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

+ W.P.(C) 3199/2020 & CMs.No.11121/2020, 11708/2020

PRATEEK SHARMA AND ANR. Petitioners

Through: Mr. Kapil Sibal, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Nizam Pasha, Mr. Prateek Sharma and
Ms. Diksha Singh, Advocates

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR. Respondents

Through: Mr. R.D. Bhardwaj, CGSC for R-1
& R-2.
Mr. Apoorv Kurup, Advocate for R-3/UGC
Mr. Sachin Dutta, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Mohinder Rupal, Advocate for
R-4/University of Delhi with Prof. Vinay
Gupta.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE HIMA KOHLI

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUBRAMONIUM PRASAD

ORDER

% **24.06.2020**

HEARD THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCING.

1. This petition was taken up on 02.6.2020, on which date an application moved by the petitioner for impleadment of the University of Delhi and the UGC as co-respondents was allowed and further directions were issued to the all the respondents to file their affidavits. After a lapse of 22 days, we find that only the respondent No.3/UGC has filed an affidavit, that too only last evening.

2. Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, learned CGSC states that as per his instructions, the MHRD and Ministry of Social Empowerment are going to rely on the affidavit filed by the respondent No.3/UGC.

3. Mr. Sachin Dutta, learned Sr. Advocate appearing with Mr. Mohinder Rupal, Advocate for the respondent No.4/ University of Delhi concedes that the affidavit has not been filed despite directions of this court. Instead, reliance is sought to be placed by learned Sr. Advocate on orders passed by a co-ordinate Bench in **W.P.(C) No. 3411/2020** National Federation of the Blind vs. Union of India & Anr. Pertinently, learned counsel for the respondent No.4/ University of Delhi has elected to electronically forward four orders passed in the captioned writ petition last night at 10.00pm to the Court Masters, for us to have had the occasion to peruse them only this morning.

4. Mr. Dutta, learned Sr. Advocate requests that the respondent No.4/University of Delhi may be given one more opportunity to file the affidavit.

5. While deprecating the casual and lackadaisical manner in which University of Delhi is contesting the present petition, that too when it is not adversarial nature, last opportunity of one day is granted to it to file an affidavit. While filing the affidavit, respondent No.4/University of Delhi shall specifically deal with the O.M. dated 09.6.2020 issued by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, enclosing therewith copy of the minutes of the meeting dated 08.6.2020 held under the Chairmanship of the Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disability, which was attended by several Departments.

6. We are informed by Mr. Kurup, learned counsel for the respondent No.3/UGC that a copy of the aforesaid minutes was forwarded to the respondent No.4/University of Delhi as well. In its affidavit, University of Delhi shall specifically deal with each of the recommendations made by the UGC, as encapsulated in para (C) of the minutes of the meeting and indicate the manner in which compliances have been made by it.

7. Due to paucity of time and the fact that we have been informed that the online examinations are proposed to be conducted by the University of Delhi on 01.7.2020, list on 26.6.2020.

HIMA KOHLI, J.

SUBRAMONIUM PRASAD, J.

JUNE 24, 2020/ap