

**Priya Thakural vs. State of Himachal Pradesh and others**

**CWP No.1621 of 2026**

04.02.2026

Present: Mr. Nand Lal Thakur, Advocate, vice Mr. Devi Singh Verma, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Sidharth Jalta, Deputy Advocate General, for the respondents-State.

**CWP No.1621 of 2026**

Notice Mr. Sidharth Jalta, learned Deputy

Advocate General, appears and accepts service of notice on behalf of the respondent-State.

2. List on **25.03.2026**.

**CMP No.2140 of 2026**

3. Notice in the aforesaid terms.

4. By way of the present application, the applicant/petitioner has prayed that she may be considered on maternity leave without insisting on physical attendance and protect her service benefits, pay and continuity of service.

5. Keeping in view the fact that a Coordinate Bench has already passed a judgment in **CWP No.10589 of 2025**, titled, ***Archana Sharma vs. State of H.P. and others*** decided on 30.07.2025, whereby a similar order, which is under challenge, had been quashed and set aside with a

direction to the respondents to grant maternity leave to the petitioner in that case in terms of Rule 43(1) of the CCS (Leave) Rules, 1972, forthwith, the order dated 31.12.2025 (Annexure P-6) deserves to be stayed.

6. No doubt, the respondents have laid a challenge to the aforementioned judgment, but the Division Bench of this Court has not granted any stay.

7. In view the above facts, the office order dated 31.12.2025 passed by respondent No.2 is stayed, and the applicant/petitioner may avail maternity leave as per law till the next date of hearing.

04<sup>th</sup> February, 2026  
(ankit)

**( Jiya Lal Bhardwaj )**  
**Vacation Judge**