

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CIVIL APPEAL NO. OF 2024
(Arising out of SLP(Crl.) No. 20499 of 2024)

PEOPLE UNITED FOR BETTER
LIVING IN CALCUTTA (PUBLIC)

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ORS.

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. This appeal challenges the final judgment and order passed by the Division Bench of the High Court of Judicature at Calcutta dated 20.06.2024 in WPA (P) No. 569 of 2023, whereby the petition filed by the present appellant was dismissed.
3. Mr. Jaideep Gupta, learned senior counsel appearing for the appellant submits that the High Court has failed to take into consideration that a huge number of trees are being felled without obtaining permission of any of the authorities.

4. Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General appearing for the Union of India states that the trees are not being felled and are instead being transplanted. He states that 827 trees are proposed for transplantation and 94 trees have already been transplanted. He further states that under the compensatory afforestation program, a total of 2370 trees will be planted.

5. Mr. Mehta, further submits that the metro project serves a significant public interest, as it aims to decongest the roads and enhance the services available to the citizens.

6. We find that in order to allay the apprehension of the appellants, it will be appropriate that the Central Empowered Committee (for short "CEC") examines the issue.

7. We, therefore, direct that the respondents shall not undertake transplantation or felling of the trees without permission of the CEC.

8. With the above directions, this appeal is disposed of.

9. Pending application(s), if any, stand(s) disposed of.

.....J
(B.R. GAVAI)

.....J
(PRASHANT KUMAR MISHRA)

.....J
(K.V. VISWANATHAN)

New Delhi
October 23, 2024

ITEM NO.10

COURT NO.3

SECTION XVI

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

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s). 20499/2024

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 20-06-2024 in WPA(P) No. 569/2023 passed by the High Court at Calcutta)

PEOPLE UNITED FOR BETTER LIVING IN CALCUTTA (PUBLIC)Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ORS.

Respondent(s)

Date : 23-10-2024 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B.R. GAVAI
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRASHANT KUMAR MISHRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K.V. VISWANATHAN

For Petitioner(s)

Mr. Jaideep Gupta, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Siddhartha Sinha, AOR
Mr. Nring Chamwibo Zeliang, Adv.
Ms. Anu Priya Nisha Minz, Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Fartiyal, Adv.
Mr. Riddhi Bose, Adv.
Ms. Racheeta Chawla, Adv.
Ms. Rishi Agarwal, Adv.
Ms. Sampriti Baksi, Adv.
Mr. Siddharth Banerjee, Adv.

For Respondent(s)

Mr. Mr Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General
Mr. Saurabh Mishra, AOR
Mr. Shrimay Mishra, Adv.
Ms. Bhumi Agrawal, Adv.
Mr. Rakesh Chander, Adv.

Mr. Srisatya Mohanty, Adv.
Ms. Astha Sharma, AOR
Mr. Shreyas Awasthi, Adv.

Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General
Mr. K M Nataraj, A.S.G.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR
Mrs. Swati Ghildiyal, Adv.
Mr. Kanu Agarwal, Adv.
Mr. Arkaj Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Madhav Sinhal, Adv.
Mr. Anuj Srinivas Udupa, Adv.

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

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeal is disposed of in terms of the signed order.
3. Pending application(s), if any, stand(s) disposed of.

(DEEPAK SINGH)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(SUDHIR KUMAR SHARMA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

[Signed order is placed on the file]