

ITEM NO.43

COURT NO.1

SECTION II-A

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

Miscellaneous Application No.1852/2019 In CrL.A. No.1101/2019

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 23-07-2019 in CrL.A. No.1101/2019 passed by the Supreme Court of India)

SMRUTI TUKARAM BADADE

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

Date : 16-01-2024 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE J.B. PARDIWALA  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ MISRA

For Petitioner(s) Ms. Vibha Dutta Makhija, Sr. Adv.  
Ms. Jaikriti S. Jadeja, AOR  
Mr. Amaan Shreyas, Adv.  
Mr. Praveen Gautam, Adv.  
Ms. Bani, Adv.  
Ms. Yashashwini Chauhan, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Ms. Deeplaxmi Subhash Matwankar, AOR  
  
Mr. Aniruddha Deshmukh, Adv.  
Mr. Siddharth Dharmadhikari, Adv.  
Mr. Aaditya Aniruddha Pande, AOR  
Mr. Bharat Bagla, Adv.  
Mr. Sourav Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Aditya Krishna, Adv.  
Ms. Raavi Sharma, Adv.

**Ms. Enakshi Mukhopadhyay Siddhanta, AOR**  
**Mr. Sovon Siddhanta, Adv.**  
**Mr. K. G. Kannan, Adv.**

**Ms. Manisha Ambwani, AOR**

**Mr. Shovan Mishra, AOR**  
**Ms. Bipasa Tripathy, Adv.**

**M/s. Arputham Aruna & Co.**

**Mr. Arjun Garg, AOR**

**Mr. Sanjay Kr. Pathak, AOR**  
**Mr. Arvind Kumar Pripathi, Adv.**  
**Mrs. Shashi Pathak, Adv.**

**Mr. Gopal Jha, AOR**

**Mr. P.I. Jose, AOR**

**Mr. Gautam Narayan, AOR**  
**Ms. Asmita Singh, Adv.**  
**Mr. Harshit Goel, Adv.**  
**Mr. Sujay Jain, Adv.**  
**Mr. K.V. Vibu Prasad, Adv.**

**Mr. Ashok Mathur, AOR**

**Mr. V.N. Raghupathy, AOR**

**Mr. R. Neduraman, AOR**

**Ms. Radhika Gautam, AOR**

**Mr. Sandeep Sudhakar Deshmukh, AOR**

**Mr. Jagjit Singh Chabbra, AOR**

**Ms. Uttara Babbar, AOR**

**Mr. Shovan Mishra, AOR**

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

- 1 Since the work of setting up and monitoring the Vulnerable Witnesses Deposition Centres (VWDC) is under way, we extend the term of appointment of Hon'ble Ms Justice Gita Mittal, former Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir until 31 July 2024.
- 2 All the High Courts to take necessary steps for setting up of VWDCs in all districts. This exercise shall be completed on or before 30 April 2024.
- 3 The Chairperson of the Committee may accordingly prepare a fresh updated status report and submit it to this Court by the first week of May 2024 indicating the status of compliance.
- 4 The attention of the Court has been drawn to the fact that two High Courts are yet to implement the VWDC guidelines based on the model of 2022 circulated by Justice Gita Mittal.
- 5 The State of Odisha is yet to implement the guidelines insofar as civil cases are concerned. In terms of the expanded definition of vulnerable witnesses, the State of Tamil Nadu has not taken any action at all. We permit Justice Gita Mittal to draw this fact to the attention of the Registrars General of the High Courts of Odisha and Madras together with the copy of this order so as to ensure that both the High Courts take necessary steps positively on or before 30 April 2024.

**(CHETAN KUMAR)**  
**A.R. -cum-P.S.**

**(SAROJ KUMARI GAUR)**  
**Assistant Registrar**