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National

PMO official accused of domestic violence by wife

New Delhi, May. 4 (PTI): Nearly 13 years after tying the nuptial knot, the wife of a senior PMO official has filed a criminal complaint in a court here alleging dowry harassment and domestic violence, a charge denied by him.

Shivani Kabra, who married IAS officer Shaleen Kabra in 1994, said in her complaint before a Delhi court that her husband used to often beat her up and she was constantly harassed by her in-laws before being thrown out of the house on April 10 this year.

Shaleen, now posted as Director in the PMO, allegedly demanded Rs. 4 lakhs to buy a car after he shifted to Delhi from Jammu and Kashmir in 2002, a demand vehemently objected to by Shivani who was then abused and beaten up, she said in her complaint.

Disputing the charge, the J&K cadre officer said his wife had left the house on her own and denied that she was not allowed to meet their two sons aged nine and four-and-a-half years. The children study in DPS school and she regularly meets them there, he contended.

Metropolitan Magistrate Sanjay Bansal in his order on May one granted temporary custody of the two children to Shivani.

"Having gone through the application (of Shivani) and hearing of both the parties, I am inclined to grant interim order for temporary custody to the applicant in view of the present factual circumstances," the magistrate ruled.

The officer and his parents have been asked to file their detailed replies by July 2 when the matter will again come up.

National

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