

ITEM NO.71 COURT NO.4 SECTION PIL
(Part-heard)

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 196 OF 2001

PEOPLE'S UNION FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS. Respondent(s)

(Regarding reports submitted by Justice D.P. Wadhwa, Retd. Judge,
Supreme Court of India)

WITH

I.A. Nos.90, 93, 94, 98, 102 to 108 in W.P.(C) NO. 196/2001
(For permission on behalf of respondent No.17 i.e. State of
Maharashtra, modification and directions, intervention on behalf
of West Bengal M.R. Dealers Association and All Bengal Price
Shop Dealers Welfare Association, impleadment and exemption
from filing O.T., direction and extensin of time on behalf of
State of Rajasthan)

WITH

CONTEMPT PETITION (CIVIL) No.99/2009 in W.P.(C) No.196/2001
(With appln. from exemption from filing O.T.)

W.P.(C) No. 277/2010
(With office report)

Date:10/01/2011 These Petitions were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DALVEER BHANDARI
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK VERMA

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Colin Gonsalves,Sr.Adv.
Ms. Divya Jyoti,Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta,Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. G.E. Vahanvati,AG

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Mr. Rajiv Dubey,Adv.

Mr. Kamalendra Mishra,Adv.

Mr. Anis Suhrawardy,Adv.

Mr. S. Mehdi Imam,Adv.

Mr. Tabrooz Ahmed,Adv.

Mr. S.M. Jadhav,Adv.

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

We have briefly heard the learned Attorney General for India and learned senior counsel for the petitioner.

Learned Attorney General for India prays for some time to file additional affidavit. Let the same be filed within two weeks and reply thereto, if any, be filed within three weeks thereafter. The parties would be at liberty to file additional documents, if any, within the time specified above.

Learned Attorney General for India has drawn our attention to a letter dated January 7, 2011 sent by the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Department of Food and Public Distribution, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi, to the learned Attorney General for India, which reads as under:

"To
Learned Attorney General for India,
26, Supreme Court,
New Delhi-110001.

Sub: W.P.(C) No.196/2001, PUCL vs. Union of
India

Sir,
This has reference to your letter of 11th
November 2010 conveying the Hon'ble Supreme
Court's observation during the hearing in
WP(Civil) No.196/2001 - PUCL vs. UOI on the 11th
November, 2010 in which the Court had, inter
alia, desired to know whether allocation of
food grains to BPL families can be increased
beyond 25 lakh tons made by the Government.

2. It may be mentioned that additional
allocation of food grains are made by the
Government from time to time based on requests
received from States/UTs and availability of
food grains in the Central Pool. In the above
context, I would like to inform that in
addition to the allocation of 25 lakh tons of
food grains made by the Government in September
2010 for distribution to BPL families at BPL
prices, Government of India has now, vide
orders dated 6.1.2011, made a further ad hoc
allocation of 25 lakh tons of rice and wheat to
all States/UTs for distribution to BPL families
at BPL prices.

3. In addition to the above, the Government
has also made an ad hoc additional allocation
of 25 lakh tons of food grains to States/UTs

for distribution to APL families at a price of Rs.8.45 per kg for wheat and Rs.11.85 per kg for rice.

4. The above additional ad hoc allocations may be suitably brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Supreme Court."

We are happy that in pursuance to our direction, the Government of India has allocated an additional amount of 25 lakh tons food grains to BPL families.

List this matter for final disposal on 24th February, 2011.

(A.S. BISHT)
COURT MASTER

(NEERU BALA VIJ)
COURT MASTER