ITEM NO.45 COURT NO.1 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)(Civil) No(s).1112/2025

SHAHEEN MALIK **Petitioner(s)**

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ANR. **Respondent(s)**

IA No. 320840/2025 - APPLICATION FOR TAKING ON RECORD
IA No. 25639/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS
IA No. 138634/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 13309/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 135749/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 135304/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 134891/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 76169/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 75612/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 66897/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 189257/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 148795/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION
IA No. 26427/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT

Date : 27-10-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

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HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE V. MOHANA

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UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

1. The instant interlocutory application, i.e. I.A. No.263852/2026, has been moved by NAVYA Centre for Justice and Social Change, a non-profit organisation based at Mohali, Punjab, acting through its founder, Dr. Navpreet Kaur.

2. We have heard Mr. Saurabh Kirpal, learned Senior Counsel, on behalf of the applicant, and also its founder. It is stated that Dr. Kaur has over 14 years of experience in research and advocacy concerning acid attack survivors. Pertinently, she is also a co-founder of the Laxmi Foundation, whose application for intervention, IA No. 135967/2026, was previously allowed by this Court *vide* order dated 14.07.2026. The founder, Dr. Kaur, has thus been associated with the cause of acid attack survivors for well over a decade.

3. The applicant has stated that it raises no independent or adversarial claim; does not seek to enlarge the scope of the proceedings, and seeks only to place field-based inputs before this Court. In this view of the matter, the application is allowed, and NAVYA Centre for Justice and Social Change is permitted to assist this Court as an intervener. I.A. No. 319466/2026, seeking permission to file additional documents, is also allowed.

4. The newly added intervener has also placed on record a "Comprehensive Survivor-Centric Policy Framework" dated 30.08.2026, which has been prepared in pursuance of the liberty granted to the Laxmi Foundation by this Court *vide* order dated 14.07.2026, the relevant part whereof reads as follows:

> ***"1. Application (IA No. 135967/2026) for intervention is allowed. The Foundation is permitted to assist the Court. The Foundation may submit a proposal with respect to the actions that may require judicial intervention by this Court."***

5. A copy of the Policy Framework has been handed over to Ms. Archana Pathak Dave, learned Additional Solicitor General of India, who is requested to have it examined at the level of Government of India with a view to formulating a pan-India policy. Needless to say, the Union of India shall invite suggestions from all stakeholders before taking such policy decision.

6. We also direct the intervener/NAVYA Centre for Justice and Social Change to submit its Policy Framework to the Member Secretary, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA). NALSA shall, in turn, consider the submission with reference to its pre-notified

schemes, and take such further action as may be considered appropriate, with the approval of the learned Executive Chairman thereof.

7. Similarly, a copy of the aforesaid draft policy be also supplied to Mr. Sudhir Kumar Saxena, learned Senior Counsel, who is assisting this Court as *Amicus Curiae*. His suggestions shall be considered in due course of time.

8. As regards compliance with our order dated 09.10.2026 passed in I.A. No. 320938/2026, we are informed that the victim is being duly attended to and is undergoing treatment at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi. The accused has been arrested and is presently in custody. At this juncture, the victim and her family suggest that the former may be shifted to a private room. Consequently, we direct the hospital authorities to consider the desirability of the request.

9. Alternatively, the victim and her family may consider the desirability of shifting her to Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, which, we are informed, has excellent dedicated facilities for the treatment of burn injuries and post-burn care. Needless to say, any such decision shall be taken in consultation with the treating doctors, and the directions contained in our order dated 09.10.2026 shall continue to apply.

10. Insofar as the prohibition or regulation of the sale of acid is concerned, learned Additional Solicitor General seeks time to file an affidavit setting out the reasons for which the sale of

acid in the open market continues to be permitted. She also seeks some time to suggest measures required to be implemented by the State authorities to prevent the misuse of acid available for sale. Let the affidavit be filed before the next date of hearing. Post the matter for further consideration on 23.11.2026.

(ARJUN BISHT)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI DILEEP KUMAR)
DY. REGISTRAR