

WPA 6680 of 2026

**State Bank of India & Anr.
Vs.
The State of West Bengal & Ors.**

Mr. Partha Sarathi Sengupta
Mr. Debashis Saha
Mr. Avirup Roy Sanyal
Ms. Sucheta Pal
Mr. Jyotishman Sarkar
...for the petitioners
Ms. Sangeeta Roy
Mr. Samrat Paul
...for the State

Mr. Samim Ahammed
Mr. Tapas Maity
Mr. Gulsanwara Parvin
Ms. Saloni Bhattacharya
Ms. Reshma Khatoun
Md. Nasirul Haque

...for the respondent nos. 4 to 6

1. Affidavit of service filed on behalf of the petitioners is taken on record.
2. State Bank of India is the petitioner in this writ petition being represented by Mr. Partha Sarathi Sengupta, learned senior advocate.
3. It is submitted on behalf of the petitioners that as per notice dated 12th March, 2026 of State Bank of India Contractual Workers' Association being respondent no. 4 members of such association are going to stage mass deputation on 25th March, 2026 at Samriddhi Bhavan,

Kolkata demanding certain service benefits as delineated in the said notice dated 12th March, 2026.

4. It is submitted on behalf of bank authority taking note of the incident occurred in 2024 it is apprehended that such mass deputation may disrupt banking service on 25th March, 2026. Prayer is made in this writ petition directing the police authorities to take necessary steps in order to keep the banking service normal on the agitation day. In support of such submission reliance is placed on the judgment of a coordinate bench reported in **2002 (1) L.L.N. 242 (Standard Chartered Grindlays Bank Ltd. Vs. Grindlays Bank Employees' Association and Others)**.
5. State respondents and respondent nos. 4 to 6 are represented by learned advocates.
6. Mr. Samim Ahammed, learned advocate representing respondents nos. 4 to 6 has relied upon the judgment of the Supreme Court reported in **(1973) 1 SCC 227 (Himat Lal K. Shah Vs. Commissioner of Police, Ahmedabad & Anr.)**.
7. On behalf of bank authorities considering the past incident which took place in 2024 on the agitation day apprehension has been expressed

since it is submitted that there is a possibility of disruption of banking service on 25th March, 2026 due to agitation of respondent organization.

8. At the same time it needs to be considered the right which emanates from Article 19(1)(b) of the Constitution of India so far respondent no. 4 organization is concerned.
9. In this regard this Court finds it apt to consider paragraph 42 of **Himat LaL K. Shah** (supra) wherein it was observed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court that it is a right which can be regulated in the interest of all so that all can enjoy the right. Therefore, the right of the respondent no. 4 organisation to stage demonstration has to be considered qua right of the banking authorities to keep the banking service normal.
10. Considering the aforesaid scenario Court directs that mass deputation which is scheduled on 25th March, 2026 in terms of notice dated 12th March, 2026 can be organized obeying following restrictions:-
 - i. Mass deputation shall be restricted to 50 participants;
 - ii. Mass deputation shall be organized at the ground floor of Samriddhi Bhavan, Kolkata;

- iii. Participants shall shout slogans maintaining sound norms and they will not use any sound system and microphones, only hand microphones to be used;
 - iv. Four representatives of participants in mass deputation shall be permitted to submit their representation before the concerned authority of State Bank of India at Samriddhi Bhavan, Kolkata;
 - v. Deputation to be organized in between 11.00 A.M. and 2.00 P.M. However, participants shall not disturb the banking service on 25th March, 2026 and same shall be kept normal.
11. Concerned authorities of Hare Street Police Station shall depute adequate number of police personnel who shall keep vigil over the mass deputation to be organized by the respondent no. 4 organisation and shall ensure that banking service shall not be disrupted.
12. Inspector-in-Charge, Hare Street Police Station is directed to submit a report on the next date disclosing the steps taken in terms of order passed today.
13. List the matter under the same heading for further consideration on 08th April, 2026.

(Saugata Bhattacharyya, J.)