

ITEM NO.2

COURT NO.4

SECTION PIL-W

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s).659/2007

THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSUMER PROTECTION FOUNDATION ETC.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

WITH

W.P.(C) No. 168/2012 (PIL-W)

W.P.(C) No. 133/2012 (PIL-W)

Date : 27-03-2018 These petitions were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MADAN B. LOKUR

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK GUPTA

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Chandigarh	Mr. Sudarshan Singh Rawat, AOR Dr. Aman Hingorani, Adv. Ms. Priya Hingorani, Adv. (As per appearance slip)

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

Subsequent to our order dated 7th February, 2018, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has filed a compliance affidavit on 16th March, 2018.

A perusal of the affidavit indicates that there are some States that have not submitted the necessary information to the Ministry of Women and Child Development and there are some States where the information given is incomplete.

We find this extremely unfortunate.

Accordingly, all the States and Union Territories Administrations are directed to supply full and complete information, if not already supplied, by email to the Ministry of Women and Child Development within a period of two weeks from today. The said Ministry will then compile the information and place it on record in the form of a chart.

We expect the National Commission for Women to assist the Ministry of Women and Child Development in the collection of information and analysis of the information.

Widows Homes

It has been brought to the notice of learned Additional Advocate General for the State of Uttar Pradesh that perhaps the physical condition in some of the Homes in Vrindavan is not up to the mark. She says that she will look into it and personally be in touch with the concerned officers so that the physical conditions in the Homes in Vrindavan are properly maintained.

Re: Floral Offerings

A communication has been received from Ms. Renuka Kumar, Principal Secretary in the Women Welfare Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The communication dated 17th March, 2018 has drawn attention to the fact that huge floral offerings are made to the

temples in Vrindavan. Earlier, the floral offerings were either being dumped in river Yamuna or dumped elsewhere as garbage.

Under the initiative of the Department of Women Welfare in Uttar Pradesh, the floral offerings are now being used for making eco-friendly products like Sugandh essence, Sugandh Jal, Gulal, Dhoop batti, agarbatti, etc. with the technical support of Floral and Fragrance Development Centre Kannauj under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Ministry, Government of India.

In the communication, Ms. Renuka Kumar has sought directions for Temples and Local Administrative authorities of Vrindavan and Mathura to deposit floral offerings only to the premises of widow and destitute shelter homes run by Uttar Pradesh Mahila Kalyan Nigam in Vrindavan and not to dump these offerings at any other place or send them elsewhere. Direction may also be provided to the Nagar Nigam Mathura to ensure that the flower offerings are collected and deposited with aforesaid shelter home premises of the Uttar Pradesh Mahila Kalyan Nigam and also to ensure that they are not dumped elsewhere.

Learned Additional Advocate General of the State of Uttar Pradesh supports the venture which is in any case being carried out on the initiative of the State of Uttar Pradesh.

Accordingly, we pass necessary directions and orders in terms of the communication dated 17th March, 2018 sent by Ms. Renuka Kumar, Principal Secretary, Women and Welfare Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The concerned authorities in Vrindavan and Mathura will ensure compliance.

We have also brought this communication to the notice of learned Additional Solicitor General and also to Ms. Aparna Bhat, learned counsel for the National Commission for Women to examine if similar initiatives can be taken in some of the other temple towns such as Jagannath Puri, Varanasi, etc.

Learned Additional Solicitor General and learned counsel for the National Commission for Women have assured full assistance in this regard.

Convergence of Schemes

It is suggested by learned counsel for National Commission for Women that there are a large number of Schemes for destitute women and widows. It would be appropriate if a compilation is made of all these schemes and their analysis is made available.

In view of the submission made, we direct all the State Governments and Union Territories Administrations to supply through e-mail to the Ministry of Women and Child Development and to the National Commission for Women all the schemes that are in force for destitute women. The National Commission for Women should then

analyse the Schemes and come out with one suitable, implementable and Model Scheme.

List the matter on 2nd May, 2018.

(SANJAY KUMAR-I)
AR-CUM-PS

(KAILASH CHANDER)
COURT MASTER