IN THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH AT JABALPUR WP No. 2816 of 2024

(IN REFERENCE (SUO MOTO) Vs THE STATE OF MADHYA PRADESH AND OTHERS)

Dated : <u>01-03-2024</u>

Shri Prashant Singh - Advocate General with Shri H.S.Ruprah -Additional Advocate General for the respondents No.1, 2 and 3/State.

The learned Advocate General has placed on record copy of the Scheme for Care and Support to the Victims under Sections 4 and 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 which was forwarded to the State Government by the communication dated 30.11.2023. Immediately thereafter, the State have circulated the copy of the scheme to all the Collectors of the respective districts by the communication dated 11.01.2024. Therefore, it is contended that the interest of the persons under the said scheme, which may also include the victims in this particular case, is covered.

However, we notice that the scheme is applicable only so far as the victims under Sections 4 and 6 of the POCSO Act, 2012 are concerned and it covers object to provide integrated support and assistance to minor pregnant girl child victims under one room. Therefore, necessarily it does not include those who are above 18 years of age.

Keeping in mind the ghastly acts of rape that are committed, we are concerned with the victims of rape irrespective of their age. However, learned Advocate General submits that necessary material and further submissions will be made by the next date with regard to the same.

Call after four weeks.

AM

(VISHAL MISHRA) JUDGE

