

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR

WRIT PETITION No.4392 of 2016

ORDER:

The grievance of the petitioners was with regard to the action of the authorities in suspending the toddy shop licence of the society without giving it an opportunity to offer an explanation.

The suspension pending enquiry was effected under proceedings dated 25.01.2016 issued by the Prohibition and Excise Superintendent, Medak Excise Unit. Admittedly, a show-cause notice was also issued to the society on the very same day. The society would have to respond to the said show-cause notice in the context of the allegations of adulteration of toddy leveled against it. Pending such enquiry, as there are allegations of adulteration of toddy, the society cannot be permitted to continue with the sale of toddy. This Court therefore finds no grounds to interfere with the order of suspension pending enquiry. However, as the livelihood of the members of the society would be at stake, it would serve the interests of justice if the enquiry is completed expeditiously.

The writ petition is accordingly disposed of directing the Prohibition and Excise Superintendent, Medak, to complete the enquiry expeditiously in accordance with the due procedure and in any event, not later than three weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

Pending miscellaneous petitions, if any, shall stand disposed of in the light of this final order. No order as to costs.

JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR

11th February, 2016

IBL