

CWP-PIL-52-2024

Kanu Sharma and others Vs. State of Punjab and others

Present : Mr. Jagtar Singh Sidhu, Advocate, for the petitioners.

Mr. Saurav Khurana, Addl. Advocate General, Punjab.Mr. Deepak Balyan, Addl. Advocate General, Haryana.Ms. Shubreet Kaur Saron, Advocate, for respondent No.3.

Inter-alia contends that directions are being sought against the respondents as such to ensure the constitution of a Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee in all the District and Sub Division (Tehsil) Bar Associations.

During the course of arguments, it transpires that since the petitioners are lady members of the Bar Association, the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013, which mainly protects the women employees, would have to be kept in mind, as the lady Lawyers would strictly not come within the purview of the definition as such of an employee of the Bar Association in any manner.

Keeping in view the above, we consider it expedient to implead the Union of India through the Secretary, Department of Social Security, Women and Child Development; and the Union of India through the Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice, as respondents No.6 and 7, respectively.

> Office to make necessary correction in the memo of parties. Notice of motion.

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Mr. Saurav Khurana, learned Additional Advocate General, Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of respondent No.1; Mr. Deepak Balyan, learned Additional Advocate General, Haryana, accepts notice on behalf of respondent No.2; whereas Ms. Shubreet Kaur Saron, Advocate, accepts notice on behalf of respondent No.3; and Mr. Dheeraj Jain, Advocate, accepts notice on behalf of respondents No.6 and 7.

To come up on 21.05.2024 for service of respondents No.4 and 5.

(G.S. SANDHAWALIA) ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE

(LAPITA BANERJI) JUDGE

March 18, 2024 ndj