

Amrut

IN THE HIGH COURT OF BOMBAY AT GOA

WRIT PETITION NO.163 OF 2024

VEDANTA LIMITED REP. THR. ITS
AUTH. SIG. BENECIO MENEZES AND ANR ... PETITIONERS
Versus
STATE OF GOA THR ITS CHIEF
SECRETARY AND ANR ... RESPONDENTS

Mr Shivan Desai and Mr Varun Bhandanker, Advocates for the
Petitioners.

Mr D. Pangam, Advocate General with Ms Maria Correia, Additional
Government Advocate for the Respondents.

**CORAM:- M. S. SONAK &
VALMIKI SA MENEZES, JJ.**

DATED :- 12th February, 2024

P.C.:

Heard Mr Desai, learned counsel for the Petitioners. Mr D.
Pangam, learned Advocate General appears with Ms Maria Correia,
learned Additional Government Advocate for the Respondents.

2. The Petitioners seek a direction to the second Respondent for
expeditiously disposing of the Petitioners' application dated
18.01.2024 (submitted online) for the issue of transport permit in terms
of the Goa (Prevention of Illegal Mining, Storage and Transportation
of Minerals) Rules, 2013 (the said Rules).

3. Mr Desai, based on the instructions submits that the Petitioners do not wish to transport the ore through any village road. Therefore, he submits that there could be no legal bar for consideration of Petitioners' application on its own merits and in accordance with law.

4. The learned AG states that the Director will dispose of the Petitioners' application on its own merits and in accordance with law within 15 days from today. Accordingly, by accepting this statement, we dispose of this petition in the above terms without any order for costs.

5. The Petitioners have suggested a route which according to them does not include any village road. Even this issue will have to be decided by the Director considering the observations made by us in our order dated 17.01.2024 in PILWP No.6 of 2024 instituted by the Mulakh Khajan Farmers Association and another. Mr Desai states that this petition was concerned with the transportation of ore through the village road in Mayem. He points out that the Petitioners' application is not concerned with any village road in Mayem.

6. All concerned to act on an authenticated copy of this order.

VALMIKI SA MENEZES, J.

M. S. SONAK, J.