

IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
CONSTITUTIONAL WRIT JURISDICTION
APPELLATE SIDE

WPA 28907 of 2024

Sajal Kumar Pandit
v.
The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Mr. Subrata Ghosh
Mr. Mohim Sasmal
... For the petitioner

Mr. Ansar Mondal, AGP
Mr. Tanveer J. Mondal
... For the State

Mr. Sudip Sarkar
Mr. Bitan Sarkar
... For the respondent nos.7 and 8

Affidavit of service filed in Court is taken on
record.

The writ petitioner is aggrieved by the inaction of
the respondents in not taking appropriate steps in respect
of the petitioner's representation dated July 24, 2024
made to the respondents.

Learned advocate appearing for the petitioner
submits that the private respondents have cut down palm
trees standing on the land of the petitioner, without
obtaining any permission from the Forest Department. It
is submitted that the despite the aforesaid illegal act
being brought to the notice of the respondent Forest
Authorities, no steps have been taken by them.

Learned advocate appearing for the respondent nos.7 and 8 disputes the submission made by the petitioner.

In view of the nature of grievance raised by the petitioner, no useful purpose will be served by keeping this writ petition pending.

The writ petition is, therefore, disposed of by directing the Divisional Forest Officer, Hooghly Division, being the respondent no.3, to dispose of the petitioner's representation dated July 24, 2024 by passing a reasoned order upon hearing the petitioner as well as the private respondents or their authorized representatives.

The said Divisional Forest Officer, Hooghly Division, shall communicate the reasoned order so passed to the petitioner as well as the private respondents within a week from passing thereof. The entire exercise shall be concluded within a period of six weeks from the date of communication of this order.

In case it is found by the Divisional Forest Officer, Hooghly Division, that any person is guilty of having cut down any tree or having committed any act in violation of the Indian Forest Act 1927 and the relevant Rules and Regulations governing the subject matter and the persons concerned, the said authority shall forthwith take appropriate steps in accordance with law against such person.

Urgent photostat certified copy of this order, if applied for, be given to the parties, upon compliance of necessary formalities.

(Om Narayan Rai, J.)