

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Miscellaneous Application No.1378/2023 in W.P.(C) No.511/2023

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 28-04-2023 in W.P.(C) No.511/2023 passed by the Supreme Court Of India)

WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF NILGIRIS Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE REGISTRAR, MADRAS HIGH COURT & ANR. Respondent(s)

(FOR ADMISSION)

Date : 09-06-2023 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANIRUDDHA BOSE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJESH BINDAL
(VACATION BENCH)

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Vivekanandha, Adv.
Dr. Vinod Kumar Tewari, AOR

For Respondent(s)
R.1 & 2 Mr. Guru Krishnakumar, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Deepayan Mandal, AOR
Mr. Mridul Bansal, Adv.
Mr. Naman Varma, Adv.

Ms. V. Mohana, Sr. Adv.
Mr. B. Raghunath, Adv.
Mr. N.C. Kavitha, Adv.
Mr. Sriram P., AOR

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

The present miscellaneous application has been directed to be listed in connection with a writ petition instituted by Women Lawyers Association of Nilgiris. In that writ petition, certain grievances relating to availability of basic amenities were raised before this Court. The said writ petition (Writ Petition (Civil) No.511 of 2023) was disposed of by a Coordinate Bench presided over

by His Lordship the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India on 28.04.2023. The following order was passed in that writ petition:-

"1. We have heard Mr Vivekanandh, counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner, who seeks to raise certain grievances of women lawyers practising in the combined court complex of Nilgiris District in Tamil Nadu.

2. Mr Guru Krishnakumar, senior counsel appearing on behalf of the High Court of Judicature at Madras, submits that necessary steps have been taken.

3. If the petitioner has any subsisting grievance, it would be at liberty to either move the District Judge or, as the case may be, the Registrar General of the High Court so that the grievance can be looked into.

4. The petition is disposed of.

5. Pending application, if any, stands disposed of."

As reported in an online news portal on 06.06.2023, complaints were raised on behalf of certain women lawyers demanding basic facilities in the same court complex and it appears that their main concern is over shrinking of the space or facilities allocated to them in the new court complex.

The Registry of this Court has brought to our notice a report of the Registrar General of the High Court of Judicature at Madras dated 06.06.2023 as also the said news item, referred to in the said portal as "Column", carrying the headline "these women lawyers of Nilgiris have been demanding toilet in court complex for 25 years." This miscellaneous application has been taken up by this Court on its own motion, considering the nature of grievances of the women lawyers of the Nilgiris district projected in the said news report.

The report of the Registrar General, High Court of Madras

however, does not explain in detail in what manner the facilities for women lawyers were being provided for in the new court complex and as to whether there was any shrinkage of any basic facility or amenity in the new court complex.

Let a more detailed report be filed by the Registrar General of the Madras High Court. Such report should reach the Registry of this Court by Sunday through the electronic mode and this matter shall be listed on 12.06.2023. This Court shall consider passing appropriate orders on going through the fresh report.

Before us learned counsel for the Nilgiris District Bar Association has appeared in this matter. Though, the said Association was not impleaded as a party-respondent in the main writ petition but considering the scope of the present proceeding, the said Association is permitted to assist this Court.

(ARJUN BISHT)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(VIDYA NEGI)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR