

Court No. - 18

Case :- WRIT - A No. - 7467 of 2025

Petitioner :- Sudama Paswan

Respondent :- State Of U.P. Thru. Prin. Secy. Deptt. Of Goods And Services Tax Gst Lko. And 2 Others

Counsel for Petitioner :- Alok Mishra

Counsel for Respondent :- C.S.C.

Hon'ble Manish Mathur,J.

1. Heard Mr. Alok Mishra learned counsel assisted by Mr. Pranjali Shukla, learned counsel for petitioner and learned State Counsel for opposite parties.

2. Under challenge is the order dated 21.06.2025 whereby petitioner has been placed under suspension on the allegation that he was prima facie found to be demanding a bribe in an audio message, which was circulated on social media. Second allegation levelled against petitioner is that in a seminar held on 15.05.2025, various persons raised complaints with regard to work ethics of petitioner. Thirdly, petitioner was found absent from duty at the time of inspection of his work place.

3. It has been submitted that so far as first allegation is concerned, there is absolutely no mention of the fact whether the audio available on social media was ever verified by any expert particularly in these times where voice of a person can be easily replicated and copied by Artificial Intelligence.

4. It is also submitted that second allegation levelled against petitioner is completely vague in nature since the nature of complaints have not been disclosed. The third allegation has also been denied by learned counsel for petitioner.

5. Prima facie submissions advanced by learned counsel for petitioner have force and require consideration for which learned State Counsel is granted ten days' time to seek instructions and to file a short counter affidavit particularly indicating as to whether the alleged audio message available on social media was ever examined by experts prior to passing of the impugned order.

6. List this case on 23.07.2025, as fresh.

7. Till next date of listing, the operation of impugned order dated 21.06.2025 shall remain stayed.

Order Date :- 11.7.2025

Satish