
(2007) 04 UK CK 0013

In the Uttarakhand High Court

Case No : Writ Petition No. 6024 of 2001 (M/S)

Kisan Sahkari Chini Mills

APPELLANT

Vs

State of U.P. and Others

RESPONDENT

Date of Decision : 25-04-2007

Acts Referred:

Uttar Pradesh Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 — Section 11A, 14A, 4K

Citation : (2008) 1 UC 42

Hon'ble Judges : B.S. Verma, J

Bench : Single Bench

Advocate : M.C. Pande, for the Appellant; Gopal Narain Srivastava, Brief Holder, for the Respondent

Final Decision : Dismissed

Judgement

B.S. Verma, J.—The Petitioner has filed the present writ petition to issue a writ, order or direction in the nature of prohibition commanding the Respondent No. 3 from proceeding further in pursuance to the impugned order of reference dated 6-7-1992 (Annexure No. 1), which was made by the Deputy Labour Commissioner Haldwani, Kumaon Region. The Petitioner has further prayed for writ of certiorari quashing the order of reference dated 6-7-1992.

2. Learned Counsel for the Petitioner, Sri M.C. Pande, has vehemently submitted that the power to make a reference lies with the State Government u/s 4-K read with Section 11-A of the U.P. Industrial Disputes Act (for short the Act) and on this ground alone, the writ petition is liable to be allowed.

3. Learned Brief Holder for the State Sri Gopal Narain Srivastava, has submitted that the power has been delegated to the Deputy Labour Commissioner under the provisions of Section 11-A of the said Act. Learned Brief Holder for the State further submitted that the scope of Section 11-A of the Act has been dealt with by the Allahabad High Court in the case of Kishan Co-operative Sugar Factory Ltd., Sarsawa, Saharanpur Vs. State of U.P. and others, , wherein it was held in

paragraph 6 of the judgment that "The state Government is competent to delegate the power to the Deputy Labour Commissioner and since the Deputy Labour Commissioner enjoyed the powers of conciliation proceedings, he was competent to refer the matter."

4. Section 11 -A of the U.P. Industrial Disputes Act reads as under:

11-A. Delegation of power- The State Government may by making notification in the official gazette direct that any power exercisable by it under this Act or rules made thereunder shall, in relation to such matters and subject to such conditions, if any, as may be specified in the direction be exercisable also by such officers or authority subordinate to the State Government as may be specified in the notification.

5. The Allahabad High Court while dealing with the provisions of Sections 4-K and 11 -A of the Act, in an earlier decision in the case of Manager Chitra Talkies v. The Cinema Staff Union [1963(7) F.L.R 26], wherein it was observed that "the contention urged on behalf of the Petitioners is that Section 4-K provides for two things. In the first place it enjoins a duty on the State Government to be satisfied about the existence of or apprehension about an industrial dispute. Then it confers a power to refer the dispute or any matter connected with or relevant to the dispute connected with or relevant to the dispute to a labour court. It is urged that Section 11 -A empowers the Government only to delegate the power mentioned in Section 4-K and not the duty mentioned in that section. That duty must be performed by the Government itself. It cannot delegate to a subordinate officer the duty to be satisfied about of an industrial dispute." It was held that "from whatever point of view we may look at the matter therefore, there is no substance in the contention that the Government has no authority to delegate its powers u/s 4-K of the Act to the Deputy Labour Commissioner u/s 11-A of the Act.

6. Learned Brief Holder for the State Sri Gopal Narain Srivastava has submitted that the power had been delegated by Notification No. 2513 (H.I.) 36-2-155 (S.M.)/90 dated 29-8-1990 and a reference to the Notification has been made by the Deputy Labour Commissioner Haldwani in his reference letter, Annexure No. 1 itself.

7. Having considered the submissions made by the learned Counsel for the parties as well as the law laid down by the Allahabad High Court i am of the considered view that the facts of the present case are squarely covered by the judgment of the Allahabad High Court in the case of Kishan Cooperative Sugar Factory Ltd. Sarsawa (supra) and Manager Chitra Talkies (supra). The Deputy Labour Commissioner Haldwani was fully competent to make the reference in question in view of the provisions of Section 4-K read with Section 11-A of the Act. The submissions made by the learned Counsel for the Petitioner have no force. Accordingly, the writ petition is devoid of merit and is liable to be dismissed at the threshold.

8. The writ petition is dismissed in limine.
9. All applications stand disposed of.