

GAHC010235352024



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THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT
(HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH)

Case No. : PIL/71/2024

RAM BAHADUR SUNAR
S/O- LATE UDEIBIR SUNAR,
R/O- GORMORA NO-1, P.O AND P.S- CHARIDUAR, DIST- SONITPUR, ASSAM,
PIN-784103

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND 13 ORS
REP. BY THE JOINT SECRETARY , MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS, SHASTRI BHAWAN, RAJENDRA PRASAD ROAD, NEW
DELHI-01

2:INDIAN OIL CORPORATION LIMITED

REP. HEREIN BY THE CHIEF GENERAL MANAGER
INDIAN OIL BHAWAN

SECTOR -III
NOONMATI
GUWAHATI-20
ASSAM

3:STATE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
REP. HEREIN BY ITS CHIEF SECRETARY
(GOVT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH)
CIVIL SECRETARIAT
BLOCK NO-2

5TH FLOOR
ITANAGAR
PIN-791111
ARUNACHAL PRADESH

4:DIRECTOR OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES
PAPU NALAH
DIST- PAPUM PAARE
PIN-791110
ARUNACHAL PRADESH

5:SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE
SONITPUR
ASSAM
PIN-784001

6:SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE
EAST KAMENG
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
PIN-790102

7:BIJAY RAI

BINDA DEVI TRADERS

OIL TANKER OWNER AND VENDOR
MISAMARI
GORUBANDHA
PIN-784506

8:SHYAM PAREEK
C/O- RAJESH MOTORS

OIL TANKER OWNER
GNB ROAD
RANGAPARA
DIST- SONITPUR
ASSAM

9:SUNIL KUMAR BOOBANA
PROP. TARANI ENTERPRISES

OIL TANKER OWNER
MAIN ROAD RANGAPARA
DIST- SONITPUR
ASSAM
PIN-784505

10:GOKUL CHRTRY
PROP. KHUSBOO ENTERPRISES

OIL TANKER OWNER

CHARIDUAR
MES ROAD
SONITPUR
ASSAM
PIN-784103

11:TSERING THAPA
BAMUN CHUBURI ROAD

OIL TANKER OWNER
MAJGAON
SONITPUR
ASSAM
PIN-784001

12:RAJA SHARMA
OIL TANKER OWNER
WEST KAMENG
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
DHOUNG VILLAGE
PIN-790116

13:M/S TARA BAGANG KEROSENE AGENCY
SEPPA (CONSIGNEE)
P.O- SEPPA
DIST-EAST KAMENG
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
PIN-790102

14:BASANTA KUMAR DAS
THE THEN DEPOT GENERAL MANAGER FROM 2018-2021
MISSAMARI
IOCL DEPOT
SONITPUR
ASSAM
PIN-78450

For petitioner(s)/appellant(s) : Mr. P. P. Bora, Advocate
Mr. P. P. Medhi, Advocate

For respondent(s) : Mr. B. Deka, Advocate
Ms. S. Sarma, Advocate
Mr. B.D. Goswami, Addl. AG,
Arunachal Pradesh
Mr. A. Chandran, Add. Sr. GA,
Arunachal Pradesh

**-BEFORE-
HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. VIJAY BISHNOI
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KAUSHIK GOSWAMI**

27.11.2024

This PIL petition is filed by the petitioner raising the issue regarding the irregularities committed by some individuals and government officials in distribution of Kerosene Oil and other petroleum products supposed to be distributed to the public at large under the Public Distribution System (PDS) in the State of Arunachal Pradesh.

It is contended by the learned counsel for the petitioner that certain individuals in connivance with the government officials are indulged in misappropriating the aforesaid items supposed to be distributed to the public under the PDS system. It is contended that in some of the cases police has registered criminal cases, but in respect of some instances pointed out by the petitioner vide representation submitted to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and other officials of the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, no action has been taken against the persons involved.

Having heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and after going through the material available on record, *prima face* we are of the view that the petitioner has raised an issue of grave concern that certain individuals are indulged in committing criminal acts by interfering with the Public Distribution System, which is required to be thoroughly investigated.

On a pointed query raised by this Court, learned counsel for the petitioner has frankly admitted that the petitioner has not filed any complaint with the concerned police station or with the competent criminal court regarding the criminal activities carried out by certain individuals.

At this stage, learned counsel for the petitioner on instructions has submitted that he may be allowed to withdraw this PIL petition with liberty to approach the concerned

police station, or the competent criminal court highlighting the criminal activities carried out by some individuals resulting in siphoning of public money as well as misappropriation of essential items supposed to be distributed to the public at large under the PDS.

In view of the above submission of the learned counsel for the petitioner, this PIL petition is dismissed as withdrawn, with liberty to the petitioner, as prayed for.

JUDGE

CHIEF JUSTICE

Comparing Assistant