



Ram Lal Sharma vs. State of H.P. and others

CWPIL No.9 of 2026

Item No.S-7

09.01.2026 Present: Mr. Ankush Dass Sood, Senior Advocate with Mr. Ajay Sipahiya and Mr. Tarun Mehta, Advocates, for the petitioner.

Ms. Priyanka Chauhan, Deputy Advocate General, for the respondents No.1 to 3-State.

Mr. Harish Dod, Advocate, for respondent Nos.4 and 5.

The challenge is to the decision dated 07.01.2026 (Annexure P-12) regarding the shifting of the office of the H.P. State Commission for Backward Classes from Shimla to Dharamshala, District Kangra.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner has pointed out that the Chairman of the Commission was only appointed on 03.12.2025 (Annexure P-4) and belongs to Kangra and the members were appointed thereafter on 23.12.2025. The proposal came on 24.12.2025 (Annexure P-6) to shift the office from Shimla to Dharamshala (District Kangra) and to maintain the present office as the Camp Office of the Commission by the Chairman.

3. As per the proposal (Annexure P-6), there are 11 posts which are filled up, of the employees and the details as per Annexure P-8 would go on to show that out of the 11 employees, 6 are Class-IV employees.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner has also pointed out that the office accommodation is on lease, having paid Rs. 22,54,000/- for 99 years, and the Commission's office premises do not incur recurring rental expenditure. Furthermore, no decision has specifically been taken as to what accommodation has been made available at Dharamshala.

5. Reliance is also placed upon the observations made by this Court in its order dated 30.12.2025 in CWPII No. 38 of 2025 (Annexure P-11), to the effect that if the number of employees is minuscule, the purpose of decongestion would be frustrated.

6. Notice. Ms. Priyanka Chauhan, learned Deputy Advocate General and Mr. Harish Dod, learned counsel, appear and accept notice on behalf of respondents No.1 to 3 and respondents No.4 and 5, respectively.

7. To come up on **08.04.2026**.

CMP No.1574 of 2025

8. In the meantime, the abovesaid shifting shall remain stayed.

Application stands disposed off.

(G.S. Sandhawalia)
Chief Justice

January 09, 2026
(ankit)

(Jiya Lal Bhardwaj)
Judge