.T. Administration on 07.08.2025 at 4.30 P.M. in Bar Association Hall, Punjab & Haryana High Court. Accordingly, both the parties are requested to deliberate on the issue of alternate site or for taking the Holistic plan ahead. We request Shri Satya Pal Jain, Additional Solicitor General, Government of India to preside over the said joint meeting.

8.1 For facilitating a fruitful discussion between the two parties, U.T. Administration is directed to share all the relevant documents including sketches/maps etc. with all office bearers of the Bar Association, with the ultimate object of taking the Holistic plan ahead. U.T. Administration is directed to file a report as regards the said meeting before the next date of hearing.

9. U.T. Administration, Chandigarh is directed to file an affidavit before the next date to answer the following queries: -

- i) Can the Holistic Plan attract approval of U.T. Administration as well as the Heritage Committee, if the requirement of Court rooms is reduced?
- ii) U.T. Administration had earlier agreed to approve the Holistic plan subject to certain restrictions. What were those restrictions?
- iii) Documentary proof of environmental objections qua IT Park area.
- iv) Sanction order issued by U.T. Administration and NOC documents issued by environmental authorities qua Lalit Hotel.
- v) Documents regarding IT Park area, restrictions imposed by Wildlife Board.

List again on 13.08.2025.

Aforesaid alternative course adopted by this Court ought not to be an indication of this Court having given up the exploration for alternate site for High Court at IT Park/Sarangpur village or any other site.

A copy of this order be placed in the connected files.

(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(SANJIV BERRY)
JUDGE

01.08.2025
ravinder