

**Chief Justice's Court**

**Case :-** PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION (PIL) No. - 228 of 2021

**Petitioner :-** Anjali Pandey And 12 Others

**Respondent :-** State Of U.P. And 5 Others

**Counsel for Petitioner :-** In Person, In Person Anjali Pandey, In Person Anupriya Yadav, In Person Parinita, In Person Vaishali Gupta, In Person Ananya Prakash, In Person Anshika Yadav, In Person Pragati Yadav, In Person Shabih Fatima, In Person Sharmistha Pandey

**Counsel for Respondent :-** C.S.C.

**Hon'ble Govind Mathur, Chief Justice**

**Hon'ble Saurabh Shyam Shamsery, J.**

The petitioners, law students of different law colleges, have raised an important issue relating to availability of basic amenities at different police stations in the State of Uttar Pradesh for female police personnel and women accused.

As per the averments contained in the petition for writ, most of the police stations in the State of Uttar Pradesh are not having adequate amenities for female police personnel at their workplace. Reference of each and every police station at the city of Prayagraj is also given with the deficiencies existing.

As per the petitioners, conditions at the police stations situated in rural areas are much more bad.

While referring the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court passed in **Virender Gaur and others Versus State of Haryana and others** reported in (1995) 2 SCC 577, it is stated that Article 21 of the Constitution of India protects the right to life as a fundamental right. The life and its consumption includes necessary hygiene and sanitation. In absence of adequate facilities to meet essential human requirements, life cannot be led with dignity.

Learned Standing Counsel, while responding the petition for writ, submits that a complete project has been undertaken by the State of Uttar Pradesh to provide basic amenities to female police personnel and work in pursuance thereto is in progress. He has referred a document dated 12th February, 2021 addressed to Deputy Inspector General of Police, Prayagraj by Additional Director of Police, Police Welfare, Uttar Pradesh. In the document aforesaid, it has been

communicated that at 1425 police stations in the State of Uttar Pradesh, a proposal was to have Mahila hostel. Necessary approval has already been granted to have such hostels at 1317 police stations and necessary budget too has been allocated. As per the proposed project, one toilet/washroom is to be constructed against four female employees. At 51 police stations, construction work is in progress to have toilets/washrooms for females. At 291 police stations, work for construction of visitors room is in progress. The visitors rooms are also having facility of toilet and washroom. At 394 police stations, approval has already been granted much back in the year 2001-02 to have a separate mahila police room with toilet. As per learned Standing Counsel, on completion of the project, female police personnel shall be having adequate facilities relating to washrooms, toilets, etc.

So far as the project noticed above is concerned, we would like to state that the same is pending finalization since long. The issue before us is immediate availability of toilets/washrooms and other essential amenities for female police personnel at different police stations. Nothing has been stated in this regard on behalf of the State.

Learned Standing Counsel wants some time to acquaint the Court about the immediate steps which are to be taken by the State to meet the urgent requirement of having toilets and washrooms at different police stations with complete hygiene.

Let this petition for writ be listed on 22th February, 2021, as fresh case.

**Order Date :- 17.2.2021**

Shubham

**(Saurabh Shyam Shamsbery, J.) (Govind Mathur, C.J.)**