

2022 LiveLaw (SC) 50

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

DR. D.Y. CHANDRACHUD; A.S. BOPANNA, JJ.

Miscellaneous Application No.1637/2019 in W.P.(C) No.292/2006; 10-01-2022

DISABLED RIGHT GROUP & ANR. *VERSUS* UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 - UGC to ensure that the guidelines inspection of educational institutions to ensure implementation of RPWD Act are finalized.

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 15-12-2017 in W.P.(C)No.292/2006 passed by the Supreme Court of India)

For Petitioner(s) By Courts Motion

For Respondent(s) Mr. K.M. Nataraj, ASG Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, Adv. Mr. A.K. Srivastava, Adv. Mr. Anil Hooda, Adv. Mr. V. Balaji, Adv. Mr. Shantanu Sharma, Adv. Mr. Shiv Mangal Sharma, Adv. Mr. D.L. Chidanand, Adv. Ms. Sunita Rani Singh, Adv. Mr. R.R. Rajesh, Adv. Mr. Amrish Kumar, Adv. Mr. Shafiq Ahmed, Adv. Mr. Ajay Sharma, Adv. Ms. Mamta Rani, Adv. Mr. Anurag Tripathi, Adv.

For UGC Mr. Manoj Ranjan Sinha, Adv. Mr. Rameshwar Prasad Goyal, AOR

ORDER

1. An updated status report has been filed by the University Grants Commission (UGC). The status report indicates that pursuant to communications addressed by the UGC, responses have been received from 334 universities and 553 colleges. The Committee which has been constituted by the UGC to prepare accessibility standards related to infrastructure, pedagogy and curriculum for educational institutions in consultation with the Chief Commissioners has initiated work.
2. A draft working framework for guidelines has been placed on the record. The status report indicates that visiting teams are being finalized to formulate modalities to carry out inspection of educational institutions to ensure implementation of the provisions of the RPWD Act and a Committee of experts would be set up for this purpose. The guidelines are expected to be finalized shortly, after which inspections are envisaged.
3. We direct the UGC to ensure that the guidelines are finalized before the next date of hearing. Work on the inspections should also commence. A status report should be filed of the progress made. We request the UGC to be proactive.
4. In view of the current stage of the pandemic, on the request of Mr Manoj Ranjan Sinha, learned counsel for the UGC, we direct that the proceedings be 2022 LiveLaw (SC) 50 MA 1637/2019 3 now listed on 14 March 2022. Compliance shall be reported at least a week before the next date of listing. The report and guidelines shall be made available to all the concerned stakeholders and shall be uploaded on the website of the UGC.
5. List the Miscellaneous Application on 14 March 2022.