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*Crl.M.P.No.15663 of 2024
in Crl.O.P.No.15953 of 2023*

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N.SESHASAYEE, J.

This Court vide its order dated 29.08.2024 in Crl.M.P.No.11889 of 2024 in Crl.O.P.No.15953 of 2023 has directed the investigating agency to complete the investigation and file its final report on or before 15.09.2023. Now, it is more than a year since the time stipulated by this Court, and at this juncture the present petition is filed by the investigating agency seeking extension of time.

2.Heard both the learned prosecutor as well as the respondent, who is arrayed as an accused in this case by the petitioner. The learned prosecutor submits that the investigation in this case has been completed and the matter is now pending with the Home Ministry for obtaining sanction U/s.19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

3.The learned counsel for the respondent / accused / petitioner in Crl.O.P.No.15953 of 2023 submits that this has been the state of affairs for more than a year and the Home Ministry is yet to apply its mind U/s.19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.



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4.The learned prosecutor, however, interjected to make a statement that the matter was not pending before the Home Ministry for a year as has been stated by the learned counsel for the respondent, but only from 25.10.2024. Till such time, the prosecution has been obtaining time for completing the investigation from time to time from this Court.

5.This Court now *suo motu* impleads the Secretary to the Government, Home Department as 3rd petitioner.

6.Now, the 3rd petitioner is directed to apply its mind to the materials made available by the investigating agency and take a decision on it within a period of three (3) months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

7.This petition stands allowed accordingly.

11.11.2024

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