

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT SRINAGAR

WP(C) No. 169/2026

CM No. 378/2026

Caveat No. 2826/2025

UT of J&K and Ors.

...Appellant/Petitioner(s)

Through: Mr. Syed Musaib, Dy. AG

Vs.

Dr. Ishtiyaq Abdullah and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

Through: Mr. M. Y. Bhat, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Faizan Majid Bhat, Advocate

CORAM:

HON'BLE MS JUSTICE SINDHU SHARMA, JUDGE

HON'BLE MR JUSTICE SHAHZAD AZEEM, JUDGE

ORDER

04.03.2026

01. A preliminary objection has been raised regarding the maintainability of this writ petition.
02. Mr. Syed Musaib, learned Dy. AG, submits that the matters pertaining to suspension are required to be heard by a Division Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal, in view of Rule 154 (c) read with Appendix VII of the Central Administrative Tribunal Rules of Practice, 1993, (Subject-wise classification of cases).
03. Mr. M. Y. Bhat, learned senior counsel for respondents, relies on order dated 10.09.2021 issued by the Chairman, Central Administrative Tribunal, vide which in exercise of powers under Section 5(6) of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, the cases relating to suspension is to be heard and considered by a Single Bench, whileas Mr. Syed Musaib, learned Dy. AG, has produced Notification No. 01/CAT/Juri/2026 dated 13.01.2026, which indicates

that minor punishments and other punishments including suspension are to be heard and considered by a Division Bench. Both the notifications are taken on record.

04. In view of difference between the aforementioned notifications regarding subject matters to be heard by the composition of the Bench, the Principal Registrar, Central Administrative Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, is directed to clarify whether matters relating to suspension are to be heard and considered by a Division Bench or a Single Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal. In this regard she will also submit the relevant notifications.
05. Registrar Judicial is directed to send a copy of this order along with the aforementioned notifications through email to Principal Registrar, Central Administrative Tribunal, New Delhi.
06. List on 30.03.2026.

(SHAHZAD AZEEM)
JUDGE

(SINDHU SHARMA)
JUDGE

SRINAGAR

04.03.2026

Manzoor