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19.05.
2020

Through Video Conference

W. P. No. 5333 (W) of 2020

In re : Letter of Sri Ashoke Kr. Dhandania

With

W. P. No. 5337 (W) of 2020

+

C.A.N.3004 of 2020

Pankaj Kr. Sarkar

Vs

State of West Bengal & Others

With

W. P. No. 5343 (W) of 2020

Soumen Sarkar

Vs

Union of India & Others

Mr. Ashoke Kr. Dhandania...for the Petitioner.
In W. P. No.5333 (W) of 2020.

Mr. S. Chakraborty ...for the Petitioner.
In W. P. No.5337 (W) of 2020.

Mr. B. Bhattacharya
Mr. S. Sharmafor the Petitioner.
In W. P. No.5343 (W) of 2020.

Mr. Prasun Kr. Dutta,
Mr. Sanjay Bardhan,
Mr. Anand Fermania ...for the W.B. Bar Council.

Mr. Vipul Kundalia,
Mr. Rajeshree Kundalia...for the Union of India.

It is submitted on behalf of the Bar Council of West Bengal that about 22000 applications for financial aid have been received from learned Advocates and the same are being processed. The State Bar Council needs to obtain permission from the Bar Council of India before starting disbursement of such financial aid to learned Advocates. A letter has been written by the Bar Council of West Bengal to the Bar Council of India seeking such permission, but no response has been received till date to

such letter by the State Bar Council.

Mr. Billwadal Bhattacharya, learned Advocate appearing for the writ petitioner in one of the matters submitted that huge amounts on account of lawyers' fees for rendering professional services are outstanding and payable by the State Government as well as Central Government to learned Advocates who represent the State and Central Government. He submitted that if such dues of the learned lawyers are cleared, the same shall mitigate the hardship of the Government Advocates to a great extent.

Learned Advocate General representing the State Government and Mr. Vipul Kundalia, learned Advocate representing the Union of India, at our request, have assured us that they will look into the matter and discuss the issue of payment of the outstanding fees of the Government Advocates at the appropriate level.

Post the matter on 29.05.2020.

(Thottathil B. Radhakrishnan, C.J.)

(Arijit Banerjee, J.)