

ITEM NO.1 Court No.1 (Video Conferencing) SECTION PIL-W

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Writ Petition(s)(Criminal) No(s). 120/2012

MANOHAR LAL SHARMA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(ONLY LETTER DATED 10.1.2020 OF MR. R.S. CHEEMA, SR. ADV. (SPECIAL PUBLIC PROSECUTOR) IS TO BE LISTED. NAMES OF ONLY MR. MANOHAR LAL SHARMA, PETITIONER-IN-PERSON, MR. AMIT ANAND TIWARI, ADV., MR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA, ADV. TO BE SHOWN IN W.P.(CRL.) NO. 120 OF 2012)

WITH W.P.(C) No. 463/2012 (PIL-W)

(ONLY I.A. NO. 187912/2019 TO BE LISTED. ONLY NAMES OF MR. PRASHANT BHUSHAN, ADV. AND MR. B.K. PRASAD, ADV. TO BE SHOWN)
(For IA No. 187912/2019 - CLARIFICATION/DIRECTION)

Date : 12-04-2021 The matter(s) was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE A.S. BOPANNA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE V. RAMASUBRAMANIAN

Counsel for the parties

Mr. Manohar Lal Sharma, Petitioner-in-person

Mr. Prashant Bhushan, AOR

Mr. R. S. Cheema, Sr. Adv./SPP
Mr. Amit Anand Tiwari, Adv.
Mr. Sanchit Guru, Adv.
Ms. Tarannum Cheema, Adv.

Mr. Tushar mehta, Ld. SG
Ms. Aishwarya bhati, Ld. ASG
Mr. R. Bala, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Zoheb Hussain, Adv.
Mr. Sachin Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Rajat Nair, Adv.
Mr. M.K. Maroria, AOR

Mr. Tushar Mehta, Ld. SG
Ms. Aishwarya Bhati, Ld. ASG

Mr. R. Bala, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Zoheb hussain, Adv.
 Mr. Sachin Sharma, Adv.
 Mr. Rajat Nair, Adv.
 Ms. Binu Tamta, Adv.
 Mr. Kanu Agrawal, Adv.
 Mr. G. S. Makker, AOR
 Mr. M. K. Maroria AOR
 Ms. Vimla Sinha, Adv.
 Mrs. Anil Katiyar, AOR

Mr. Mahfooz A. Nazki, AOR
 Mr. Polanki Gowtham, Adv.
 Mr. Shaik Mohamad Haneef, Adv.
 Mr. T. Vijaya Bhaskar Reddy, Adv.
 Mr. Amitabh Sinha, Adv.
 Mr. Shrey Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Sumeer Sodhi, AOR
 Ms. Simran Agarawal, Adv.

Mr. Kartik Seth, Adv.
 Ms. Shriya Gilhotra, Adv.
 M/s Chambers of Kartik Seth, AOR

Mr. Tapesk Kumar Singh, Addl. A.G /AOR
 Mr. Aditya Pratap Singh, Adv.
 Mrs. Bhaswati Singh, Adv.

Mr. Vikas Singh, Sr. Adv.
 Ms. Deepeika Kalia, Adv.
 Mr. Kapish Seth, Adv.
 Mr. Mritunjay Singh, Adv.
 Mr. C.P.Rajwar, Adv.
 Mr. Varun Singh, Adv.
 Mr. Vivek Singh, Adv.
 Mr. Chandra Prakash, AOR

Petitioner-in-person

Ms. Bharti Tyagi, AOR
 Mr. Mishra Saurabh, AOR
 Mr. E. C. Agrawala, AOR
 Mrs. Kirti Renu Mishra, AOR
 Ms. Aparna Jha, AOR
 Mr. Ramendra Mohan Patnaik, AOR
 Mr. Amit Sharma, AOR
 M/S. Khaitan & Co., AOR
 Mr. B. Balaji, AOR
 Mr. Braj Kishore Mishra, AOR
 M/S. Parekh & Co., AOR
 Mr. Kamini Jaiswal, AOR
 Ms. Sharmila Upadhyay, AOR
 Mr. Amarjit Singh Bedi, AOR

Mr. Chanchal Kumar Ganguli, AOR
 Mr. Tapes Kumar Singh, AOR
 Ms. Binu Tamta, AOR
 Mr. Amit Anand Tiwari, AOR
 Ms. Hemantika Wahi, AOR
 Ms. Aparna Bhat, AOR
 Mrs. Shally Bhasin, AOR
 Mr. D. Mahesh Babu, AOR
 Mr. Dinesh Kumar Garg, AOR
 Ms. Asha Gopalan Nair, AOR
 Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR
 Mr. Kaustubh Shukla, AOR
 Mr. G. N. Reddy, AOR
 M/S. Chambers Of Kartik Seth, AOR
 Mr. Jayant Mohan, AOR
 Mr. Pranav Sachdeva, AOR

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

The Directorate of Enforcement, which is Respondent No.4 in Writ Petition(Civil)No.463 of 2012, has come up with the present application seeking appropriate directions for the appointment of a new Special Public Prosecutor to conduct prosecution of cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, pertaining to coal block allocation matters.

Vide order dated 25.07.2014, Shri Rajinder Singh Cheema, Senior Advocate, was appointed as Special Public Prosecutor by this Court to conduct the prosecution of the offences pertaining to coal block allocation, on behalf of CBI and Directorate of Enforcement. After having served as Special Public Prosecutor creditably, Shri R.S. Cheema, Senior Advocate, expressed a desire to be relieved. Therefore, the Directorate came up with the above application seeking various reliefs, including the one for the appointment of a new Special Public Prosecutor.

On 09.12.2019, this Court directed Shri R.S. Cheema as well as learned Solicitor General to suggest a few names. Accordingly, both of them have suggested a few names.

Though there was no consensus on the names of individuals, the learned counsel appearing on all sides unanimously agreed that this Court should appoint a seasoned trial court lawyer of impeccable integrity and a designated senior advocate to guide him and conduct the proceedings.

Taking into account the above said criteria, we hereby appoint (i) Shri Maninder Singh, Senior Advocate and former Additional solicitor General of India; and (ii) *Shri* Rajesh Batra, Advocate as Special Public Prosecutors in the place of Shri R.S. Cheema. Shri R.S. Cheema, may get relieved upon the newly appointed Prosecutors taking charge. This Court records appreciation for the services rendered by Shri R.S. Cheema, Senior Advocate.

(SANJAY KUMAR-II)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PRADEEP KUMAR)
BRANCH OFFICER