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* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

+ W.P.(C) 4555/2023 DEEPA JOSEPH & ANR. Through:

.....Petitioners Ms. Deepa Joseph, petitioner no.1-inperson.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS. Through: Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC, Mr. Kushagra Kumar, Mr. Abhinav Bhardwaj and Mr. Amit Kumar Rana, Advs. for UOI. Ms. Aakriti Jain, Adv. for Mr. Abhinav Sharma, Adv. for GNCTD. Mr. Ajay Kumr Agarwal, Adv. for R-3/BCD. Mr. K.C. Mittal and Mr. Keshav Poonia, Advs. for R-4.

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN DATTA <u>O R D E R</u> 21.04.2025

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CM APPL.18696/2025 (for directions)

1. This is an application, filed by the respondent no.4 (Coordination Committee of All District Courts Bar Associations of Delhi), *inter-alia* seeking that the draft of "Advocate Protection Bill, 2024" be provided to the applicant.

2. Attention has been drawn to a status report dated 20.09.2024, filed on behalf of the Department of Law, GNCTD, wherein it has been stated as under:

"2. That after receipt of draft Delhi Advocates Protection Bill, 2023, the matter has been examined in the Law Department, GNCTD and after examination, of the draft bill, as was prepared by the

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Coordination Committee, the final draft of the Advocates' Protection Bill, 2024, has been prepared by the Law Department, GNCTD. The said final draft bill is required to be considered by the Council of Ministers, as the need for and enactment of a new Legislation is a policy decision."

3. However, the applicant in the present application highlights that the copy of the draft prepared by the Law Department, GNCTD was not furnished to them. The limited request of the applicant is that the final draft of Advocate Protection Bill, 2024 be provided to them, so that they get an opportunity to give any representation that they seek to with regard to the provisions thereof.

4. In the circumstances, the present application is allowed. The GNCTD is directed to provide a draft of the Advocate Protection Bill, 2024 to the applicant.

5. The application is disposed of in the above terms.

6. Let the GNCTD take further expeditious steps, as may be deemed expedient, for enacting the bill.

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7. Let a fresh status report be filed by the GNCTD within a period of four weeks from today.

8. List on 28.05.2025.

SACHIN DATTA, J

APRIL 21, 2025/cl

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