

THE HON'BLE SMT. JUSTICE P.MADHAVI DEVI

WRIT PETITION No.44674 of 2022

ORDER:

This Writ Petition has been filed seeking a Writ of Mandamus, declaring the action on the part of the respondent No.2 in issuing Reply Notice dated 20.09.2022 thereby refusing to issue “Media Accreditation Card” under the category of “Independent Journalist”, to the petitioner for the period, 2022-2024, pursuant to online application filed on 25.05.2022, vide application Registration ID number “IPRIND19179” as illegal and arbitrary and consequently to direct the 2nd respondent to consider the application of the petitioner and to pass such other order or orders.

2. Brief facts leading to the filing of the present Writ Petition are that the petitioner is an MBA graduate and he started his career in journalism as an Assistant Correspondent in “City Cable News” at Mahabubabad, Warangal District from 01.03.2010 to 03.08.2016. It is submitted that, thereafter, he started his own independent online digital platform as “Hawk-Media House” in the year, 2016 and the same is in operation since then. It is submitted that the

petitioner has applied for “Media Accreditation Card” under the category of “Independent Journalist” for the year 2022-2024 and filed application on 25.05.2022 along with necessary documents including educational certificates and experience certificates. It is submitted that the respondents have not taken any action thereon and therefore he got issued a legal notice dated 12.09.2022, in reply to which the respondents has stated that the petitioner has not satisfied the conditions as an independent journalist as he has submitted only experience certificate of 6 years and five months with City Cable News and has not submitted experience certificates as an independent journalist. It was stated that the petitioner needs a minimum 10 years of experience in a newspaper or news agency or Government media or Electronic News Media for issuance of such an Accreditation Card. Challenging the said reply notice dated 20.09.2022, the present Writ Petition is filed.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the respondents have not considered the independent experience of the

petitioner after starting of his own online Digital Media platform i.e. “Hawk-Media House”

4. He has drawn the attention of this Court to the online application filed by the petitioner, wherein the details of the necessary documents annexed thereto are given. The learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the respondents have rejected the application of the petitioner without looking into the documents filed by the petitioner.

5. Learned Government Pleader for Information Technology has obtained instructions and on going through the same, it is noticed that the stand of the respondents is that the petitioner has not given the documents that he is entitled for Media Accreditation Card as an independent Journalist.

6. In view of the above submissions of both the parties and having regard to the fact that the petitioner has enclosed all the relevant documents along with online application and it is submitted that the respondents have not gone into the experience certificates given by the petitioner with regard to “Hawk-Media

House” which the petitioner is managing independently, this Court deems it fit and proper to direct the respondents to consider and verify these documents and take a decision thereafter in accordance with law. The entire exercise shall be completed within a period of one (01) month from the date of receipt of a copy of this Order.

7. Accordingly, the Writ Petition is disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

Miscellaneous applications, if any pending, shall also stand closed.

JUSTICE P.MADHAVI DEVI

Date:27.12.2022

Note:Furnish C.C in Two days.

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