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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(SPECIAL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
WRIT PETITION NO. 7878 of 2014

IN THE MATTER OF:

An application under Article 102(1)(2)(a) of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

AND

IN THE MATTER OF:

Articles 27, 28, 31 and 32 of the Constitution and Muslim Marriages and Divorces (Registration) Act 1974.

AND

IN THE MATTER OF:

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) represented by its Legal Advisor, S.M. Rezaul Karim YMCA Bhaban, 1/1 Pioneer Road, Shegun Bagicha, PS Ramna, Dhaka and others.

.....Petitioners.

-Versus-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration, Government of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
2. Secretary, Ministry of Religion Affairs, Government of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
3. Director General, Department of Printing and Publications, Shahid Tajuddin Road, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka.
4. Deputy Director, Bangladesh Forms and Publication Office, Shahid Tajuddin Road Tajuddin Road, Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka,.

.....Respondents.

AND

IN THE MATTER OF:

Provision and Clause 5 in the prescribed marriage registration forms (kabin-namah) (BG Form Nos. 1600 and 1601), which perpetuate discrimination between women and men resulting in violation of provisions as guaranteed by articles 27, 28, 31 and 32.

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Present:
Ms. Justice Naima Haider
And

Mr. Justice Md. Jahangir Hossain

The 14th day of September, 2014.

Mr. Md. Akmal Hossain, Advocate

.....for the petitioner.

Mr. Md. Mokleshur Rahman, D.A.G.

.....for the Respondents.

Let a Rule Nisi be issued calling upon the respondents to show cause as to why the entry No. 5 in forms No. 1600 and 16001 should not be declared to be without lawful authority and of no legal effect being discriminatory against women on the ground of sex and marital status in violation of Articles 28, 31 and 32 of the Constitution and as to why the respondents should not be directed to take necessary action and to amend the Bangladesh Forms No. 1600 and 1601 (Kabin-Nama), by omitting the use of the word “সুমারী” in respect of brides, and to ensure that information regarding marital status (never married/married but divorced/marriage subsisting) is required in respect of both men and women without any discrimination and to impose a mandatory requirement for both the bride and groom to affix their respective photos to these forms at the time of registration of marriage and/or pass such other or further order or orders as to this court may seem fit and proper.

৭ The Rule is ~~made~~ returnable within 4 (four) weeks.

The petitioner is directed to put in requisites for service of notice upon the respondents through registered post and in usual course.

Naima Haider
Md. Jahangir Hossain.

Type by: Shahidullah. 01.7.15.

Read by:

Exm. by:

Readied by:

প্রত্যয়িত জব্বান প্রতিনিধি

01/07/15

সহকারী জজ (সিনিয়র)
বাংলাদেশ সুপ্রীম কোর্ট, হাইকোর্ট বিভাগ
(১৮-৭২ ইং সনের ১নং আইনের)
৭৬ ধারামতে ক্ষমতা প্রাপ্ত

মোঃ মনজুরুল হক খান
প্রশাসনিক কর্মকর্তা

মোঃ সামছুল ইসলাম
সিনিয়র সুপারিনটেন্ডেন্ট