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

+ **W.P.(C) 19790/2025**

MANPREET SINGH

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Gaurav Patel and Mr. Abhishek
Singh Advocates.

versus

STATE OF NCT OF DELHI & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Anuj Chaturvedi, Ms. Richa
Dhawan and Ms. Yashita Jain, Advs.
for R-1.

Ms. Astha Gupta, Advocate for R-2 &
3 with Mr. Amit kumar, forest Guard,
Department of Forest and Wildlife.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PURUSHAINDR KUMAR KAURAV

ORDER

07.01.2026

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1. The petitioner claims to be the owner of the commercial JCB bearing registration number HR51CL5921. It is stated that the aforesaid vehicle is the sole source of his livelihood which has been financed with the monthly EMI liability of Rs.70,000/- from the Chola Mandal Finance Company, a NBFC.

2. The petitioner submits that on 04.11.2025, officials of Police Station Ghazipur allegedly found the petitioner's JCB engaged in digging work at Plot No.557, Paper Market, Ghazipur, Delhi. During the said process, a tree was uprooted. This led to the registration of the *Kalandra* under Section



5/15 of the Environment Protection Act, 1956 and the petitioner's vehicle was seized along with the uprooted tree.

3. The SDM, Mayur Vihar *vide* order dated 21.11.2025, sent back the *Kalandra* and transferred the matter to the Deputy Conservator of Forest (East) Department of Forest and Wildlife.

4. As per the case set up by the petitioner, he has approached all the concerned authorities for the release of the vehicle and has also expressed his willingness for reproduction or furnishing of appropriate surety.

5. When the matter was earlier called out, learned counsel appearing for the SDM of Forest Department sought time to take instructions. Today, Ms. Astha Gupta, learned counsel appearing for respondent Nos.2 and 3, along with the official, appears and submits that as on date, the vehicle is in the custody of the SHO of Police Station, Ghazipur. She submits that the Forest Department does not have any objection, if the vehicle is released on *superdari* against the petitioner furnishing the surety.

6. The Court finds that the continuation of the vehicle in the custody of police will serve no useful purpose, rather the condition of the same will get deteriorated day by day. Under these circumstances, and in the absence of there being any objection by any of the respondents, it is directed that the vehicle be released in favour of the petitioner, subject to furnishing an undertaking before the releasing authority for its reproduction as and when the same is required. The petitioner shall also furnish a surety to the satisfaction of the releasing officer.

7. It is, directed that the petitioner shall not alienate or create any third-party right over the said vehicle unless the matter is taken up to its logical end.



8. With the aforesaid directions, the petition stands disposed of.
9. Order *dasti*.

PURUSHAINDRA KUMAR KAURAV, J

JANUARY 7, 2026
p/amg