

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGSWrit Petition(s) (Civil) No(s) . 1149/2019

ABEDA SALIM TADVI & ANR.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 136088/2023 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION
IA No. 268625/2024 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT
IA No. 103557/2023 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/
ANNEXURES
IA No. 137158/2019 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/
ANNEXURES
IA No. 80506/2025 - PERMISSION TO FILE APPLICATION FOR DIRECTION)

Date : 24-04-2025 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NONGMEIKAPAM KOTISWAR SINGH

For Petitioner(s) :Ms. Indira Jaising, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Prasanna S., AOR
Ms. Disha Wadekar, Adv.
Mr. Paras Nath Singh, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Sudarshan Lamba, AOR
Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General
Mr. K.M. Nataraj, A.S.G.
Mr. Apoorv Kurup, Adv.
Mr. Raghav Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Chandra Kant Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General
Mr. Manoj Ranjan Sinha, Adv.
Mr. Mrigank Prabhakar, AOR
Mr. Siddharth Sahu, Adv.

Ms. Rashmi Nandakumar, AOR
Mr. Vishal Agrawal, Adv.
Ms. Yashmita Pandey, Adv.

Dr. Ashok Siddhartha Priya Ram Singh, AOR
Mrs. Rajni Rani, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

IA No. 80506/2025

1. We have heard Ms. Indira Jaising, learned senior counsel on behalf of the applicants and Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General for India on behalf of the respondents.

2. With reference to the prayer to restrain the notification of draft University Grants Commission (Promotion of Equity in Higher Education Institutions) Regulations, 2025, we have gone through the judgment rendered by the Coordinate Bench in Amit Kumar & Ors. v. Union of India & Ors. passed in Criminal Appeal No. 1425/2025 decided on 24.03.2025. The Coordinate Bench, during the course of deep analysis of the issues, was apprised of the fact that the matter regarding formulation of new Regulations by University Grants Commission (UGC) is pending consideration in the instant case before this Bench. The Coordinate Bench, thus, concluded as follows:

"61. While the steps taken by the UGC pursuant to the directions of this Court in Abeda Salim Tadvi (supra) are in the right direction inasmuch as they aim to prevent all forms of on-campus discrimination, we intend to take a step further towards creating an institutionalised mechanism for ensuring the mental well-being of students studying in Higher Educational Institutions so as to mitigate the instances of commission of suicides by students owing to discrimination, academic pressure, harassment, or any other concern affecting the mental well-being of students."

3. Thereafter, the Coordinate Bench has constituted a National Task Force headed by a former Judge of this Court and comprising

various domain experts and eminent personalities who have been requested to make recommendations and submit a comprehensive report on the issues identified by the Bench in paragraph 74 of the judgment.

4. In light of this, we deem it appropriate to clarify that: (i) the UGC may proceed with finalisation of the Draft Regulations, 2025 and may notify the same; (ii) these Regulations, as already held by this Court in *Amit Kumar & Ors.* (supra) will operate in addition to what may be recommended by the National Task Force; and (iii) pending recommendations of the National Task Force and/or consideration of such recommendations or consequential implementation thereof, the applicants/petitioners or any other public spirited person shall be at liberty to approach this Court in these pending proceedings so as to suggest any suitable addition/deletion/incorporation in the Regulations to be notified by the UGC. It goes without saying that such suggestions/recommendations shall be considered in furtherance of the responsibility entrusted by the Coordinate Bench to the National Task Force in *Amit Kumar & Ors.* (supra).

5. It is pointed out by Ms. Indira Jaising, learned senior counsel that in terms of the suggestions given by this Court on the previous date of hearing, the applicants/petitioners have also submitted their suggestions to the UGC. We have no reason to doubt that the UGC shall formally notify the Regulations after considering all the suggestions received by them from different stakeholders. It goes without saying that the applicants/petitioners shall be at liberty to submit their suggestions to the

National Task Force constituted by this Court in *Amit Kumar & Ors.*

(supra) as well.

6. IA No. 80506/2025 stands disposed of accordingly.

7. List the main matter on 07.08.2025.

(NITIN TALREJA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI T.C.)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR