IN THE HIGH COURT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH AT SHIMLA

CWP No.19706 of 2026

Decided on: 03.11.2026

Keshav Ram ....Petitioner

Versus

State of H.P. & Anr. ...Respondents

Coram

Ms. Justice Jyotsna Rewal Dua

[1] *Whether approved for reporting?*

For the petitioner: Mr. Adarsh K Vashista, Advocate.

For the respondents: Mr. Sikandar Bhushan, Deputy Advocate General.

Jyotsna Rewal Dua, Judge

Petitioner is serving as Instructor (Fitter) at Government ITI (Women) Nahan, District Sirmour, H.P. His grievance is to the office order dated 30.10.2026 (Annexure P-3), transferring him to Government ITI Ghumarwin, District Bilaspur alongwith the post.

2. The ground urged for assailing the transfer order is that petitioner is currently discharging Census 2027 duties, therefore, in light of respondents' instructions issued vide office letter dated 22.05.2026 (Annexure P-1), he cannot

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[1] *Whether reporters of Local Papers may be allowed to see the judgment? yes*

be transferred before 31.03.2027.

3. Upon notice having been issued in the matter, learned Deputy Advocate General has placed on record office instruction dated 02.11.2026 from Director, Technical Education, Vocational & Industrial Training, Himachal Pradesh, Sundernagar and submitted that the aforesaid instructions be treated as stand of the respondents. In terms of the office instructions:- (i) Petitioner was posted at Government ITI (Women) Nahan, District Sirmour on 21.11.2021; (ii) The State of Art Government Industrial Training Institutes and Women Industrial Training Institutes have been merged with the respective Industrial Training Institutes vide notification dated 28.05.2025. Consequently, certain posts and staff have been rendered surplus at the concerned institutes; (iii) On 22.06.2026, the Government issued instructions for transfer and adjustment of Class III employees, consequent upon merger of Government ITIs with Women/State of Art ITIs. In compliance to this, notification was issued on 23.10.2026, shifting posts of Class III employees and; (iv) As a consequence upon shifting of the posts, petitioner has been transferred Government

Industrial Training Institute Ghumarwin, District Bilaspur on 30.10.2026. The respondents have also emphasized that distance between Ghumarwin, i.e. the place where petitioner has been transferred, is approximately 40 KM away from his native place Rewalsar.

The respondents though have justified the transfer of the petitioner along with the post to Government ITI Ghumarwin, District Bilaspur, however, petitioner's contention of his having been deployed in Census 2027 duties and the instructions issued by the respondent-State on 22.05.2026 (Annexure P-1) for not transferring the Census functionaries till 31.03.2027 in order to ensure smooth, uninterrupted and successful conduct of Census 2027, has not been disputed.

4. In view of the above, this writ petition is disposed of with directions to the respondents to permit the petitioner to continue to discharge his duties at his current place of posting till 31.03.2027. Petitioner's transfer under office order dated 30.10.2026 shall be given effect to w.e.f. 01.04.2027.

Pending miscellaneous application(s), if any, also stand disposed of.

Jyotsna Rewal Dua
Judge

November 3, 2026
R.Atal