

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CONTEMPT PETITION NO. 36812 OF 2024
IN
WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 1040 OF 2019

IN THE MATTER OF:

ANUJ NAKADE

...PETITIONERS

VERSUS

Dr. POONAM MALAKONDAIAH
GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

...RESPONDENT

INDEX

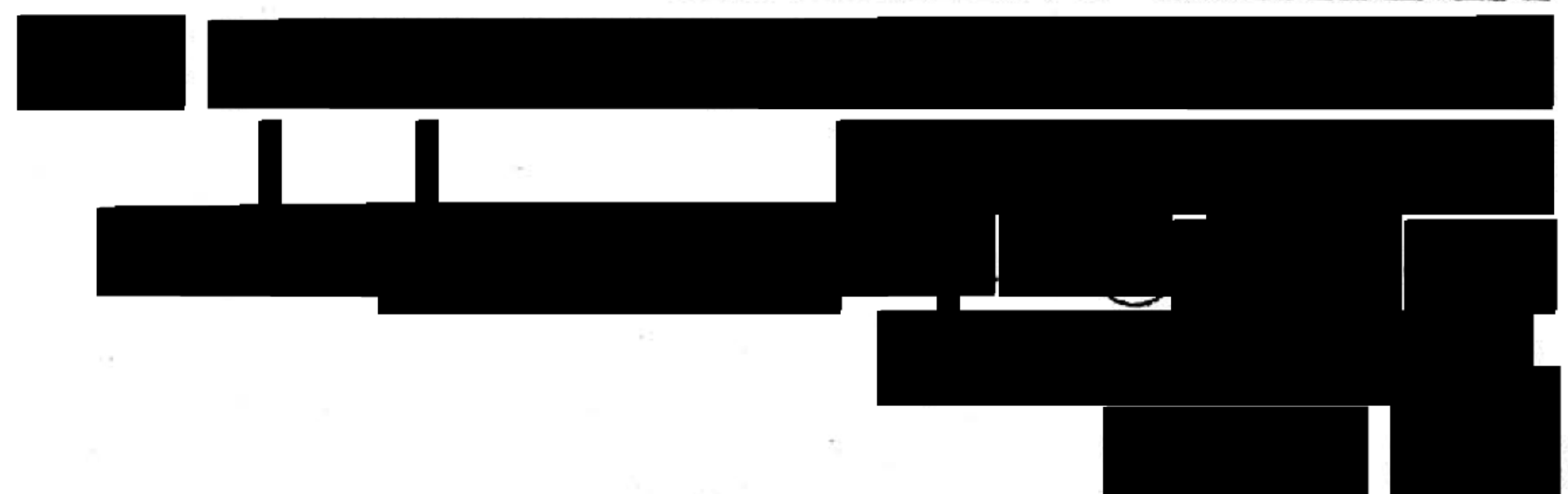
S. No.	Particulars	Page
1.	Short Reply by way of Affidavit of (Respondent No. 26) Girish Dayalan, Special Secretary to Government of Punjab, Department of Governance Reforms and Pubic Grievances, Chandigarh	1- 8

Filed on: 01.01.2025

Filed by:

Siddhant Sharma

AOR for Respondent No. 26
SIDDHANT SHARMA



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S. No.	Particulars	Page
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IN THE HON'BLE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
AT NEW DELHI.

Contempt Petition no 36812 of 2024
IN
Writ Petition(civil) no 1040 of 2019.

Anuj Nakade

.... Petitioner

Versus

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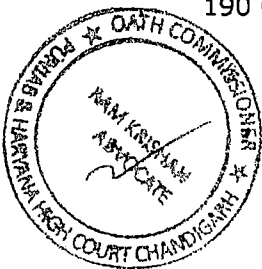
7. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA Government of West Bengal Secretary, Department of Administrative & Personnel Reforms, Nabanna, 7th Floor, 325 Sarat Chatterjee Road, Mandirtala, Shibpur, Howrah -711 102 E: secy.par-wb@nicnic.in

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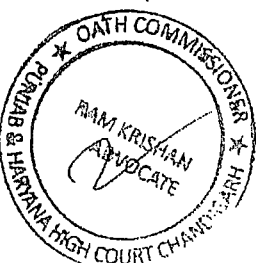
28. K NANTHAKUMAR Government Of Tamil Nadu Secretary Human
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34. ANIL KUMAR SINGH Union Territory of Delhi (NCR) Additional Chief
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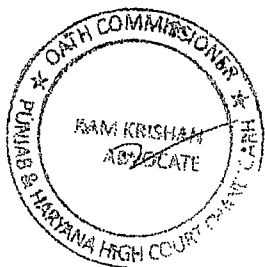
...Alleged Contemnours

Short reply by way of affidavit of (respondent
no 26) Girish Dayalan, Special Secretary to
Government of Punjab, Department of
Governance Reforms and Public Grievances,
Chandigarh.

I the above named deponent do hereby solemnly affirm and declare
as under:-

1. That the above noted contempt petition is pending in this Hon'ble
Court and is fixed for 20.12.2024.
2. That the present contempt petition has been filed by Anuj Nakade for
initiating the contempt proceedings against the officer in charge of the
respondent's state for willful, deliberate and intentional disobedience the
directions issued by the Hon'ble Apex Court in writ petition (civil) No 1040
of 2019. The following directions were passed by the Hon'ble Supreme
Court of India in the above noted case:

Civil



"In view of the orders which have been passed in writ petition (civil) no 1325 of 2020 there shall be directions to all the state Government to set up/operationalize online web portals so that information sought under the Right to Information Act, 2005 is made available in respect of all public authorities falling within their jurisdiction."

3. That it is noteworthy that in compliance of the directions issued by this Hon'ble Court, the state of Punjab has already started the portal i.e rti.punjab.gov.in for receiving the online RTI applications and First Appeals. The portal was made live during the year 2020-21. All the departments have been made onboard. The citizens are filing the online applications under the RTI Act, 2005 seeking the information from the relevant department. Even citizens can check the status of their applications. Hence, the present contempt petition against the answering respondent is not maintainable.
4. That the respective PIOs of the departments are providing information to the applicants/citizens through this portal. The First Appeals are also being filed by the citizens on this portal and the same are being disposed of time bound manner. It is submitted that till today 34043 applications seeking information has been received on portal out of which 20804 has been resolved. The same will also be resolved in time bound manner. Likewise, total 11740 first appeals have been filed by the citizens out of which 4837 have been disposed of. Hence,

Civil

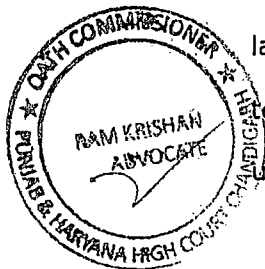


the present contempt petition is not maintainable and the same is liable to dismissed qua answering respondent.

5. That it is pertinent to mention here that the petitioner in the present case has also contended that all the public authorities have not been made onboard by the respective states. It is noteworthy all the departments have been onboarded on portal i.e rti.punjab.gov.in. The number of the applications and appeals filed under the RTI Act, 2005 have already been mentioned in para no 4 above. Hence, the present petition is liable to be dismissed.

6. That the answering respondent holds this Hon'ble Court in the highest esteem and cannot ever think for disobeying or intentionally or unintentionally. However, if this Hon'ble Court feels that there is any lapse on the part of answering deponent, the answering deponent tenders unconditional and unqualified apology for the same and undertakes to take corrective steps as directed by this Hon'ble Court.

In view of the above submissions, it is therefore, respectfully prayed that rule qua the answering deponent may kindly be discharged.



Identify the deponent who has Signed/Thumb marked in my presence

Signature

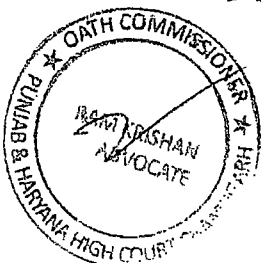
Dated: 18.12.2024
Chandigarh 20 DEC 2024

Chirish
Deponent

VERIFICATION: -

Verified that the contents of my affidavit are true and correct as per information derived from the official record. Nothing has been concealed or misstated therein.

Dated: -18.12.2024
Chandigarh 20 DEC 2024



20482 *Chirish*
I certify that above statement of Deponent
on Oath/S.A. before me at Chandigarh
by *Chirish Dayalan S.P.*
Son/Daughter, W/o *Secretary to Govt. of P.S.*
Resident of *D.G.R. Ph.*
Teh, _____ Dist. *CHD.*
Identified by *Chirish Dayalan S.P.*
who is personally known to me.
Dated: 20 DEC 2024
Oath Commissioner
Chandigarh