

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT JAMMU

WP(C) No. 2526/2023

Ravinder Kour

.... Petitioner/Appellant(s)

Through:- Mr. Devesh, Advocate vice
Mr. S.M. Chowdhary, Advocate.

V/s

UT of J&K and others

.....Respondent(s)

Through:- Ms. Priyanka Bhat, Advocate vice
Mrs. Monika Kohli, Sr. AAG for R-1 , 2,
4 & 5
Mr. Atul Verma, Advocate vice
Mr. Adarsh Sharma, Advocate for R-3

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE WASIM SADIQ NARGAL, JUDGE

ORDER

25.03.2026

1. It has been brought to the notice of this Court by learned counsel for respondent Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5 that, inadvertently, due to misconception in the order dated 27.10.2025, it was inferred that Ms. Chetna Manhas, Advocate, had already filed the reply and deposited the costs, thereby altering the meaning of the order.

2. However, a perusal of the record reveals that reply had been filed on behalf of respondent No. 3 through Mr. Adarsh Sharma, Advocate, whereas Ms. Chetna Manhas, Advocate, appearing vice Mrs. Monika Kohli, learned Sr. AAG, for respondent Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5, had only deposited the costs and filed an application bearing CM No. 5183/2025 seeking extension of time for filing reply on behalf of the official respondents.

3. It is very strange that this Court, vide order dated 14.07.2025, had imposed costs of Rs. 2,000/- on respondent Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5 for not filing the reply. Despite the costs having been deposited, the reply has still not been filed.
4. Learned counsel for respondent Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5 submits that, due to some inadvertent mistake in the order dated 27.10.2025, the reply could not be filed. The statement so made is not accepted.
5. Without joining issue on the above, this Court, in the interest of justice, directs learned counsel for respondent Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5 to file response within one week positively, subject to payment of additional costs of Rs. 2,000/- to be deposited in the Advocates' Welfare Fund, failing which, right to file the same shall stand closed.
6. Reply stands filed on behalf of respondent No. 3.
7. List on 17.04.2026.
8. Meanwhile, interim direction(s), if any, shall continue.

(Wasim Sadiq Nargal)
Judge

Jammu:

25.03.2026

Mihul