SL. No.	Date	Office Notes, reports, orders or proceedings or directions and Registrar's order with Signatures	COURT'S OR JUDGE'S ORDERS
			UKHC010182552026 **WPMS/3176/2026** Deendayal Mittal Alias D D Mittal --Petitioner **Versus** State Of Uttarakhand and Others --Respondents **Hon'ble Pankaj Purohit, J.** Mr. Sandeep Kothari, learned counsel for petitioner. **2.** Mr. Devendra Singh Bora, learned D.A.G. for the State of Uttarakhand/ respondent Nos.1 and 2. **3.** Petitioner is the owner and editor of daily newspaper 'Shrimat Express'. The grievance of petitioner as canvassed in the present writ petition is that petitioner's newspaper was blacklisted vide order dated 30.05.2026 (Annexure No.20) passed by respondent No.2-Director General, Information and Public Relation, State of Uttarakhand, Dehradun, for issuance of any government advertisement for a period of three years. **4.** Petitioner is further aggrieved by the order dated 08.07.2026 (Annexure No.21) passed by respondent No.2-Director General, Information and Public Relation, State of Uttarakhand, Dehradun, whereby, petitioner was removed from steering committee constituted under Rule 5 of the Uttarakhand Print Media Advertisement Rules, 2015 (hereinafter referred to as 'the Rules 2015') curtailing his actual term of two years.

5. It is vehemently argued by learned counsel for petitioner that order of blacklisting has been passed by respondent No.2 without providing any opportunity of hearing to petitioner and without issuing any show-cause notice so far as blacklisting of newspaper is concerned. He further elaborated his argument that blacklisting is a very serious action which carries civil consequences and that cannot be passed without giving proper opportunity of hearing to petitioner before passing blacklisting order.

6. So far as order dated 08.07.2026 is concerned, whereby, petitioner was ousted from Steering Committee, it is contended by learned counsel for petitioner that only Hon'ble Information Minister or Hon'ble Chief Minister is empowered to remove any member from Steering Committee and that too under given circumstances given under Rule 5 of the Rules 2015. Rule 5 is quoted as under:-

> *"समिति में चार सरकारी सदस्यों (पत्रकार संगठनों के माध्यम से) का कार्यकाल, नामांकन एवं पद से हटाया जाना 5.(क) समिति में गैर सरकारी सदस्यों का नामांकन भारतीय प्रेस परिषद से मान्यता प्राप्त प्रिन्ट मीडिया संगठनों के दो तथा उत्तराखण्ड श्रम विभाग से पंजीकृत प्रिन्ट मीडिया संगठनों के दो संगठनों में से किया जाएगा। प्रत्येक संगठन द्वारा तीन पत्रकारों का नाम संबंधित पत्रकार संगठन के अध्यक्ष की संस्तुति सहित प्रस्तुत किया जाएगा, जिस पर सम्यक् विचारोपरान्त सूचना मंत्री/मुख्यमंत्री द्वारा एक संगठन से केवल एक पत्रकार नामित किया जाएगा।*
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> *(ख) समिति में पत्रकार संगठनों के माध्यम से आये हुये सदस्यों के अतिरिक्त शेष चार पत्रकार सदस्य सूचना मंत्री/मुख्यमंत्री द्वारा नामित किये जायेंगे।*
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> *(ग) समिति में नियम 5 (क) व नियम (ख) में उल्लिखित गैर सरकारी सदस्यों का कार्यकाल अधिकतम दो वर्ष होगा। सूचना मंत्री/मुख्यमंत्री द्वारा इनका कार्यकाल दो वर्ष से पूर्व समाप्त किया जा सकता है।*
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> *(घ) समिति में सदस्यों को नामित किये जाने हेतु समस्त अर्ह पत्रकार संगठनों से आवेदन आमंत्रित किये जायेंगे। तदोपरान्त सूचना मंत्री/मुख्यमंत्री के अनुमोदन के आधार पर गैर सरकारी सदस्य मनोनीत किये जायेंगे।*
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> *(ड.) समिति में नामित गैर सरकारी सदस्यों के त्यागपत्र देने, संबंधित संगठन से निष्कासित किये जाने अथवा मानसिक रूप से अस्वस्थ होने तथा न्यायालय से दोषसिद्ध होने पर सदस्यता स्वतः ही समाप्त हो जायेगी।"*

			7. Thus, he submits that only Hon'ble Information Minister or Hon'ble Chief Minister can cancel the aforesaid nomination. But, in the case in hand, the same has been done by respondent No.2-Director General, Information and Public Relation, which cannot be sustained. **8.** Per contra, learned State Counsel submits that it is reflected from the order that no opportunity was given to petitioner before blacklisting and further he also admitted the Rule position which has pressed by the petitioner. **9.** In such view of the matter, petitioner deserves some protection from this Court. **10.** Issue notice to respondent No.3 returnable within six weeks. **11.** Steps to be taken within 03 days. **12.** Respondents may file counter affidavit(s) within six weeks. **13.** Put up on 22.12.2026. **14.** Till the next date of listing, effect and operation of order dated 30.05.2026 and order dated 08.07.2026 shall remain stayed. **15.** Stay application (IA/1/2026) stands disposed of. **(Pankaj Purohit, J.)** 27.10.2026 PN