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* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

+ W.P.(C) 12264/2023, CM APPL. 48245/2023

P AYYAKANNU, STATE PRESIDENT, NATIONAL SOUTH INDIAN RIVERS INTERLINKING FARMERS ASSOCIATION Petitioner

Through: *Appearance not given*.

versus

GOVT OF NCT OF DELHI THROUGH ITS DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE Respondent Through: Mr. Santosh Kr. Tripathi, SC (Civil)-GNCTD with Mr. Kartik Sharma, Mr. Pradyuman Rao, Ms. Prashansa Sharma and Mr. Rishabh Srivastava, Advocates. Mr. Subhash, Inspector, PS-Parliament Street, New Delhi.

CORAM: HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV NARULA

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<u>ORDER</u> 18.09.2023

1. The Petitioner before this Court, President of National South Indian Rivers Interlinking Farmers Association, has filed this Public Interest Litigation, stating that the association wants to hold protest/ demonstration at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi. Petitioner alleges that his representation/ request dated 31st May, 2023 has been refused without any reason by Respondent – Deputy Commissioner of Police.

2. Mr. Santosh Kr. Tripathi, learned counsel appearing for Respondent, has





brought to the notice of this Court an order dated 07th June, 2023 passed by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner of Police, rejecting the Petitioner's application as follows:

"To

Sh. P. Ayyakannu, State President, National-South India River Interlinking Agriculturist Association No. 03 Malai Salal Annamalai Nagar, Karur Bye-Pass Road, Trichirappall, Tamilnadu. Mobile No. 9443345632

(Through: SHO/Pt. Street)

Subject: - Regarding demonstration at Jantar Mantar from 01.07.2023 to 31.07.2023 (Rejection here to).

Sir,

Please refer your letter dated 31.05.2023 on the subject cited above.

In this regard, it is to inform you that demonstration at Jantar Mantar from 01.07.2023 to 31.07.2023 cannot be permitted in view of existing guidelines framed under S.O. No. L&O/48/2022 in compliance of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's order dated 23.07.2018 in W.P. (C) No. 1153 of 2017 and other connected Civil Appeals No. 862, 863 and 864 of 2018.

In view of the above, you are requested to co-operate with the Delhi Police.

Yours faithfully, sd/-."

3. Mr. Tripathi further informs that a standing order [S.O. No. L&O/48/2022] has been issued on dated 28th April, 2023, which contains guidelines for organising a protest or demonstration at/in Central Vista, including Jantar Mantar or Boat Club areas. He submits that there are a number of factors, including time restrictions, that have to be looked at while considering a request. After considering all the factors, the Commissioner of Police has rejected Petitioner's application as above.

4. The afore-extracted order, though addressed to Petitioner, has not been





enclosed with the petition. Nonetheless, Mr. Tripathi has stated that Petitioner is free to submit a fresh representation with all relevant details, keeping in view S.O. No. L&O/48/2022, and in case the same is preferred, it shall be dealt with in accordance with extant rules.

5. In view of the above, no orders are required to be passed in the petition and same is accordingly, disposed of along with pending application.

SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA, CJ

SANJEEV NARULA, J

SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 *nk*