COURT NO.5 **SECTION PIL-W** SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s). 63/2022

ASHWINI KUMAR UPADHYAY

ITEM NO.48

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

Date: 14-11-2022 This petition was called on for hearing today.

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.R. SHAH CORAM:

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE HIMA KOHLI

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, Adv.

Mr. Ashwani Kumar Dubey, AOR

For Respondent(s) Mr. Tushar Mehta, SG

Mr. Jayant K. Sud, ASG

Mr. Kanu Agrawal, Adv.

Mr. Pratyush Srivastava, Adv.

Mr. Navanjay Mahapatra, Adv.

Mr. Kartik Jasra, Adv.

Mr. Randeep Sachdeva, Adv.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Maroria, AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following ORDER

The issue with respect to the alleged conversion of religion, if it is found to be correct and true, is a very serious issue which may ultimately affect the security of the nation and violate citizens' right to freedom of conscience and right to freely profess, practice and propogate religion.

Therefore, it is better that the Union Government may make their stand clear and file a counter on what further steps can be taken by the Union of India and/or others to curb such forced conversion, may be, by force, allurement or fraudulent means.

At the request of Shri Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General, put up on 28.11.2022.

Counter, if any, on behalf of the Union of India be filed on or before 22.11.2022.

(R. NATARAJAN) **ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS**

(NISHA TRIPATHI) **ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**