News

Encourage the appointment of a general within a month: The J&K government informs the High Court



Since **DC Raina resigned in October 2024**, the Advocate General position in **the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir has remained unfilled.**

On November 5, the government of Jammu and Kashmir promised the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh that the position of **J&K Advocate General will be filled within a month [Harsh Dubey V/s UT of J&K].**

The proposal was made while a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition requesting the prompt appointment of an Advocate General for the Union Territory was being heard.
Monika Kohli, Senior Additional Advocate General, submitted last week that the appointment process is in progress and will be finished in a month.

After taking the submission on record, a Division Bench made up of Chief Justice Dr. Pushpendra Singh Bhati and Justice Rajnesh Oswal postponed the matter to December 8.

Pushpendra Singh Bhati, Chief Justice, and Rajnesh Oswal, Justice

Notably, DC Raina, the Advocate General at the time, resigned on October 18, 2024, leaving the position empty. The position has been open for over two years.

After the National Conference, led by Omar Abdullah, assumed power in the Union Territory, Raina resigned. The National Conference government and **Lieutenant Governor have not been able to occupy the crucial position since.**

Advocate Harsh Dubey's PIL requested that the appropriate government take prompt action to fill the constitutional position.

According to the petition, the administration of justice and the performance of the statutory duties associated with the position are being impacted by the constitutional office's ongoing vacancy.

Since **the Advocate General is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Advocates Welfare Fund Trustee Committee under the Advocates' Welfare Fund Act, 2001, the plea notes that the vacancy has also affected the committee's ability to operate.**

Lawread