IN THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH AT JABALPUR BEFORE HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE RAVI MALIMATH, CHIEF JUSTICE

&

HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE VISHAL MISHRA ON THE 10th OF OCTOBER, 2023

REVIEW PETITION No. 70 of 2023

BETWEEN:-

ADVOCATE UNION FOR DEMOCRACY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE THROUGH ITS SECRETARY R.G. VERMA S/O

.....PETITIONER

(BY SHRI RAMESHWAR SINGH THAKUR, SHRI VINAYAK PRASAD SHAH, SHRI PARMANAND SAHU AND SHRI ROOP SINGH MARAVI -ADVOCATES)

AND

- 1. HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH PRINCIPAL SEAT AT JABALPUR THROUGH THE REGISTRAR GENERAL HIGH COURT OF MP JABALPUR (MADHYA PRADESH)
- 2. STATE OF MADHYA PRADESH THROUGH PRINCIPAL SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND LEGISTATION VALLABH BHAWAN BHOPAL (MADHYA PRADESH)
- 3. PRINCIPAL SECRETARY GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT VALLABH BHAWAN BHOPAL (MADHYA PRADESH)

.....RESPONDENTS

(SHRI ASHISH SHROTI - ADVOCATE FOR RESPONDENT NO.1 AND SHRI AMIT SETH - DEPUTY ADVOCATE GENERAL FOR RESPONDENTS NO.2 AND 3)

This petition coming on for orders this day, Hon'ble Shri Justice Ravi

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Malimath, Chief Justice passed the following:

<u>ORDER</u>

Shri Ashish Shroti - Advocate takes notice for respondent No.1.

2. This petition is filed seeking to review the order dated 10.05.2022 passed by this Court in Writ Petition No.9892 of 2022. In terms whereof, the office was directed not to list any matter, in which Shri Vinayak Prasad Shah, Advocate appears, before this Court. The present petition has been filed on various grounds.

3. It is stated in para 2.3 of the petition that some litigants with an intention of hunting of the Bench have engaged Shri Vinayak Prasad Shah, Advocate and therefore, the order is being misused. Para 2.3 of the petition reads as follows:

"2.3 Because, some litigants with intention to hunting of bench engaged as a counsel to Mr. Vinayak Prasad Shah, in this way the order/direction dated 10.05.2022 has become an instrument to misuse of judicial process."

3.1 In para 2.6 of the petition, it is stated that Bench hunting is not good for the Bar and the Bench. Para 2.6 reads as follows:

"2.6 Because, prohibition on listing of cases of particular advocate in a particular Bench is a means of bench hunting, which not good for the administration of justice. An affidavit in support of this application is filed herewith."

4. We are in absolute agreement with what has been stated in the petition. In fact, we also notice that the advocates who have signed the Vakalat in this petition are Shri Rameshwar Singh Thakur, Shri Vinayak Prasad Shah, Shri Parmanand Sahu and Shri Roop Singh Maravi. It is they themselves, who are stating that they are in Bench hunting which has to be stopped. They have admitted that they were Bench hunting. Therefore, in view of the admission made by the learned counsels; Shri Rameshwar Singh Thakur, Shri Vinayak Prasad Shah, Shri Parmanand Sahu and Shri Roop Singh Maravi that they are indulging in Bench hunting, we deem it just and appropriate that the order be recalled.

5. Consequently, the review petition is allowed. The order dated10.05.2022 passed in Writ Petition No.9892 of 2022 is reviewed and recalled.

(RAVI MALIMATH) CHIEF JUSTICE (VISHAL MISHRA) JUDGE



