



Serial No.03
Weekly List

HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA
AT SHILLONG

PIL No.12/2022

Date of Order: 02.12.2024

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| 1. Shri Riewad Vicharwant Warjri | |
| 2. Smti. Patricia Mukhim | Petitioners |
| Vs. | |
| 1. State of Meghalaya represented by the Secretary and Commissioner, Police Department (Home), Govt. of Meghalaya, Shillong. | |
| 2. Director General of Police, Home (Police) Department, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya. | |
| 3. Inspector General of Police (law and order), Home (Police) Department, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya. | |
| 4. Deputy Inspector General (ER) Home (Police) Department, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya. | |
| 5. Deputy Inspector General (WR) Home (Police) Department, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya. | |
| 6. Deputy Inspector General (SB) Home (Police) Department, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya. | |
| 7. Shri Gabriel K. Iangrai, then AIG (Adm) now posted as Commandant, SF-10, Shillong, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya. | |
| 8. Official-in-Charge, Central Workshop, Bishnupur, Shillong, East Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya. | Respondents |
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Coram:

Hon'ble Mr. Justice I.P. Mukerji, Chief Justice
Hon'ble Mr. Justice W. Diengdoh, Judge

Appearance:

For the Petitioner	: Mr. S. Chanda, Adv with Ms. K. Decruse, Adv
For the Respondents	: Mr. A. Kumar, Advocate General with Mr. K. Khan, AAG Ms. A. Thungwa, GA Mr. P. Yobin, Adv for R/7



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| i) | Whether approved for reporting in Law journals etc.: | Yes/No |
| ii) | Whether approved for publication in press: | Yes |

Note: For proper public information and transparency, any media reporting this judgment is directed to mention the composition of the bench by name of judges, while reporting this judgment/order.

JUDGMENT: (per the Hon’ble, the Chief Justice) (Oral)

This public interest litigation (PIL) has some history.

Numerous orders have been passed from time to time. The subject-matter of this litigation is alleged misuse of power and authority by an Assistant Inspector General of Police, the private respondent in the writ petition.

He is accused of irregularly procuring about 29 vehicles for the police department, keeping them in his custody and misutilizing them.

Upon the writ petitioners filing this PIL, the bench at that time entertained and admitted it by an order dated 30th September, 2022. Thereafter, from time to time we find that orders have been passed closely monitoring the departmental proceedings together with criminal cases which have been initiated against this officer.

A report was called for by the Court from the authorities indicating the progress of the enquiry.

Today, we are informed by the learned Advocate General that out of 43 witnesses for the prosecution in the departmental enquiry, 41



have been examined and two are not available. Therefore, examination of the prosecution witnesses is complete.

We are also told that the charge-sheet in the criminal cases has been framed against the officer. He was arrested, was detained and is now enlarged on bail.

We have taken all these facts into account.

We are of the view that the purpose of the PIL has been served. The Court was moved on the allegation that the authorities were not vigilant enough to initiate action with regard to the above alleged wrong doing by the delinquent. The Court intervened.

We find that by the passage of about two years substantial steps, as desired by the Court have been taken. Therefore, this matter does not need any further prodding by the Court, in our opinion.

We dispose of this PIL by directing that the departmental proceedings be concluded as soon as possible preferably by 31st March, 2025. We also direct that the criminal cases be disposed of within that period preferably.

Any person hereafter aggrieved is at liberty to approach the ordinary courts of law for the remedy that may be available to him or her.

(W. Diengdoh)
Judge

(I.P. Mukerji)
Chief Justice

Meghalaya
02.12.2024
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