

2024.PHHC.164242



**IN THE PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT AT
CHANDIGARH**

107

CWP-28179-2024
Date of Decision: 10.12.2024

SUJATA SAHU

... Petitioner

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERS

... Respondents

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

Present: Mr. Arjun Sheoran, Advocate for the petitioner.

Ms. Shalini Atri, Sr. Panel Counsel for respondents No.1 and 2.

VINOD S. BHARDWAJ, J. (ORAL)

Challenge in the present petition is to the report/order of the Local Complaints Committee dated 28.07.2023 (forwarded to Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Gurugram on 02.08.2023) closing the complaint submitted by the petitioner under the provisions of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

Learned counsel for the petitioner has been confronted with the fact that Section 18 of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 specifically provides for a remedy of appeal against such a report/order.

Even though, the counsel for the petitioner contends that the said remedy is not efficacious, however, this Court is not convinced to believe that the issues that have been espoused by the petitioner herein cannot be examined by the Appellate Authority.

For the foregoing reasons, I find that the present writ petition before this Court without availing the alternative remedy of appeal would not be appropriate.

The present petition is accordingly disposed of at this stage with liberty to the petitioner to avail her alternative appellate remedy in accordance with law.

Needless to mention that in the event of the petitioner availing any such remedy before the Appellate Authority, an expeditious decision shall be taken thereupon after granting opportunity of hearing to the respective parties.

DECEMBER 10, 2024.
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(VINOD S. BHARDWAJ)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned

: Yes/No

Whether reportable

: Yes/No