The High Court of Madhya Pradesh

W.P. No.1613/2021

(Aditya Tiwari Vs. State of Madhya Pradesh and others)

Jabalpur Dated: 8.2.2021

Heard through Video Conferencing

Shri Shashank Shekhar with Shri Samresh Katare, Advocates for the petitioner.

Shri Swapnil Ganguly, Dy. Advocate General for respondent/State.

Shri J. K. Jain, Assistant Solicitor General for Respondent No 2/Union of India

The petitioner has filed the present writ petition for issuance of a writ of mandamus commanding the respondents to stop streaming of "Tandav" web series from the OTT platform of the Respondent No.3 and also requiring the Respondents No.1 and 2 to take appropriate legal steps against the action of the other respondents and formulate Rules to bring all OTT platforms under the censorship laws.

Shri Swapnil Ganguly, learned Dy. Advocate General, at the out set submitted that similar writ petition bearing **W.P. No.189/2021** titled as **Sandeep Garg Vs. Union of India and 4 others** has not been entertained by the Allahabad High Court. Learned counsel for the petitioner in that case, after arguing the matter for sometime, prayed for withdrawal of the writ petition with liberty to raise his grievance before the appropriate authority under the law.

Learned counsel for the petitioner in the course of arguments did not dispute the fact that some of the objectionable contents of the web-series

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have already been removed and the makers of the web-series have tendered unconditional apology, but stated that there are still many objectionable parts in the web-series which have not been removed.

Having regard to the fact and circumstance of the case, this Court is not persuaded to issue the writ of mandamus commanding the respondents to formulate the Rules as prayed for. Instead of entertaining the writ petition, the petitioner is set at liberty to approach the appropriate authority under the law for redressal of his grievances.

With the aforesaid liberty, this writ petition is disposed of.

(Mohammad Rafiq)
Chief Justice

(Vijay Kumar Shukla) Judge

Anchal