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

+ **W.P.(C) 3164/2024, CM APPL. 13051/2024 & 18267/2024**

BAJRANG PUNIA AND ORS.

..... Petitioners

Through: Mr. Rahul Mehra, Sr. Adv. alongwith
Mr. Siddharth Nayak, Mr. Chaitanya
Gosain and Mr. Raghav Khanna,
Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

..... Respondents

Through: Mr. Anil Soni, CGSC for UOI,
alongwith Devvrat Yadav, Adv. for
the respondent no.1/Union of India.
Mr. Dayan Krishnan, Sr. Adv. along
with Mr. Hemant Phalpher, Mr.
Sukrit Seth and Mr. Auritro
Mukherjee, Adv. for R-2/WFI.
Mr. Vikash Singh, Advocate for IOA.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN DATTA

ORDER

10.04.2024

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1. *Vide* order dated 02.04.2024 it was *inter alia* directed as under:-

“5. At the request of the learned counsel appearing for the Union of India, a further opportunity is granted to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to file an affidavit taking a clear stand on the aforesaid issues. Let the same be filed latest within a period of one week from today.

6. In view of the gravity of the matter, the concerned Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is directed to join the proceedings on the next date of hearing, through video-conferencing.”

2. Despite the aforesaid direction, neither an affidavit has been filed on



behalf of the Union of India nor has the concerned Joint Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports joined the proceedings today. Such abject disregard by the concerned Ministry, of the order/s passed by this Court, is unfortunate, and warrants consequential order/s.

3. However, Mr. Anil Soni, learned standing counsel for the Union of India, seeks that one week's time may be granted as the last opportunity to file the affidavit in question, in terms of para 4 of the order dated 02.04.2024. It is directed accordingly.

4. In case the said affidavit is not filed within the aforesaid period, the concerned Joint Secretary of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports shall remain personally present in Court on the next date of hearing.

5. List on 22.04.2024 in the category of "supplementary matters".

6. An affidavit is stated to have been filed on behalf of the IOA in terms of the direction in para 7 of the order dated 02.04.2024. Let the same be placed on record before the next date of hearing.

7. The Director, IOA is present in Court. He is directed to remain present in court on the next date of hearing.

SACHIN DATTA, J

APRIL 10, 2024/at