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

+ **W.P.(C) 1201/2026, CM APPL. 5894-5895/2026**

MS SONALI

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Durgesh Kumar Sharma,
Advocate.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondent

Through: Mr. Abhinav Kalia, Mr. Ajit Kumar
Kalia, Sr. Panel Counsel, Mr. Rahul
Bhaskar, GP, Mr. Devesh Khara, Mr.
Lakshya Bhatia, Mr. Devesh Dubey,
Mr. Bismit Nayak, Advocates for
Respondent no. 1
Ms. Saloni Jaggi, Advocate for R-2.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV NARULA

ORDER

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29.01.2026

1. The Petitioner, a Scheduled Caste candidate appointed on compassionate grounds to the post of Stenographer in the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), has been served with a show cause notice dated 16th January, 2026, which is impugned in the present petition.
2. The impugned show cause notice has been issued on the ground that the Petitioner has not qualified the requisite shorthand test and has therefore allegedly failed to fulfil an essential condition of her appointment. By way of the said notice, the Petitioner has been called upon to explain why her services should not be terminated on this account. Counsel for the Petitioner



submits that the notice is arbitrary, unreasonable, and violative of the principles of natural justice, and thus liable to be quashed at the threshold. It is urged that this Court should entertain the petition at this stage and set aside the show cause notice.

3. The law with respect to interference at the stage of a show cause notice is well settled. Unless the Petitioner is able to demonstrate that the authority issuing the show cause notice lacks jurisdiction, or that the notice suffers from patent illegality or perversity on the face of the record, ordinarily writ jurisdiction is not exercised at the show cause stage.¹ The submissions advanced by the Petitioner largely touch upon the merits of the matter, which can appropriately be raised in response to the show cause notice before the competent authority.

4. Accordingly, the Court finds no basis to entertain the present petition.

5. Dismissed along with pending application(s).

SANJEEV NARULA, J

JANUARY 29, 2026/ab

¹ *Union of India v. Kunisetty Satyanarayana* (2006) 12 SCC 28