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PRAKASH SINGH MARWAH V/S UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERS

Present: Mr. Pratham Sethi, Advocate

for the petitioner.

Mr. Dheeraj Jain, Advocate for the respondent No.1- U.O.I.

Mr. Sanjiv Ghai, Addl. P.P., U.T. Chandigarh.

Mr. Akshay Makhija, Sr. Advocate (Through V.C.) with

Mr. Chandandeep Singh, Advocate

Mr. Abhishek Kumar, Advocate and

Ms. Aditi, Advocate for the respondent No.8.

- 1. This Court had, in its order dated 03.04.2025, penned down the hereinafter extracted queries to be answered by the Senior Superintendent of Police, Chandigarh:-
 - "...Learned Standing Counsel for the UT, Chandigarh, is directed to file a response by way of an affidavit of the Senior Superintendent of Police, Chandigarh, specifically disclosing therein, after conducting an inquiry, (i) as to who is the person/official/officer responsible for uploading the videographed contents in question on social media platforms; (ii) in case, the said contents have been uploaded by the police official who was on duty, whether, such act has been done in pursuance of performance of his official duty; (iii) whether, any guidelines have been issued by the authority concerned to deal with such scenario or not..."
- 2. In deference to the order (supra), today the learned Additional Public Prosecutor has filed reply dated 20.05.2025, on affidavit of Ms. Kanwardeep Kaur, IPS, Senior Superintendent of Police, U.T., Chandigarh, which is taken on record.
- 3. A survey of the reply coaxes this Court to record that, the reply is totally vague and does not embody answers to the queries (supra) of this Court. Strangely enough, as of today, the Senior Superintendent of Police,

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U.T., Chandigarh could not lay hands on any material as to who had uploaded the video clip in question on social media platform(s), rather a lame stand has been taken before this Court that, the said video clip was circulated by Constable Yogesh in the official whatsapp group and now, they are in the process of ascertaining the source of leakage. Even if for the sake

of arguments, the stand (supra) is considered, yet the reply does not disclose

as to in which capacity and under which official guidelines/ instructions, an

official whatsapp group has been created, especially when sensitive

information with regard to investigation(s) is being uploaded therein and

accepted as part of practice by the Chandigarh Police. This issue raises

serious concern about the functioning of the Chandigarh Police.

4. Moreover, today this Court posed another specific query to the

learned Additional Public Prosecutor as to whether the mobile of Constable

Yogesh has been confiscated and sent for forensic examination, to which the

latter answered in negative.

5. In summa, when despite specific directions passed by this

Court, a totally vague and silent reply has been furnished before this Court,

especially when the case at hand involves serious concern regarding

functioning of the Chandigarh Police, therefore, this Court deems it

appropriate to direct the Director General of Police, Chandigarh, to cause his

personal appearance before this Court on 22.05.2025, at 10:00 a.m.

6. List on 22.05.2025, in the urgent list.

7. It is made clear that, on the subsequent date of hearing, no

request for adjournment would be entertained on behalf of either side.

(KULDEEP TIWARI) JUDGE

May 21, 2025 devinder