

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

247

CWP-17485-2023 (O&M)
Date of decision: 22.04.2024

Vanshika Rani

...Petitioner

VERSUS

Union of India and others

...Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD S. BHARDWAJ

Present :- Mr. Gurkirat Singh, Advocate for
Mr. Gaurav Datta, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Dheeraj Jain, Sr. Panel Counsel Advocate and
Mr. Sahil Garg, Advocate for respondent No.1.

Mr. Vraun Pathak, Advocate (through V.C.) and
Mr. Sachin Jain, Advocate for respondent No.3.

Ms. Niharika Sharma, AAG Punjab
for respondents No.4 to 7.

Mr. Ankur Bansal, Advocate for respondent No.8.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (Oral)

1. Prayer in the present petition is for directing respondents No.1 to 3 to block/suspend the URL/Social Media account i.e. 'karandutta vines' in which the objectionable photographs and videos of the petitioner have been uploaded by a Youtuber-respondent No.8/Karan Dutta.
2. Power of attorney on behalf of respondent No.8 has been filed today in the Court and the same is taken on record. Registry is directed to tag the same at an appropriate place with page marking.

3. A status report by way of affidavit dated 08.12.2023 of Dharampal, Deputy Superintendent of Police, PBI/Economic Offences & Cyber Crime, Patiala, on behalf of respondents No.4 to 7 along with Annexures, has been filed today in the Court and the same is taken on record. As per the status report, a detailed thorough inquiry has been conducted by the Incharge, Cyber Cell, Patiala, and vide report No.2071/5C/Cyber Cell dated 22.11.2023 on the basis of the representation of the petitioner. The petitioner was called upon to join the inquiry but she preferred to stay away. Respondent No.8 joined the investigation and got his statement recorded clarifying that he did not post the video on the social media platform and it was circulated online by one Maninder Singh @ Maninder Kamboj son of Tarajeet Singh. The said Maninder Singh @ Maninder Kamboj has not joined the inquiry intentionally and it has been informed that he had sent the video to Karan Dutta with the message '**Can I share this video on Insta**' and thereafter, he shared the video without consent of the petitioner. A case under Section 67(A) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 was made against Maninder Singh @ Maninder Kamboj, whereupon an FIR No.143 dated 29.11.2023 has already been registered at Police Station Urban Estate, Patiala.

4. Learned counsel for respondent No.3-Instagram India, Meta Platforms, has informed that all the objectionable posts i.e. photographs and videos have already been removed from the platform.

5. Since the prayer of the petitioner was for removal of the photographs/objectionable posts from the social media platform and also for taking action against the violators for the illegality committed by them and

both the said aspects already stand redressed, the present petition has been rendered infructuous at this stage.

6. **The present petition is disposed of as having been rendered infructuous.**

7. It is expected that the respondent authorities shall take expeditious steps for completion of the investigation in case FIR No.143 dated 29.11.2023 registered at Police Station Urban Estate, Patiala.

22.04.2024
Mangal Singh

(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No