

Court on its own motion Vs. State of H.P. & Ors.

CWPIL No. 35 of 2021

28.03.2024 Present: Court on its own motion.

Mr. Anup Rattan, Advocate General with Mr. Rakesh Dhaulta, Mr. Pranay Pratap Singh, Sushant Keprate & Mr. Gobind Korla, Additional Advocates General and Mr. Arsh Rattan, Mr. Sidharth Jalta and Ms. Priyanka Chauhan, Deputy Advocates General, for respondents no.1 to 3 and 5 -State.

Ms. Shreya Chauhan, Advocate, for respondent no.4-NHAI.

Mr. Sai Amar Vivek Aggarwal, Sr. Advocate (through Video Conferencing) with Mr. Rajesh Kumar Parmar, Advocate, for respondent no.6.

Proceedings of the meeting held on 22.03.2024 between the In-charge Vice-Chancellor, H.P. National Law University, Finance Department and other officers of the State of Himachal Pradesh have been placed before us. The minutes of meeting indicate that the Finance Department as well as the Home Department were of the view that out of total revenue expenditure estimated to Rs.3561.20 lacs, the expenditure of more than Rs.7.00 Crores pertains to capital expenditure/one-time expenditure such as Expansion of University Centres, Library and Multimedia, Student Hostel, Student Mess, Purchase of buses and other vehicles, furniture and fixture, Computer software and other office equipments etc.

In the annual budget approved for the financial year

2024-25 for the H.P. National Law University, an amount of Rs.5.00 Crores towards capital expenditure is earmarked.

Counsel for the University states that in view of suggestion of the Finance Department, as recorded in the minutes of meeting held on 22.03.2024, if Rs.7.00 Crores plus amount is treated as capital expenditure and further grant is made, the University would be out of the woods to some extent.

Learned Advocate General seeks time to ascertain the view of the State Government in that regard. Affidavit in that regard be filed by the State.

List on **02.05.2024**.

NHAI as well as HPPWD shall file status report(s) by the next date of hearing on the progress of the road construction above the H.P. National Law University building.

(M.S. Ramachandra Rao)
Chief Justice

(Jyotsna Rewal Dua)
Judge

March 28, 2024
R.Atal