Most Urgent/Out at once

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE (HQ): DELHI

No. 54612 – 54742 /Genl./HCS/2024 Dated, Delhi the 07 OCT 202

Sub : W.P.(C) No. 13188/2024 Ranjeet Thakur Vs. Union of India & Ors. (DOD: 30.09.2024).

A copy of office note dated 03.10.2024 alongwith copy of order dated 30.09.2024 passed by Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in the abovesaid matter is being circulated for information and necessary action : -

1. All the Ld. Principal District & Sessions Judges, Delhi/New Delhi (except Central District) with the request to circulate the same to the Ld. Judicial Officers, under their kind control for information and necessary action.
2. The Ld. Judicial Officers, Central District, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi.
3. PS to the Ld. Principal District & Sessions Judge (HQs), Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi for information.
4. The Chairman, Website Committee, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi with the request to direct the concerned official to upload the same on the Website of Delhi District Courts.
5. The Director (Academics), Delhi Judicial Academy, Dwarka, New Delhi for information as requested vide letter no.DJA/Dir.(Acd)/2019/4306 dated 06.08.2019.
6. Dealing Assistant, R&I Branch for uploading the same on LAYERS.
7. Dealing Assistant for uploading the same on Centralized Website through LAYERS.

(Ravinder Bedi)
Officer-in Charge, Genl. Branch, (C)
District Judge, (Comm. Court)
Hazari Courts, Delhi

Encls. As above

Suk . W.P. (C) No. 13188/2024 Ranjeet Thakur Vs. Union of India & Ors. (DOD:30.09.2024)

1. May please see copy of order dated 30.09.2024 passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, in the subject matter, whereby Hon'ble Court has observed that :

"....1.The Petitioner, a practicing advocate and member of the New Delhi Bar Association, is aggrieved by the exclusion of his name in orders rendered by the Patiala House Court, where he appeared as an advocate. Despite several attempts to get his appearance recorded, the District Courts continue to omit the name of the Petitioner from the order sheets.

2. Mr. Tushar Sannu, counsel for Respondents No. 5 and 6, submits a copy of the report obtained from Principal District and Sessions Judge, Patiala House Court, indicates that the Judges in Patiala House Court are recording the attendance of the counsel in order sheets.

3. Court has noted the facts and contentions of the parties and finds merits in the contentions of the Petitioner. The crux of the issue highlighted in the present petition relates to the need to formalize the practice of recording the names of advocates representing parties in court proceedings. Such records serve as acknowledgment of an advocate's attendance and participation in the hearings and also forms the foundation for the eligibility requirement for allotment of chambers in district courts. Furthermore, court appearances are often a prerequisite for eligibility in District Bar Association elections, whether as candidates or voters. The apparent absence of a uniform protocol across District Courts in this regard, calls for immediate rectification. The Court, therefore, deems it necessary to intervene, issuing appropriate directions to standardize this practice across all District Courts in Delhi. This would streamline the submission of names of advocates present during court proceedings, an accurate and consistent record across all District Courts which will further ensure transparency and protect professional interests of advocates.

4. **Accordingly, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to the Principal District and Sessions Judge (Headquarters) to issue necessary instructions to all District Courts, ensuring that the appearances of advocates appearing before the court are properly recorded in the order sheets. To**

facilitate this process, a mechanism similar to the 'drop-box' system for advocates appearing in person, or the 'chat box' used in video conferencing hearings at the High Court of Delhi, could be implemented.

5. With the above directions, the present petition, along with pending application, is disposed of. ...."

3. In view of the above, If approved, we may send a copy of order/judgment dated 30.09.2024 passed in the subject matter to Ld. Officer In-charge, General Branch (Central) with a request to issue necessary instructions to all District Courts, accordingly.

Submitted Please,

3/10/24
Dealing Assistant

3/10/24
Branch In-charge (Lit.)

03/10/24
Administrative Officer (Judl.)(Lit.)(C)

03/10/24

Ld. Officer In-Charge, Litigation (Central)

Ld. Principal District & Sessions Judge (HQs), Delhi
3/10/24

Be circulated amongst all Jud. Officers of Central Distt via whatsapp also.
4/10/24

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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

\+ W.P.(C) 13188/2024 & CM APPL. 57532/2024

RANJEET KUMAR THAKUR .....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Krishan Murari and Mr. Naresh Kumar, Advocates with Petitioner in person.

versus

UOI & ORS. .....Respondents

Through: Ms. Nidhi Raman, CGSC with Mr. Zubin Singh, Ms. Rashi Kapoor and Ms. Seema Singh, Advocates for R-1.
Mr. Preet Pal Singh, Mr. Madhukar Pandey, Mr. Unmukt Bhardwaj, Ms. Tanupreet Kaur and Ms. Akanksha Singh, Advocates for R-2.
Mr. T. Singhdev, Mr. Tanishq Srivastava, Mr. Abhijit Chakravarty, Mr. Sourabh Kumar and Ms. Anum Hassain, Advocates for R-3/ BCD.
Mr. Tushar Sannu, Mr. Sahaj Karan Singh and Mr. Manoviraj Singh, Advocates for R-5 & 6.
Mr. O. N. Sharma, Hony. Secretary, N.D.B.A.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV NARULA

ORDER

% **30.09.2024**

1. The Petitioner, a practicing advocate and member of the New Delhi Bar Association, is aggrieved by the exclusion of his name in orders

rendered by the Patiala House Court, where he appeared as an advocate. Despite several attempts to get his appearance recorded, the District Courts continue to omit the name of the Petitioner from the order sheets.

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3. Court has noted the facts and contentions of the parties and finds merits in the contentions of the Petitioner. The crux of the issue highlighted in the present petition relates to the need to formalize the practice of recording the names of advocates representing parties in court proceedings. Such records serve as acknowledgment of an advocate's attendance and participation in the hearings and also forms the foundation for the eligibility requirement for allotment of chambers in district courts. Furthermore, court appearances are often a prerequisite for eligibility in District Bar Association elections, whether as candidates or voters. The apparent absence of a uniform protocol across District Courts in this regard, calls for immediate rectification. The Court, therefore, deems it necessary to intervene, issuing appropriate directions to standardize this practice across all District Courts in Delhi. This would streamline the submission of names of advocates present during court proceedings, an accurate and consistent record across all District Courts which will further ensure transparency and protect professional interests of advocates.

4. Accordingly, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to the Principal District and Sessions Judge (Headquarters) to issue necessary instructions to all District Courts, ensuring that the appearances of advocates

appearing before the court are properly recorded in the order sheets. To facilitate this process, a mechanism similar to the 'drop-box' system for advocates appearing in person, or the 'chat box' used in video conferencing hearings at the High Court of Delhi, could be implemented.

5. With the above directions, the present petition, along with pending application, is disposed of.

SANJEEV NARULA, J

SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
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