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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**
Date of decision: 28th July, 2025

+ **W.P.(C) 8370/2025**
COURT ON ITS OWN MOTIONPetitioner

Through:

versus

DELHI CANTONMENT BOARDRespondent

Through: Mr Dhruv Rohatgi Mrs Chandrika Sachdev Mr Dhruv Kumar Mrs Akanksha Singh Rohatgi, Mr. C.B. Singh(PWD), Mr. Vipin (Forest Department)

Mr Shivam Sachdeva, GP

Mr. Tarveen Singh Nanda, Standing Counsel for DCB with Mr. Alkesh Sharma, Ex. Engineer.

Mr. Manish Srivastava, Adv. for Tata Power.

Mr. Amit Tiwari, CGSC for DTP

Mr. Sameer Srivastava, Traffic Inspector & SI Dharampal, Pairvi Officer, Traffic

CORAM:

JUSTICE PRATHIBA M. SINGH

JUSTICE MANMEET PRITAM SINGH ARORA

Prathiba M. Singh, J. (Oral)

1. This hearing has been done through hybrid mode.
2. *Vide* the previous order dated 18th June, 2025, the Court had issued following directions:

“5. *In view of the said submissions, this Court is of the opinion that both the temporary Bailey Bridge and the permanent FOB have to be erected and executed in coordination with the DCB, keeping in view its operational requirements, with a view to ensuring*



smooth movement of soldiers across the Ring Road while also safeguarding public safety and soldiers' safety as also minimising traffic congestion.

6. Accordingly, let the PWD and the DCB along with the DTP hold a joint meeting on 10th July, 2025 in the Conference Hall of the DCB to consider the following:-

(i) As an immediate solution, construction of a Bailey Bridge for enabling the soldiers to cross over the Ring Road. For the said purpose, if the services of any other agency of the Army or otherwise are required, the DCB is free to avail of such services.

(ii) Let a plan be also finalised for the construction of the FOB and a design consultant be hired by the PWD for the said purpose and a report be submitted in respect of the design, the budget and the timeline for construction of the bridge.

7. Let a report in this regard be submitted by the next date of hearing. Mr. Alkesh Sharma who has been appointed as the Nodal Officer shall coordinate the said meeting. It is made clear that the cost of construction of these bridges shall be borne by the PWD, as the FOB, as is emerging from the record, was approved way back in 2010 and has not been constructed for whatever reason."

3. A status report dated 25th July, 2025 has been filed by the Delhi Cantonment Board (*hereinafter 'DCB'*) *inter alia* informing the Court that two meetings were held pursuant to the directions in the above order. One on 10th July, 2025 and another on 24th July, 2025. In the said meetings, all the relevant authorities such as DCB, Delhi Traffic Police, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (*hereinafter 'DMRC'*), Delhi Jal Board (*hereinafter 'DJB'*) and Public Works Department (*hereinafter 'PWD'*) were present. In addition, the



agencies who are providing utility services, namely, Tata Power Company Limited (*hereinafter 'Tata Power'*), and Indraprastha Gas Limited (*hereinafter 'IGL'*) were also present along with Representatives of Rajputana Rifles Regimental Centre.

4. Over the course of two meetings, it has been agreed that for the construction of the *Foot Over Bridge (hereinafter 'FOB')*, a period of ten months would be required. In the interregnum, a *Bailey Bridge* will be constructed by the Army itself within a period of 40 days. Additionally, various other decisions have also been made which, for the ease of reference, are set out below:

“a) The concerned agencies will complete the shifting of utilities/ services within a period of two weeks from today and thereafter the site shall be handed over to the Army for the construction of the Bailey Bridge.

b) The Army shall construct the Bailey Bridge within 40 days after the receipt of the clear site for construction.

c) All cost of construction of bailey bridge, shifting/relocation of services, maintenance and any ancillary work related thereto shall be borne by the PWD.

d) The PWD will pay the first installment of Rs. 25 Lac to the Army for initiating the construction of the Bailey Bridge.

e) The boundary wall/ drains vested with the PWD and coming in the alignment of the bridge shall be shifted by the PWD within 2 weeks.

f) The PWD authorities will closely liaise with the Army Authorities and Traffic Police to facilitate all necessary help and assistance for seamless construction of the bridge.

g) The progress shall be informed to the nodal



officer of Delhi Cantonment Board on weekly basis.”

5. On a query from the Court, the Parties present have affirmed that the above timeline as contained in the Status Report is acceptable to all the parties who are appearing today.

6. In the minutes of meeting dated 24th July, 2025, the following was identified as the prior work that would have to be completed for construction of the *bailey bridge*:

S. No.	Issues	Decision
1.	<u>Shifting of the services</u>	The President, Delhi Cantonment Board stated that the bridge needs to be constructed on top priority. It was decided that the services interfering in the construction process would be required to be shifted in two weeks' time. All the agencies maintaining assets and these services shall immediately take up the work of survey, relocation of the services at their own cost and raise their bill for expenditure incurred on shifting of services to the PWD for reimbursement of amount to curtail paperwork delays.
a)	Delhi Jal Board pipeline of 1000 mm dia approx.	
b)	NDPL electric cables	
c)	BSES Electric HT cables	
d)	IGL Gas pipe lines	
2.	<u>Shifting, cutting and pruning trees coming in the way of construction.</u> Col. Sunil Kumar informed that cutting/ removal of 5 trees and pruning of 3 trees at Mandir Gate BK & cutting/ removal of 1 dead tree and pruning of 1 tree at TRG Area BK is inevitable and required for construction of Bailey Bridge besides multiple bush removal at the Divider.	The President, Delhi Cantonment Board stated that the requirement of cutting/ removal of 6 trees and Pruning of 4 trees along with multiple bush removal be brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Court for its consideration and directions to the forest/ tree officers concerned. However, if cutting of trees is involved, the PWD will plant the new sapling/ trees as per the policy on the subject in vogue in consultation of tree officer and as per the directions issued by the Hon'ble Court in this regard.



7. As can be seen from the above, the cooperation of the various utility service providers, including BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd., would be required for the shifting of some electricity cables, water and gas pipelines which lie across the proposed site of construction. Accordingly, Mr. Manish Srivastava, Id. Counsel who is appearing for Tata Power today, who regularly appears for BSES, is requested to accept notice on behalf of BSES. He, on behalf of Tata Power, submits that the exact location of the cables is not clear at this point, and therefore, a joint site inspection would be required.

8. It is submitted by Mr. Srivastava, Id. Counsel for Tata Power that a specific application would need to be filed with the said two electric companies by either the PWD or the DCB, upon which a demand note would be raised and upon receipt of payment, the work would be carried out.

9. Heard. Let the officials of Tata Power, BSES, DJB and IGL conduct an inspection along with the Superintendent Engineer, PWD and CEO of DCB for identifying the cables/pipelines that are to be shifted and who would be the agency that would be carrying out the said shifting. Let the said inspection be held on **1st August, 2025** at **11:30 AM**. All the representatives shall meet at the office of the CEO of DCB and proceed to the site.

10. Insofar as the shifting, cutting and pruning of trees are concerned, the Forest Department of the PWD shall take necessary steps for the same and for simultaneous re-planting as captured in the table set out above.

11. The work which is to be carried out by the BSES, Tata Power Company Limited, DJB, IGL and the Forest Department shall be carried out within two weeks.

12. The concerned applications shall be filed, the demand note be raised, and necessary payments be made to Tata Power, BSES, or any other relevant



agencies by the PWD within a period of two weeks. The PWD shall also make the relevant and necessary applications before the Forest Department within two weeks. The pending work as identified in the minutes of the meeting dated 24th July, 2025 shall be completed within two weeks thereafter.

13. The advance payment of Rs. 25 lakhs is directed to be made by the PWD to the Army within two weeks for initiating the construction of the *Bailey Bridge*. Immediately after receiving the payment, the timelines as contained above shall be adhered to by all agencies.

14. Simultaneously, let the tender process for the construction of the FOB also be initiated by the PWD, and the report be filed by the next date of hearing.

15. In the meantime, let the maintenance of the culvert continue in terms of the order dated 18th June, 2025.

16. List on 29th August, 2025.

**PRATHIBA M. SINGH
JUDGE**

**MANMEET PRITAM SINGH ARORA
JUDGE**

JULY 28, 2025

Rahul/Ar.