



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
NAGPUR BENCH, NAGPUR.

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION NO. 31 OF 2024

Office Notes, Office Memoranda of Coram,
appearances, Court's orders of directions
and Registrar's Orders.

Court's or Judge's orders.

CORAM : NITIN W. SAMBRE AND ABHAY J. MANTRI, JJ.
DATE : 02.08.2024.

A news item is published in Nagpur City Edition of daily Lokmat dated 2.8.2024 wherein it is disclosed that the operation of the Nagpur Airport is closed every day for eight hours since March 2024.

2. The reason cited for closure of the Airport for such a long period of eight hours during day time is due to repairing to be carried out to the runway.

3. The news item further discloses that since March 2024 till this date there is hardly any repairing activity carried out. Due to closure of the Airport, the travellers of the Central India are facing hardship and inconvenience.

4. Considering the geographical location of the Nagpur City, being the centre of the country, the operation of the Airport is for the convenience of the people residing in Central India.

In this background, we deem it appropriate to take cognizance based on the said news by treating the said news item as Public Interest Litigation.

5. As suggested, we appoint Advocate Kartik Shukul as an Amicus to assist the Court.

6. We request Advocate Shukul to frame an appropriate petition within a period of one week from today. Advance copy of the same be made available to Shri D.V. Chauhan, learned Government Pleader and Shri N.S. Deshpande, learned Deputy Solicitor General of India.

7. Since the State of Maharashtra, through Principal Secretary, Department of Civil Aviation, the Maharashtra Airport Development Company, Ministry of Civil Aviation Government of India and the Multi Modal International Cargo Hub and Airport at Nagpur (MIHAN) are the probable respondents to the said petition in addition to the Airport Authority of India and also Station Manager, Nagpur Airport, we deem it appropriate to direct issuance of notices to all these parties.

8. We deem it appropriate to direct Government Pleader Shri Chauhan and Deputy Solicitor General of India Shri N.S. Deshpande to accept the notice.

9. We would like to have the response from all these Authorities on the aforesaid issue at the earliest.

10. For preliminary consideration, we schedule the hearing of the petition on **14th August, 2024** at 2.30 PM.

11. We direct the Office to register the present proceedings as Public Interest Litigation.

(ABHAY J. MANTRI, J.)

(NITIN W. SAMBRE, J.)