

JUSTICE RANGANATH MISRA COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

Present:

1. Mr. S.N. Khare for the Union of India.
2. M/S R.K. Anand and Ashok Bhasin for Delhi.
3. Mr. G.S. Vohra and Mr. B.P.S. Mangat for Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee.
4. Mr. S.N. Sapra for Citizens' Committee for Harmony.

Application No. 27/86

The application filed on May 8, 1986, on behalf of Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee for adjournment of arguments was called today. Notice of hearing of this application had been given. Accordingly, Counsel for Union of India, Delhi Administration and Citizens' Committee for Harmony were present. It is a fact that the Delhi Administration had not complied with certain directions though the date of compliance has long expired and a prayer for extension of time had been rejected.

Mr. Anand for the Delhi Administration fairly conceded that in spite of his attempts the compliance has not been made by the officials of the Administration. The Lt. Governor was contacted and he was informed that unless by 4 P.M. on May 13, 1986, compliance was made, the Commission shall proceed on the footing that the number of deaths as claimed by the victims' group is the correct figure. Mr. Anand has undertaken to file the statement latest by tomorrow.

Ordinarily the Delhi Administration should have been deprived of the benefit of giving its comments but as that type of direction would not help the Commission to achieve its purpose of getting at the truth, giving of a further opportunity to the Delhi Administration is called for. Accordingly, the aforesaid direction has been made. However, in view of the default of the Delhi Administration in complying with the direction of the Commission a rescheduling of the arguments has become necessary. It is agreed as also undertaken by Mr. Anand that by May 20, 1986, the written arguments on behalf of Delhi Administration would be filed with copies thereof served on the Counsel for Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee and Union of India. Similarly, Mr. Vohra

for Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee has undertaken to file his written arguments on or before May 24, 1986, with copies thereof served on Counsel for Delhi Administration and Union of India. Oral arguments shall now take place on May 27 and 28. Mr. Vohra will first address whereafter the Delhi Administration and Union of India shall reply. If necessary, oral arguments may spread over to the following day, viz., May 29, 1986-the time to be shared by both groups. Mr. Khare for the Union of India undertakes to make his written submissions on or before May 30, 1986. Mr. Vohra as also Mr. Anand undertake to file supplementary submissions, if any, covering points raised during oral arguments, on May 31, 1986.

Other parties and groups permitted to participate in the proceedings in a limited way are given liberty to submit their written arguments on or before May 22, 1986.

The time frame is peremptory and no alteration would be permitted. It is made clear to all parties concerned that non-compliance with the arrangement now fixed shall preclude them from participating in the arguments proposed under the order.

On behalf of Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee a request was made for supply of particulars of the evidence collected by the Commission from witnesses examined by it. The matter has been explained and the Commission has indicated its final decision that copies of such evidence shall not be supplied. A copy of this order be communicated to every party appearing before the Commission in the proceedings latest by tomorrow.

Dated. 12-5-86.

CHAIRMAN.