



* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

% Date of decision: August 16, 2023

+ W.P.(C) 10127/2023, CM APPL. 39186/2023

RAVINDER SINGH AND ORS.

..... Petitioners

Through: Mr. M.K. Bhardwaj, Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

..... Respondents

Through: Ms. Reema Khurana, Sr. Panel
Counsel with Mr. Vikash Kumar,
Adv. for R1 and R2.
Mr. Anil Singhal, Adv. for R3 to R16.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE V. KAMESWAR RAO

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANOOP KUMAR MENDIRATTA

V. KAMESWAR RAO, J. (ORAL)

1. The challenge in this petition is to two orders dated April 17, 2023 and June 1, 2023 passed by the Central Administrative Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi ('Tribunal', for short) in the Original Application being OA 1068/2023 ('OA', for short), whereby the Tribunal vide order dated April 17, 2023 has granted the interim relief in favour of the respondent Nos.3 to 16 herein by directing the respondent Nos. 1 and 2 herein to maintain *status quo* with regard to the promotion to the post of Executive Engineer (Electrical and Mechanical) from serial no. 125 onwards of seniority list of Assistant Engineer (Electrical), CPWD dated February 14, 2021.



2. Whereas vide order dated June 1, 2023, the Tribunal, while fixing the matter for July 19, 2023 in OAs 1068/2023 and 1364/2023, apart from continuing the interim order dated April 17, 2023, has issued notice in the third OA being 1596/2023.

3. The submission of Mr. M. K. Bhardwaj, learned counsel appearing for the petitioners is that the Tribunal should at least hear the application filed by the petitioners herein seeking vacation of the stay order dated April 17, 2023 and may thereafter state, any promotion to the post of Executive Engineer (Electrical and Mechanical) shall be subject to the outcome of the OA as the promotions are only *ad hoc* in nature.

4. On the other hand, Mr. Anil Singhal, learned counsel appearing for the respondent Nos. 3 to 16 would submit that the present petition is an abuse of process of law, inasmuch as, though the petitioners have given a certificate stating that they have placed the complete record of OA filed before the Tribunal, however, they have not done the same. In any case, he submits that the present petition should also not be entertained as the Tribunal is finally hearing the OAs and it shall be appropriate that the Tribunal should be allowed to decide the same.

5. At this stage, Mr. Bhardwaj states, as the respondent Nos. 1 and 2 have filed their reply to the OA, the same shall be adopted by the petitioners herein as their reply. He also states that the pleadings in the OAs are complete and the next date of hearing is fixed for August 22, 2023 before the Tribunal, which should decide the same.

6. Mr. Bhardwaj and Mr. Singhal state, they shall not take any adjournment before the Tribunal. They also state, directions can be



given by this Court for the Tribunal to hear the counsel for the parties and finally decide the OAs.

7. Noting the said submission, it is directed that the Tribunal shall hear the counsel for the parties on August 22, 2023 and decide the OAs as expeditiously as possible within two weeks thereafter as an outer limit.

8. Petition stands disposed of, accordingly.

CM APPL. 39186/2023

Dismissed as infructuous.

V. KAMESWAR RAO, J

ANOOP KUMAR MENDIRATTA, J

AUGUST 16, 2023/jg