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

+ W.P.(C) 4400/2025 and CM APPL. No. 20293/2025

ABHYUDAYA SHARMA

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Yashovir Singh and Mr. N.N.  
Sarvaria, Advocates.

versus

HINDU COLLEGE AND ANR

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Mohinder J.S. Rupal, Mr. Hardik  
Rupal and Ms. Aishwarya Malhotra, Advocates for  
R2.

**CORAM:**

**HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS MAHAJAN**

**ORDER**

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**07.04.2025**

**CM APPL. 20294/2025**

1. Allowed, subject to all just exceptions.
2. Application stands disposed of.

**W.P.(C) 4400/2025**

3. The present petition has been filed by petitioner seeking the following reliefs:

*“a. Set aside the Letter of Punishment dated 06.02.2025 issued by Respondent No.1;*

*b. Issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other Writ directing the Respondents to allow the Petitioner attend regular college and appear in his final semester examinations scheduled to be held in May 2025;*

*c. Award costs of the present petition;”*



4. Mr. Yashovir Singh, the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner submits that petitioner is a final year (sixth term) student of BA Programme at the Hindu College, University of Delhi. He submits that on 03.02.2025, petitioner was summoned to the Estate Office of Hindu College, where the Estate Officer enquired about theft of some projectors from the college premises. The petitioner expressed complete ignorance about the alleged theft.
5. He submits that despite petitioner's repeated denial, he was coerced by the Estate Officer and other officials present to write an apology. The officials assured petitioner that nothing adverse would happen, if he complied, but warned that denial could lead to police involvement and ruin his future.
6. He submits that acting under mental duress and fear, the petitioner submitted an apology written under dictation and coercion. Later, on the same day petitioner appeared before the College Committee where he retracted his earlier apology and clearly stated that he had no involvement in the theft and that the earlier statement was made under pressure.
7. He submits that on the basis of the apology tendered by the petitioner he has been rusticated from the College vide order dated 06.02.2025 and a fine of Rs.1 Lac has also been imposed upon him. It is further mentioned in the said order that in case the fine is not paid, enhanced punishment of expulsion of College will be imposed.
8. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that there is no material on record to indicate that any theft has been committed by the petitioner nor any show-cause notice was issued to the petitioner before passing the order of rustication.



9. In view of the above, issue notice. Mr. Mohinder J.S. Rupal, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the respondent no.2/University of Delhi accepts notice.

10. On petitioner taking steps, let notice be issued to the respondent no.1/Hindu College by all permissible modes, returnable on 09.04.2025. *Dasti* in addition.

**VIKAS MAHAJAN, J**

**APRIL 7, 2025/jg**