

**Smt. Shobhna Thakur Vs. UCO Bank**

**CWP No.7789 of 2026**

18.05.2026 Present: Mr. Vikrant Thakur, Advocate, for the petitioner.  
Mr. Sanjay Dalmia, Advocate, for the respondent.

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Notice. Mr. Sanjay Dalmia, learned Counsel, accepts notice on behalf of the respondent. As prayed for, reply be filed by the next date of hearing. List on **18.06.2026**.

CMP No.11371 of 2026

Notice in above terms. Learned Counsel for the applicant/ petitioner has drawn the attention of the Court to the Transfer Policy dated 16.10.2025 (Annexure P-5 Colly). He further submitted that in terms of this Transfer Policy, for Inter-Zone Transfers, the minimum tenure in the Zone has to be five years and maximum eight years. By referring to the impugned transfer order, learned Counsel submitted that in terms thereof, the petitioner has been transferred from Solan Zone to Ludhiana Zone, on the ground that she has the longest Continuous Stay in Solan Zone. He submitted that Solan Zone earlier used to be a part of Shimla Zone and this Zone, became an independent Zone only on 01.07.2025. He further submitted that in terms of the Transfer Policy of the Bank, there is no such condition that upon bifurcation of a Zone the combined length of service of the employee in earlier and newly carved out Zone shall be collectively construed for the purpose of Inter-Zone transfers etc. Thus, he submitted that the transfer of the petitioner is *prima facie* arbitrary and in violation of the

Transfer Policy of the Bank.

Having heard learned Counsel for the petitioner and in light of the submissions so made by the petitioner and having perused the Transfer Policy, this Court *prima facie* concurs with the petitioner.

The Transfer Policy, *inter alia*, mentions that for Inter-Zone transfers, i.e. transfer outside the Zone of postings, the minimum tenure shall be five years of continuous service. It has not been disputed by learned Counsel for the respondent-Bank that Solan Zone came into existence only on 01.07.2025.

That being the case, when Solan Zone has come into existence only on 01.07.2025, the conditions of the Transfer Policy of serving in the concerned Zone of five years, of course, is not met as of today. Therefore, the transfer of the petitioner *prima facie* is in violation of the Transfer Policy of the Bank and accordingly, during the pendency of the petition/ till further orders, the operation of Annexure P-1, dated 13.05.2026, is hereby stayed. The petitioner shall be allowed to continue to serve at her present place of posting, irrespective whether she stands relieved or not.

**Ajay Mohan Goel)**  
**Judge**

May 18, 2026  
(Rishi)