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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ **W.P.(C) 8347/2025 & CM APPL. 36184/2025**

ANANDAM MINERALS PRIVATE LIMITEDPetitioner

Through: Mr. Sandeep Sethi, Senior Advocate
with Ms. Megha Karnwal, Mr.
Aaditya Thorat, Mr. Avishal Singh
and Mr. Sumer Dev Seth, Advs.

versus

**UNION OF INDIA THROUGH ITS SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF
MINES & ORS.**Respondents

Through: Dr. B. Ramaswamy, CGSC for R-1/
UOI.
Ms. Sonia A. Menon, Advocate for R-
2 with Sh. Mayank Pandey, GM,
System Kolkata, HOD, Sh. Arga Sen
Gupta, DGM, Systems, Kolkata, Mr.
Setu Dutt Sharma, Sr. Manager
(Operations), MSTC.
Ms. Malvika Trivedi, Sr. Advocate
with Mr. Gaurav Juneja, Ms. Swastika
Chakravarti, Ms. Mimansa Durga Pal,
Advocates for R-3.

**CORAM:
HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANISH DAYAL**

**ORDER
07.07.2025**

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1. This Court, *vide* order dated 06th June 2025, appointed an Expert Committee comprising experts from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (“*IIT Delhi*”) and required the said Committee to render its opinion and



submit a report to the Registrar General of this Court.

2. The Court further directed that the Registrar General, on receipt of the said report, shall tender a copy of the said report to learned counsel representing the parties within a day thereafter.

3. The Court had also provided that parties may also file their objections, if so required, to the said report.

4. We have been informed that in compliance of our order dated 06th June 2025, the Expert Committee had submitted its report, copies of which have also been tendered to the learned counsel representing the parties.

5. We have been further informed that after submission of the report by the Expert Committee, certain correspondences were made by the officers of respondent no.2 to the Expert Committee, stating that there were certain data/material which had not been taken into account by the Expert Committee and, therefore, the said material/data may also be considered.

6. Such a correspondence made by officers of respondent no.2 is in derogation of our order dated 06th June 2025.

7. If any of the parties to this proceeding had any objection to the report, of whatever kind or form, an opportunity was already available in terms of the order of the Court dated 06th June 2025 itself to file their objections. However, instead of filing any objection, the officers of respondent no.2 chose to directly correspond with the Expert Committee.

8. It need not be emphasized that the Expert Committee was appointed by this Court to elicit certain opinion/material for appropriate adjudication of the issues involved in this case, and as such the Expert Committee was to act as an agency of the Court and as its extended arm, and not that of respondent no.2.



9. No such correspondence could be entertained by the Expert Committee, once the report, as directed by this Court, has already been submitted to the Registrar General.
10. We do not appreciate the correspondence made by the officers of respondent no.2 after the submission of the report by the Expert Committee, who were possibly ill advised.
11. We, accordingly, advise the officers of respondent no.2 that they should not take proceedings of any court lightly.
12. The order of this Court dated 06th May 2025 was very clear, and any person of common prudence would have understood the same explicitly.
13. On the prayer made by learned counsel representing respondent 2 & 3, two days' time is granted to file their objections to the report tendered by the Expert Committee.
14. Reply to the said objections, if any, shall be filed by the petitioner within the next two days.
15. In the meantime, we direct that till the next date of listing, the Letter of Intent/Letter of Acceptance ("**LOI/LOA**") shall not be issued.
16. List on 25th July 2025.
17. Order be uploaded on the website of this Court.

DEVENDRA KUMAR UPADHYAYA, CJ

ANISH DAYAL, J

JULY 7, 2025/RK