

Supreme Court of India

State Of U.P vs Ravinder Nath Chaturvedi & Anr on 28 August, 1995

Equivalent citations: JT 1995 (6), 614 1995 SCALE (5)86

Author: K Ramaswamy

Bench: Ramaswamy, K.

PETITIONER:

STATE OF U.P

Vs.

RESPONDENT:

RAVINDER NATH CHATURVEDI & ANR

DATE OF JUDGMENT 28/08/1995

BENCH:

RAMASWAMY, K.

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RAMASWAMY, K.

HANSARIA B.L. (J)

CITATION:

JT 1995 (6) 614 1995 SCALE (5)86

ACT:

HEADNOTE:

JUDGMENT:

O R D E R Leave granted. Heard learned counsel for the parties. The high Court has set aside the imposition of the penalty on the respondents on the ground that no reasonable opportunity was given to the respondents during the inquiry by the Inquiry Officer. It is also found that no one was examined to prove the case of the State. It would be desirable that an officer who is acquainted with the records may also be examined to prove the documentary evidence and opportunity may be given to the respondents to cross-examine the witness or produce any evidence in rebuttal. Thereafter, inquiry will be conducted, the report will be given and copy thereof will be supplied to the respondents.

The order of the High Court is accordingly set aside. The Inquiry Officer, if he is still in service is directed to conduct and complete the inquiry within a period of four months from the date of receipt of this Order. If he is not in service, the State is directed to appoint another Inquiry Officer afresh who would do the needful within the said period.

In case of fresh appointment of Inquiry Officer, the State Government is directed to appoint an Inquiry Officer within one month from the date of receipt of this Order. After submission of the report by the Inquiry Officer, the State Government is further directed to consider the inquiry report and take appropriate decision within three months thereafter.

The appeal is accordingly allowed with the above directions. No costs.