

2023 LiveLaw (SC) 559

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
SANJAY KISHAN KAUL; J., SUDHANSHU DHULIA; J.
Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s). 713/2023; 21-07-2023
MAMTA RANI versus UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

Cinematograph Act, 1952 - Sometimes the cinematic representations may not be an exact replica of text and there has to be a little play in the same. That however, does not go beyond certain limits is a reason why a body has been constituted to look into these aspects under the Act.

Constitution of India, 1950; Section 32 - Revocation of the certificate granted by the Central Board of Film Certification in respect of feature film 'Adipurush' for hurting religious sentiments and for distorting the sacred text – Held, it is inappropriate to interfere with film certifications based on the sensitivities of each individual. The Court should not become some kind of an appellate authority for the censor board.

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Ratnesh Kumar Shukla, AOR Mr. Shailendra Mani Tripathi, Adv. Mr. Rakesh Kumar, Adv. Mr. Akash Awana, Adv. Ms. Askhsi Arora, Adv. Mr. Pawan Kumar, Adv.

<u>ORDER</u>

The petition has been filed under Section 32 of the Constitution of India by a practising Advocate to seek revocation of the certificate granted by the Central Board of Film Certification in respect of feature film 'Adipurush' for hurting religious sentiments and for distorting the sacred text.

We may say at the inception itself that sometimes the cinematic representations may not be an exact replica of text and there has to be a little play in the same. The disclaimer in the film says as much. That however, does not go beyond certain limits is a reason why a body has been constituted to look into these aspects under the Cinematograph Act, 1952. In the present case, the certificate was issued and there are stated to be even subsequently certain modifications made. It is not appropriate that for each person's sensitivities, this Court should interfere, specially under Article 32 of Constitution of India.

We are not inclined to exercise jurisdiction under Article 32 of the Constitution of India nor are these matters which would generally be entertained by Courts as the certificate of the Censor Board has been granted. The Court should not become some kind of an appellate authority.

The writ petition is, accordingly, dismissed.

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