

ITEM NO.1

COURT NO.2

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).13029/1985

M.C. MEHTA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(IN RE: PET COKE)

(i) IA NOS. 15338 AND 15739/2018 (APPLNS. FOR IMPLEADMENT AND DIRECTIONS ON B/O ALUMINIUM ASSOCIATION OF INDIA) ALONGWITH REPORT NO. 82 SUBMITTED BY EPCA)

(ix) IA NO. 117497/2018 (APPLN FOR CLARIFICATION ON BEHALF OF ALUMINIUM ASSOCIATION OF INDIA)

(ii) IA NOS. 100194 AND 102169/2018 (APPLNS. FOR INTERVENTION AND PERMISSION/DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF INDIAN STEEL ASSOCIATION)

(iii) IA NO. 108253/2018 (APPLN. FOR CLARIFICATION OF ORDER DT. 26.7.2018 ON BEHALF OF INDIAN STEEL ASSOCIATION)

(iv) IA NO. 109181/2018 (APPLN. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF RAIN CII CARBON (VIZAG) LTD.)

(v) IA NO. 109742/2018 (APPLNS. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF GOA CARBON LTD.)

(vi) IA NO. 109783/2018 (APPLNS. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF SANVIRA INDUSTRIES LTD.)

(vii) IA NO. 109791/2018 (APPLNS. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF KALINGA CALCINER LTD.)

(viii) IA NO. 109784/2018 (APPLNS. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF PETRO CARBON AND CHEMICALS PVT. LTD.)

(x) IA NOS. 125492 AND 125493/2018 (APPLNS. FOR IMPLEADMENT AND DIRECTIONS ON B/O INDIA CARBON LTD.)

Date : 09-10-2018 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MADAN B. LOKUR

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK GUPTA

Mr. Harish N. Salve, Sr. Adv.(A.C.)(NP)

Ms. Aparajita Singh, Adv. (A.C.)

Mr. A.D.N. Rao, Adv. (A.C.)

Mr. Siddhartha Chowdhury, Adv. (A.C.)

For Petitioner(s) Petitioner-in-person

For Respondent(s)

Ms. Pinky Anand, ASG
 Mr. Amit Sharma, Adv.
 Ms. Suhasini Sen, Adv.
 Mr. D.L. Chidanand, Adv.
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 Mr. G.S. Makker, Advocate
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Mr. Anil Grover, AAG
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Mr. Abhishek, Advocate

Mr. S.S. Shamsbery, AAG
 Mr. Amit Sharma, Adv.
 Mr. Sandeep Singh, Adv.
 Mr. Ankit Raj, Adv.
 Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, Adv.
 Ms. Indira Bhakar, Adv.
 Ms. Ruchi Kohli, Advocate

Mr. B.V. Balramdas, Advocate.

Ms. Anil Katiyar, Advocate

M/S S Narain And Co. , Advocates

Mr. P. Chidambaram, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Basava Prabhu Patil, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Ajay Bhargava, Adv.
 Ms. Shweta Kabra, Adv.
 for M/s Khaitan & Co.

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Mr. Jayant Bhushan, Sr. Adv.
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 Ms. Suverna Kashyap, Adv.
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Mr. Kapil Sibal, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Jaideep Gupta, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Ashish Prasad, Adv.
 Ms. Mukta Dutta, Adv.
 Mr. Avinash Tripathi, Adv.
 Mr. Rohan Roy, Adv.
 Mr. M.P. Devanath, Advocate

Mr. Gaurav Kejriwal, Advocate
 Mr. Sujit Kumar Keshri, Adv.

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

In the aforesaid interlocutory applications, the Union of India through the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has filed an affidavit dated 8th October, 2018. In the affidavit, it is stated as follows:

1. Regarding use of Calcined Pet Coke (CPC) in Aluminium Industry

[IA Nos. 15338 And 15739/2018 (APPLNS. For Impleadment And Directions On B/O Aluminium Association Of India) Alongwith Report No. 82 Submitted By Epca), IA No. 117497/2018 (APPLN For Clarification On Behalf Of Aluminium Association Of India)

The issue in these applications arise out of an application filed by the Aluminium Association of India.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has looked into the matter and has submitted a report dated 3rd

October, 2018. In the report, it is stated as follows:

“With the change in technology from Soderberg to Prebake anode, CPC of higher Sulphur is used for anode baking worldwide. The revised BIS specifications (IS 17049:2018) specify Sulphur content in CPC used for anode making in Aluminium industry as 3.5% (Max.).”

The views expressed by the CPCB have been considered by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change which is in agreement with the CPCB.

It is stated by learned *amicus curiae* that the views expressed by the CPCB are also acceptable to EPCA.

Consequently, Calcined Pet Coke (CPC) (domestic as well as imported) can be used as raw-material for anode making in the Aluminium industry with the revised BIS specifications.

We make it clear that the imported raw-material cannot exceed 0.5 MT per annum in total.

Applications stand disposed of.

2. Use of anode grade pet coke in CPC manufacturing units

[IA NO. 109181/2018 (APPLN. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF RAIN CII CARBON (VIZAG) LTD.), IA NO. 109742/2018 (APPLNS. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF GOA CARBON LTD.), IA NO. 109783/2018 (APPLNS. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF SANVIRA INDUSTRIES LTD.), IA NO. 109791/2018 (APPLNS. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF KALINGA CALCINER LTD.), IA NO. 109784/2018 (APPLNS. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF PETRO CARBON AND CHEMICALS PVT. LTD.), IA NOS. 125492 AND 125493/2018 (APPLNS. FOR IMPLEADMENT AND DIRECTIONS ON B/O INDIA CARBON LTD.)]

These applications have been filed by several entities and the CPCB has given a Report dated 4th October, 2018 in which it is stated as follows:

"i. Raw Petroleum Coke is feed stock for producing calcinated petroleum coke which is a raw material for anode making in aluminium industries. Therefore, calcination of Raw Petroleum Coke is a pre-requisite to produce anode grade calcined pet coke having sulphur content less than 3.5%.

ii. As per BIS guidelines, calciners are permitted to use high sulphur containing raw petroleum coke for making CPC having sulphur content less than 3.5%. There will be emission of SO₂ in high concentration (para 1 of results) which needs to be treated in Flue gas desulphurisation system having efficiency of sulphur removal more than 90%."

The views expressed by the CPCB have been considered by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change which is in agreement with the CPCB.

It is stated by learned *amicus curiae* that the views expressed by the CPCB are also acceptable to EPCA.

Consequently, raw pet coke (domestic and imported) can be used as a feedstock for producing calcined pet coke.

We make it clear that the imported raw pet coke for this purpose cannot exceed 1.4 MT per annum in total.

Applications stand disposed of.

IA NO. 109181/2018 (APPLN. FOR DIRECTIONS ON BEHALF OF RAIN CII CARBON (VIZAG) LTD.)

Rain CII Carbon (Vizag) Ltd. has filed an affidavit pursuant to our order dated 23rd August, 2018.

In the affidavit, it is stated that 11 contracts have been entered into on or before 26th July, 2018 for the import of Anode grade raw pet coke.

Vessels pertaining to these 11 contracts have already arrived some time in August, 2018.

In view of the orders passed above today, the consignment may be cleared, subject to the overall limit which is 1.4 MT per annum, as mentioned above.

Application stands disposed of.

3. Regarding use of Pet coke in Blast Furnace in the Steel Industry

[IA Nos. 100194 And 102169/2018 (APPLNS. For Intervention And Permission/Directions On Behalf Of Indian Steel Association) and IA No. 108253/2018 (APPLN. For Clarification Of Order Dt. 26.7.2018 On Behalf Of Indian Steel Association)]

These are the applications filed by the Indian Steel Association.

The CPCB has given its report on 3rd October, 2018 which has also been shared with EPCA for its comments on 4th October, 2018.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change would like to examine the report before taking a final view in this matter.

It is submitted that three weeks' time is required for this purpose.

Applications filed by the Indian Steel Association be listed on 14th November, 2018.

EPCA Report No.91

It has been pointed out in the Report of EPCA that Graphite India's Plant in Whitefield, Bengaluru has utilized domestic pet coke which is causing a huge amount of pollution and black dust. Complaints in this regard have been made by the community which feels that their health is being endangered.

Issue notice to Graphite India through learned counsel returnable on 12th October, 2018 to explain why the use of needle pet coke should not be stopped with immediate effect since it is causing tremendous pollution and damage to the health of the community in Bengaluru. Notice be also issued to Graphite India by email.

The Registry will ensure that the notice is served upon learned counsel and Graphite India along with a copy of the Report of EPCA.

(SANJAY KUMAR-I)
AR-CUM-PS

(KAILASH CHANDER)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR