
(2012) 04 SC CK 0003
In the Supreme Court Of India
Case No : Criminal A. No. 135 of 2010

Budhadev Karmaskar

APPELLANT

Vs

State of West Bengal

RESPONDENT

Date of Decision : 18-04-2012

Acts Referred:

Citation : (2012) AIRSCW 4410 : (2012) 4 SCALE 567 : (2013) 1 SCC 294 : (2012) 5 Supreme 1

Hon'ble Judges : Gyan Sudha Misra, J;Altamas Kabir, J

Bench : Division Bench

Final Decision : Dismissed

Judgement

1. This matter was listed today in terms of the order passed on 23rd March, 2012. While considering the Sixth Interim Report, filed by the Committee appointed by this Court, we had noticed that most of the issues, which have been raised in the Report, involve the different Ministries and Departments of the Government, such as, the Department of Women and Child Development, Social Welfare Department, the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights. National Commission for Women, the National Legal Services Authority and the Delhi Legal Services Authority.

2. Pursuant to our request, all the Departments are duly represented. Mr. U. Sarathchandran, Member Secretary of the National Legal Services Authority and Ms. Asha Menon, Member Secretary of the Delhi Legal Services Authority, are also present.

3. We have considered the Sixth Interim Report and have heard some of the persons, who may have to be actively involved in finding solutions to the issues raised therein. Apart from Mr. Pradip Ghosh, Sr. Advocate, the learned A.S.G., Mr. P.P. Malhotra and Mr. Grover, learned senior Counsel, who represented some of the sex workers from Kolkata, based in Sonagachi, we have also heard Dr. Shanta Sinha, Chairperson of the National Commission for Protection of Child

Rights, Dr. Charu Wali Khanna, Member, National Commission for Women, Ms. Preeti Madan, Mr. U. Sarathchandran and Ms. Menon, on some of the problems that are faced by women, who have for some reason or the other been dragged into the sex trade.

4. Having heard the persons mentioned above, we are of the view that a joint meeting should be convened by the Committee appointed by this Court under the Chairmanship of Mr. Pradip Ghosh, learned senior advocate(*amicus curiae*), with the representatives of all the different Departments, present in Court today, including a person from the Delhi Administration and a representative of National Aids Control Organisation (NACO).

5. It has been suggested that such a meeting may be held on 6th May, 2012, (Sunday) at 11.00 a.m. The venue for the meeting would be the office of the National Legal Services Authority, situated at 12/11, Jam Nagar House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi-11, pursuant to the offer made by the Member-Secretary, NALSA, to use the Conference Room of the NALSA office.

6. The persons are requested to be present at the aforesaid venue on 6th May, 2012, at 11.00 a.m.

7. At the meeting, the various issues for providing relief to the sex workers and their children and their rehabilitation, may be discussed in detail and solutions may also be suggested as to how these issues can be tackled, especially, those relating to the children of the sex workers.

8. The Delhi Administration is requested to depute Ms. Renu Love, Joint Director, Department of Women and Child Development, to be present at the meeting.

9. Let this matter stand over till 10th May, 2012, at 3.30 p.m. and let this Bench be reconstituted on the said date for the said purpose.