

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Civil Original Jurisdiction

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) No. 836 of 2020

IN THE MATTER OF:

ASHWINI KUMAR UPADHYAY

...PETITIONER

AND

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

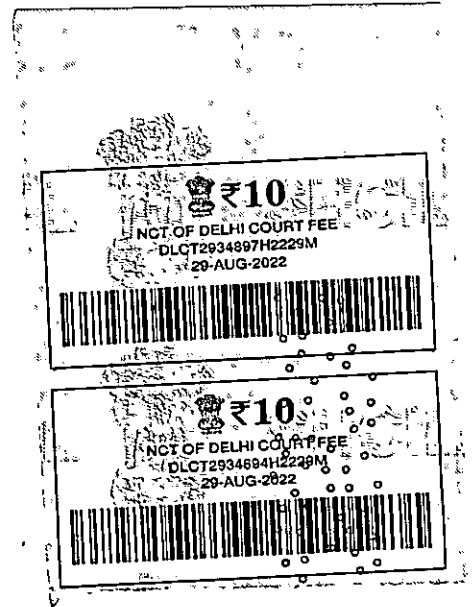
...RESPONDENTS

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Filed On: 29th August, 2022

New Delhi Advocate for the Union of India



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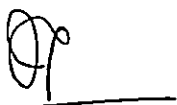
UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

...RESPONDENTS

STATUS REPORT ON BEHALF OF MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(RESPONDENT NO.3)

I, Indevar Pandey, S/o Shri Suresh Pandey, aged 58 years, having office at Ministry of Minority Affairs, New Delhi - 110003 do hereby solemnly affirm as under:

1. I am the Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs (Respondent No.3 herein) and as such I am well conversant with the facts of the case and competent to swear this affidavit.
2. In the WP (C) No.836/2020 Section 2 (f) of the NCMEI Act 2004 has been challenged and it has also been prayed to lay down guidelines for identification of minority at



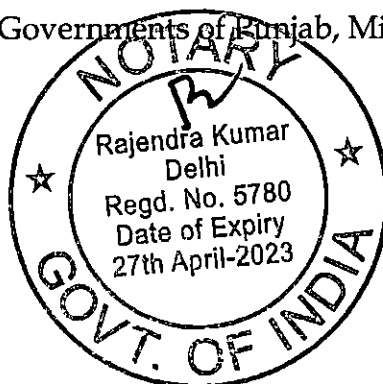


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State level. Further another WP(C) No. 446/2022 has also been filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court wherein Section 2 (c) of the NCM Act 1992 has been challenged and it has been prayed to define 'minority' and lay down guideline for identification of minorities at district level. The hon'ble Supreme Court has tagged both the Writ Petitions (Civil) matters, as per order dated 08.08.2022 in the case titled Devkinandan Thakur ji vs. UoI [WP(C) No. 446/2022].

3. That the Central Government has already held meetings with the State Governments of Nagaland, Punjab, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh with inputs from the Ministry of Home Affairs, D/o Legal Affairs- Ministry of Law & Justice, D/o Higher Education- Ministry of Education, National Commission for Minorities and National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions. The said State Governments/Union Territories and Stakeholders requested for some more time as they needed to have wider consultations with all the stakeholders before they form their considered opinion in the matter considering the far reaching implications of the issue involved.
4. That the State Governments were requested that in view of the pendency of these matter, they should expeditiously undertake the exercise with stakeholders in this regard so as to ensure that the views of the State Government are finalized and conveyed to the Ministry of Minority Affairs at the earliest.
5. That the State Governments of Punjab, Mizoram, Meghalaya and UT of Ladakh have

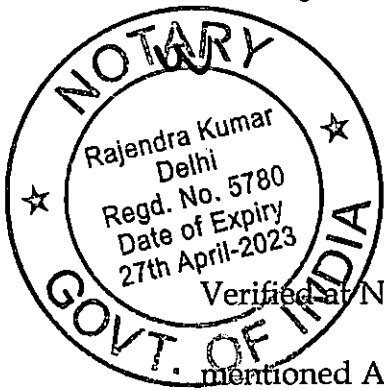




furnished their comments/views.

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6. That since the comments/views of the State Government of Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and UT of J & K in the matter have not been received as on date. A reminder was sent to these States requesting them to furnish their comments/views. Further, comments of States of Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are also awaited. In these States, the issue may have wider ramifications.
7. That the Ministry proposes to hold meetings in the ensuing weeks with the remaining State Governments/Union territories in order to have their views in the matter also.
8. That in view of the position stated above, it is humbly submitted that this Hon'ble Court may kindly consider to defer the hearing and allow more time for holding meetings with other State Governments/Union Territories, and also to enable the State Governments/Union Territories and stakeholders with whom the consultative meetings have already been held, to finalise their considered views in the matter.



इन्दीवर पान्डेय / Indevar Pandey
सचिव / Secretary
अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय / Ministry of Minority Affairs
11 वां तल, दीनदयाल अंत्योदय भवन
11th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan
सीजीओ कॉम्प्लेक्स, लोधी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

VERIFICATION

DEPONENT

Verified at New Delhi on this 29th day of August 2022 that the contents of the above mentioned Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief and no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed therein.

DEPONENT

इन्दीवर पान्डेय / Indevar Pandey
सचिव / Secretary
अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय / Ministry of Minority Affairs
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CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

CERTIFIED THAT THE CONTENTS EXPLAINED TO THE
DEPONENT EXECUTANT WHO IS SEEMED PERFECT TO
UNDERSTAND & AFFIRMED DEPOSED BEFORE ME IN
DELHI ON.....INDENSIFIED BY
09 AUG 2022
IDENTIFY THE EXECUTANT/DEPONENT WHO WAS
SIGNED IN MY PRESENCE

IDENTITY THE EXECUTANT / DEPONENT
WHO WAS SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF

BEFORE ME
RAJENDRA KUMAR
NOTARY, DELHI-R-5780
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
COMPOUND, NEW DELHI
Register Pg./Sl. No.....
Mobile No.: 9899446209
25 AUG-2022