

**Court No. - 34**

**Case :-** WRIT - A No. - 2259 of 2024

**Petitioner :-** Adarsh Kumar

**Respondent :-** State Of Up And 5 Others

**Counsel for Petitioner :-** Anubhav Srivastava

**Counsel for Respondent :-** C.S.C.

**Hon'ble J.J. Munir,J.**

After going through the contents of whatever was spoken to the media by the petitioner, this Court refrains from expressing any opinion at this juncture. However, this Court notices that there is a general trend amongst government servants of the present day of all ranks, including those in the Central Services serving the State cadre, of casually and freely speaking to the media. The District Collectors and the District Superintendent of Police are freely seen speaking and interacting with media. Likewise, is the case with government servants employed in connection with the affairs of the State and those serving further down in the hierarchy. Unless there is a change or a fundamental change to the conduct rules in force earlier in the day, this kind of a freedom would not be there for government servants to speak to the media of their own. One of the reasons amongst many others why every government servants was held not free to speak to the media is that the government should not be seen coming up with contradictory stands on the same issue. It must speak through an authorized spokesperson, may be someone from the public relation department or a designated officer from the particular establishment or department.

Let the Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Personnel, Government of U.P., Lucknow file his own affidavit generally indicating what the service rules now say about government servants speaking to the media. If there are prohibition generally in

the service rules, the Secretary will also indicate what steps are taken from time to time in training academies to train the younger generation of government servants not to be tempted to speak to the media and more so impromptu.

The affidavit shall be filed within a week.

Lay this matter as **fresh** again on **03.05.2024**.

Let this order be communicated to the Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Personnel, Government of U.P., Lucknow through the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Lucknow by the Registrar (Compliance) within **24 hours**.

**Order Date :-** 24.4.2024

Brijesh Maurya