

GAHC010013882023



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

**Case No. : WP(C)/442/2023**

M/S JYS CONSTRUCTION  
HAVING ITS OFFICE AT GARBHANGA, SIVASAGAR, ASSAM, REP. BY ITS  
DIRECTOR TAPASI BANARJEE, D/O- MANIK MAZUMDAR, R/O- ROOM NO.  
408, BLOCK-C, HIMALAYA PLAZA, DANKUNI, HOOGLY, WEST BENGAL

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS, MALIGAON, GHY, ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R P ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSA

**Advocate for the Petitioner** : MR. M K BORAH, MRS. P KASHYAP

**Advocate for the Respondent** : DY.S.G.I., MR. C K S BARUAH

Linked Case : WP(C)/5899/2022

JINGRU MINING PVT. LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ONE OF ITS DIRECTOR- TSIRISE SANGTAM  
S/O VITOI KASHIBO SANGTAM  
AGED ABOUT 29 YEARS  
R/O FLAT NO. 05  
HOUSE NO. 170  
2ND FLOOR  
ELIM APARTMENT  
BANK COLONY  
DIMAPUR  
NAGALAND  
PIN-797113

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS.  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/2077/2022

M/S GANESH ENTERPRISE  
PROPRIETORSHIP CONCERN OF SRI MAHESH KUMAR AGARWAL

UNIQUE PLAZA  
2ND FLOOR  
TRIPURA ROAD  
BELTOLA  
GUWAHATI-781028. IN THE PRESENT PROCEEDINGS  
THE PETITIONER FIRM IN THE PRESENT PROCEEDINGS IS REPRESENTED  
BY SRI VIJAY KUMAR SINGHAL  
SON OF LATE KANHIYA LAL SINGHAL  
AGED ABOUT 81 YEARS  
UNIQUE PLAZA  
2ND FLOOR  
TRIPURA ROAD  
BELTOLA  
GUWAHATI-781028.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NF RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. A GOYAL  
Advocate for : SC  
RAILWAY appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NF RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/5734/2022

M/S JYS CONSTRUCTION

HAVING ITS OFFICE AT GARBHANGA  
SIVASAGAR  
ASSAM  
REPRESENTED BY ITS PROPRIETOR- NIRAJ KUMAR SINGH  
SON OF SAWALIYA SINGH  
RESIDENT OF ROOM NO. 408  
BLOCK-C  
HIMALAYA PLAZA  
DANKUNI  
HOOGLY  
WEST BENGAL.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2  
ORS  
MALIGAON  
ASSAM.

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
ASSAM.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH

Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER NORTH  
EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/8428/2022

M/S GOODWILL TRADERS  
PROPRIETOR MR. PRABIN JHA  
S/O SRI ARUN JHA  
AGED ABOUT 30 YEARS  
R/O GALI NO. 7

NH-7  
BELTOLA  
GUWAHATI-781029  
DIST-KAMRUP (M)  
ASSAM

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : DY.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/5240/2022

M/S DINESH GOWALA COAL DEPOT  
A PROPRIETORSHIP FIRM HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AND  
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS AT DIGBOI  
TINSUKIA ASSAM PIN-786151 AND REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR NAMELY  
DINESH GOWALA S/O LT. PUNU GOWALA AGED ABOUT 36 YEARS  
R/O NO. 2 BORBIL DIGBOI-786171 DIST. TINSUKIA  
ASSAM

VERSUS

THE STATE OF ASSAM AND 5 ORS.  
REP BY THE COMMISSIONER AND SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF ASSAM  
DEPTT. OF MINES AND MINERALS DISPUR GUWAHATI-781006

2:THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTHERN FRONTIER RAILWAY MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI ASSAM-781011

3:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTHERN FRONTIER RAILWAY MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI ASSAM-781011

4:ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
KHANIJ BHAWAN NEAR GANESH MANDIR DISPUR GUWAHATI-781006 REP.  
BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR

5:THE DIRECTORATE OF GEOLOGY AND MINING  
GOVT. OF ASSAM  
DISPUR GUWAHATI-781006

6:DIRECTORATE OF GEOLOGY AND MINING  
GOVT. OF NAGALAND DIMAPUR NAGALAND

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Advocate for : MR J DAS  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE STATE OF ASSAM AND 5 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/5730/2022

M/S MA KAMAKHYA COAL TRADERS  
HAVING ITS OFFICE AT GARBHANGA  
SIVSAGAR  
ASSAM  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR-  
NIRAJ KUMAR SINGH

S/O- SAWALIYA SINGH  
R/O- ROOM NO- 408  
BLOCK-C  
HIMALAYA PLAZA  
DANKUNI  
HOOGLY WEST BENGAL.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER

NF RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAY  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM- 781011.

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAY  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM- 781011.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NF RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/6083/2022

RIBHOI COAL AND COKE PVT. LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ONE OF ITS DIRECTOR- RAJIV BAREH

AGED ABOUT 38 YEARS

SON OF ROSOMAY NONGTOH

RESIDENT OF HOUSE NO. 56  
KHLIEHRIAT EAST

VILLAGE- KHLIEHRIAT EAST

DISTRICT- JAINTIA HILLS  
MEGHALAYA  
PIN- 793200.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM.

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORT MANAGER  
N.F. RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
ASSAM.

3:THE ASSAM MINIERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/699/2023

M/S SUBHASH MOTORS  
A PARTNERSHIP FIRM HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT BUSINESS  
ADDRESS AT PANJABARI ROAD  
SIX MILE

KAMRUP METROPOLITAN

ASSAM  
781022

REPRESENTED BY ONE OF ITS PARTNER MRS. ANIMA PATHAK.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER  
N.F. RAILWAYS  
AND 2 ORS.  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI (ASSAM).

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
N.F. RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR

KHANIJ BHAWAN

NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR

GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : MS. B S GOYAL  
Advocate for : DY.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER  
N.F. RAILWAYS  
AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/5162/2022

M/S APK ENTERPRISES  
REPRESENTED BY ONE OF ITS PARTNERS SRI PAWAN AGARWAL

S/O LATE NAND KISHORE AGARWAL  
AGED ABOUT 56 YEARS

R/O HOUSE NO. 07  
JYOTI PATH  
BAKRAPARA  
P.O. KHANAPARA  
P.S. DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781022  
DIST. KAMRUP (METRO)  
ASSAM

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON

GUWAHATI  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER

NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/5877/2022

BENDANGTOSHI MINING PVT. LTD.  
REP. BY ONE OF ITS DIRECTOR- B. TIANUNGLA LONGKUMER  
S/O- BENDANGTOSHI LONKUMER  
AGED ABOUT 30 YEARS  
R/O- FLAT NO. 03  
H.NO. 170  
2ND FLOOR  
ELIM APARTMENT  
BANK COLONY  
DIMAPUR  
NAGALAND  
PIN- 797113

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER

NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GHY-06  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/5577/2022

UDIT DEB  
S/O UTTAM DEB

R/O SISHURAM CHOUDHURY PATH

KAHILIPARA COLONY SOUTH  
BINOVANAGAR  
KAMRUP (M)  
ASSAM  
PIN- 7810108.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER NF RAILWAY AND 2 ORS  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM.

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
ITS MANAGING REPRESENTED DIRECTOR  
BY KHANIJ BHAWAN

NEAT GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : MR. A SARMA  
Advocate for : SC  
RAILWAY appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER NF RAILWAY AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/3691/2022

P.B. MARKETING INDIA PRIVATE LTD. AND ANR.  
A PRIVATE LIMITED COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT  
1956 HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT HOUSE NO. 22  
JAYANAGAR  
SIX MILE  
P.O- KHANAPARA  
DISTRICT- KAMRUP(M)  
ASSAM AND IS REPRESENTED BY SRI MANASH CHETIA  
SON OF LATE BHADRA NATH CHETIA.

2: M/S VEDANTA MINERALS  
A PROPRIETORSHIP FIRM HAVING ITS REGISTERED 11  
KALGAON  
GELEKY  
DISTRICT- SIVASAGAR  
PIN- 785640  
ASSAM AND IS REPRESENTED BY ITS PROPRIETOR SRI VIKASH AGARWAL  
SON OF LATE MURARI LAL AGARWAL.  
VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER NORTH EAST FRONTER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS.  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI (ASSAM).

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD

DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : MS. B S GOYAL  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER NORTH  
EAST FRONTER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/2267/2022

KULJIT SINGH BAWA  
S/O- HARBANS SINGH BAWA  
PROPRIETOR OF M/S M.J COAL SUPPLIER  
HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE SITUATED AT HOUSE NO. 40  
BISHNU RABHA PATH  
P.O-BASISTHA

P.S- HATIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
GUWAHATI-28

DIST- KAMRUP (M)  
ASSAM

VERSUS

THE UNION OF INDIA AND 3 ORS  
REP. BY ITS GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAYS MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI-781011.. ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAYS MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI-781011.. ASSAM

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPRATION LTD

.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
DIST- KAMRUP (M)  
ASSAM

4:THE DIRECTOR  
GEOLOGY AND MINING  
GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
KAHILIPARA  
GUWAHATI-19

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : SC  
NF RLY appearing for THE UNION OF INDIA AND 3 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/7396/2022

BCMS TRADERS PVT LTD  
A COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT HAVING ITS  
REGISTERED OFFICE SITUATED AT KABAITARY  
P.O. AND P.S.-JOGIGHOPA  
DIST-BONGAIGAON  
ASSAM  
AND BRANCH OFFICE SITUATED AT UNIQUE PLAZA  
2ND FLOOR  
TRIPURA ROAD  
BELTOLA  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM-781028. IN THE PRESENT PROCEEDING  
THE PETITIONER COMPANY IS REPRESENTED BY ONE OF ITS DIRECTORS  
SRI MAHESH KUMAR AGARWALA  
AGED ABOUT 44 YEARS  
S/O MEGHRAJ AGRAWALA  
R/O FLAT NO. 301  
UNIQUE HEIGHTS  
S.K. BARUAH ROAD  
ASSAM SACHIVALAYA  
KAMRUP METRO  
ASSAM-781006

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI (ASSAM)

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS

MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. A GOYAL  
Advocate for : DY.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/5119/2022

M/S MAHALAXMI MINING PVT. LTD.  
REP. BY ITS DIRECTOR - SHEEL GOEL  
S/O LT. MOHAN KRISHNA GOEL  
AGED ABOUT 41 YEARS  
R/O D-104  
UNIVERSAL ECO GREENS  
AHOM GAON  
BETKUCHI  
OPPOSITE MANI RAM DIWAN TRADE CENTRE  
GUWAHATI- 781035  
DIST.- KAMRUP (METRO)  
ASSAM.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM.

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI  
PIN- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/1631/2023

M/S A.A.M. ENTERPRISE  
A PROPRIETORSHIP FIRM  
HAVING ITS OFFICE AT WARD NO.6  
NAZIRA TOWN  
NAZIRA  
SIVASAGAR  
DIST.- SIVASAGAR  
ASSAM  
ASSAM  
PIN- 781685 REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR  
ABDUL MALIK  
AGED ABOUT 36 YEARS  
S/O- MUZIBUR ROHMAN

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND 3 ORS  
REP. BY THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON- 781011  
GUWAHATI (ASSAM)

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON- 781011  
GUWAHATI  
(ASSAM)

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN

NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
DISTRICT- KAMRUP (M)  
ASSAM

4:THE DIRECTOR  
GEOLOGY AND MINING  
GOVT. OF ASSAM  
KAHILIPARA  
GUWAHATI- 781019

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Advocate for : M K BORAH  
Advocate for : DY.S.G.I. appearing for UNION OF INDIA AND 3 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/6097/2022

ANGAMI GOAL TRADERS  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR- AVI MAKRITSU  
AGED ABOUT 42 YEARS  
S/O- VIYAKIEZO MAKRITSU  
R/O- H.NO. 94  
WARD NO.3  
BLOCK-2  
CHUMOUKEDIMA  
DIMAPUR  
NAGALAND  
PIN- 797103

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR

KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GHY-06  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : GA  
ASSAM appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/5892/2022

MOA ENTERPRISES  
REPRESENTED BY ITS PROPRIETOR TAKUMOA AO  
S/O- PURTOSHI  
R/O- HOUSE NO. 309  
FIRING RANGE  
DIMAPUR  
NAGALAND.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R/P ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH

Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/5883/2022

KEVITHO MINING PVT. LTD.  
REP. BY ONE OF ITS DIRECTOR AVI MAKRITSU  
S/O- VIYAKIEZO MAKRITSU

AGE 42 YRS

R/O- FLAT NO- 16  
LANE NO-2  
WARD NO-4

CHUMOUKEDIMA TOWN

CHUMOUKEDIMA  
NAGALAND  
PIN-797003

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD

REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GHY-06  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/5613/2022

NABARUN BURAGOHAIN  
S/O- RAJEN GOHAIN

R/O- 01 TILAK DEKA ROAD  
ITACHALI  
NAGAON  
ASSAM  
PIN-782003

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER NF RAILWAY AND 2 ORS  
NORTHERN FRONTIER RAILWAY  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM- 781011.

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTHERN FRONTIER RAILWAY  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM- 781011.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : MR. A SARMA  
Advocate for : SC  
RAILWAY appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER NF RAILWAY AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/1713/2022

TIANUGLA LONGKUMAR  
D/O. SRI BENDAGTOSHI LONGKUMAR

R/O. HOUSE NO. 78  
FLAT NO.3  
BANK COLONY  
DIMAPUR  
NAGALAND-787113.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER N F RAILWAY AND 3 ORS  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM.

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER

NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPN. LTD.

REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
ASSAM.

4:THE DIRECTOR OF GEOLOGY AND MINING

GOVT. OF NAGALAND  
DIMAPUR  
NAGALAND.

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Advocate for : DR. ASHOK SARAF  
Advocate for : SC  
RAILWAY appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER N F RAILWAY AND 3 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/2254/2022

ANUP KUMAR MISHRA  
S/O- LATE JOGENDRA NATH MISHRA  
PROPRIETOR OF S.A COAL SUPPLY

HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE SITUATED AT HOUSE NO. 1A  
LANE NO. 5  
NEAR KALIMANDIR  
GANDHI BASTI CHANDMARI  
GUWAHATI  
SILPUKHURI  
GUWAHATI-03  
DIST- KAMRUP (M)  
ASSAM

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA AND 3 ORS  
REP. BY ITS GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAYS MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI-781011.. ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAYS MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI-781011.. ASSAM

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPRATION LTD.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
DIST- KAMRUP (M)  
ASSAM

4:THE DIRECTOR  
GEOLOGY AND MINING  
GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
KAHILIPARA  
GUWAHATI-19

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : SC  
NF RLY appearing for UNION OF INDIA AND 3 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/5123/2022

M/S COAL PULZ  
REP. BY ITS DIRECTOR- ATIQUR RAHMAN BARBHUIYA

AGED ABOUT 54 YEARS  
R/O HOUSE NO. 5  
ASIA HOUSE  
BYE LANE NO. 3  
L.N.B. ROAD  
HATIGAON  
GUWAHATI- 781038  
DIST.- KAMRUP (METRO)  
ASSAM.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM.

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/5900/2022

SIMSANG MININIG PVT. LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ONE OF ITS DIRECTOR- JIA M SANGMA  
S/O LATE NORESH SANGMA  
AGED ABOUT 32 YEARS  
R/O NOKMA A KING  
P.O.-ARAMILE  
TURA  
DIST-WEST GARO HILLS

MEGHALAYA  
PIN-794101

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS.  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/3696/2022

M/S JAMIR EXPORTS  
A PROPRIETORSHIP FIRM HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT KARBALA  
WARD NO. 13  
P.O. AND P.S. GOALPARA  
DIST. GOALPARA  
ASSAM AND IS REPRESENTED BY SRI ABDUR RAHIM  
SON OF LATE JAMIRUDDIN AHMED.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER N F RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI

ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER

NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI.

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI-781006  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MS. B S GOYAL  
Advocate for : SC  
NF RLY appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER N F RAILWAYS AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/5885/2022

IMCHEN ENTERPRISES  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR  
IMKONGMEREN EMCHEN

S/O- LATE TEKATIBA  
AGE ABOUT 28 YRS

R/O- HOUSE NO. 9/5  
SUPPLY COLONY  
DIMAPUR SADAR  
DIMAPUR  
NAGALAND  
PIN-797112

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GHY-06  
ASSAM

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Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/6076/2022

BALPAKRAM MINING PVT. LTD.  
REP. BY ONE OF ITS DIRECTOR- BISON PASLIEN  
AGED ABOUT 42 YEARS  
S/O- W. PASLIEN  
R/O- H NO. 56  
KHLIEHRIAT EAST  
VILL- KHLIEHRIAT EAST  
DIST.- JAINTIA HILLS  
MEGHALAYA  
PIN- 793200

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY  
ASSAM

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GHY

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR

KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GHY-06  
ASSAM  
-----

Advocate for : MR. M K BORAH  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS.

Linked Case : WP(C)/2597/2022

M/S ANN ASSOCIATES  
A PARTNERSHIP FIRM HAVING ITS OFFICE AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF  
BUSINESS AT HOUSE NO. 21  
SIX MILE  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM - 781022 AND IS REPRESENTED BY ITS DULY AUTHORIZED  
PARTNER.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER N F RAILWAY AND 2 ORS  
NORTHERN FRONTIER RAILWAY  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM- 781011.

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTHERN FRONTIER RAILWAY  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI  
ASSAM- 781011.

3:ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED  
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.  
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Advocate for : MR A K RAI  
Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER N F

RAILWAY AND 2 ORS

Linked Case : WP(C)/2717/2022

UTIMRAJ COMMERCIAL PVT LTD  
A COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER THE COMPANIES ACT HAVING ITS  
OFFICE SITUATED AT SEEMA MANSION  
FLAT NO. 3 D  
3RD FLOOR  
BLOCK-B  
266  
DAKHINDARI ROAD  
KOLKATA. IN THE PRESENT PROCEEDING  
THE PETITIONER COMPANY IS REPRESENTED BY ITS AUTHORISED  
SIGNATORY SRI JAY PRAKASH SHARMA  
AGED ABOUT 38 YEARS  
SON OF LATE P L SHARMA  
RESIDENT OF HOUSE NO. 34  
R.K. CHOWDHARY ROAD  
SANTIPUR  
BHARALUKUKH  
GUWAHATI- 781009.

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI (ASSAM).

2:THE CHIEF FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION MANAGER  
NORTH EASTERN FRONTIER RAILWAYS  
MALIGAON  
GUWAHATI

3:THE ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.  
REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR  
KHANIJ BHAWAN  
NEAR GANESH MANDIR  
R.P. ROAD  
DISPUR  
GUWAHATI- 781006  
ASSAM.

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Advocate for : DR. A SARAF

Advocate for : ASSTT.S.G.I. appearing for THE GENERAL MANAGER AND 2 ORS

**BEFORE  
HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE N. UNNI KRISHNAN NAIR**

**JUDGMENT & ORDER (CAV)**

**Date : 05-02-2026**

Heard learned counsel for the petitioners as well as the learned counsel for the respondents.

2. The above noted writ petitions having been instituted assailing the communication dated 10-02-2022 issued by the Managing Director, Assam Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. and the grounds of challenge being one and the same, the said writ petitions, as agreed to by the learned counsel for the parties were taken up for consideration analogously. The said writ petitions are accordingly being disposed of by the present order.

3. In the above noted writ petitions the challenge is to a communication dated 10-02-2022 issued by the Managing Director, Assam Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (in short "AMDCL") to the Chief Freight Transportation Manager, N.F. Railway, Maligaon, *inter alia*, stipulating therein that the transit permits/ supporting documents/ papers submitted by the intending coal transporters should be sent to the office of the Managing Director, AMDCL, Assam for verification and issue of NOC jointly by him and the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Assam, before transportation of the coal by rail rake from any railway station situated in the State of Assam.

4. In the above writ petitions, the petitioners have projected that they are involved in the business of trading of coal and by procuring coal from the State of Nagaland and the State of Meghalaya they transport the same through road to the State of Assam for further transportation by railways to different States in the country. It is projected that while transporting the coal from Meghalaya and/ or Nagaland, the petitioners so dispatch the coal with all valid supporting documents, viz. Coal Mining Lease Certificate, Affidavit-cum-Indemnity Bond by the consignor, NOC and Transit Passes issued by the competent authorities along with memorandum of understanding between the parties, sale order, production details etc. The documents as sent along with the consignment of coal by the petitioners is projected to be necessary for permitting the trucks carrying such coal to enter into the State of Assam and also for production before the Railway authorities for registration of intents for allotment of rakes for transportation of coals involved. It is further projected in the writ petitions that no dispute has been raised in the matter by the respondent No. 3 and/ or any other authority that the documents produced by the petitioners of coals procured from Nagaland and Meghalaya were forged and/ or not genuine. It is while the petitioners were carrying on their business in the above manner that the Managing Director of AMDCL, i.e. the respondent No. 3 issued a communication dated 10-02-2022 to the Chief Freight Transportation Manager, N.R. Railway, Maligaon and required the railway authorities to transport the coal booked by different coal transporters only after obtaining a NOC from the respondent No. 3 and the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Assam.

Being aggrieved by the said communication dated 10-02-2022, the petitioners have

instituted the above noted writ petitions presenting a challenge to the said communication.

5. The learned counsel for the petitioners by reiterating the facts noticed, hereinabove, have submitted that the communication dated 10-02-2022 issued by the respondent No. 3 has been so issued without any jurisdiction. It is submitted by the learned counsel petitioners that the communication dated 10-02-2022 and the stipulation made therein is in clear violation of the provisions of Article 301 of the Constitution of India which mandates free trade, commerce and intercourse throughout the territory of India. It is projected that with regard to the coal procured from the State of Nagaland by complying with the requirements as laid down in the matter by the Govt. of Nagaland, amounts to violations of the provisions of Article 371A of the Constitution of India. It is also projected that stipulation as contained in the impugned communication dated 10-02-2022 also violates the provisions of the Goods & Services Tax Act, 2017. In view of the above position, the petitioners have prayed for an interference with the impugned communication dated 10-02-2022.

6. The learned counsel appearing for the State of Nagaland and the State of Meghalaya have supported the contentions raised by the learned counsel for the petitioners and have submitted that the respondent No. 3 cannot introduce any further conditionality for transportation of coal obtained from the State of Nagaland and the State of Meghalaya which is projected to be so done by complying with the provisions of law enacted in the said States for the purpose.

7. Mr. P. Sharmah, learned counsel for the respondent No. 3, on instruction, submitted

that the communication dated 10-02-2022 was necessitated to be issued by the respondent No. 3, on it coming to notice that Assam origin coal was being mixed with coal procured from other States transported by rakes from the railways loading points in the State of Assam. It is submitted that only to prevent the transportation of Assam coal along with the coal procured from the other States, a verification of the documents/transit passes was mandated vide the communication dated 10-02-2022. It is submitted that vide the said communication, the respondent No. 3 had in no manner questioned the documents including the transit passes issued by the competent authorities in the State of Nagaland and the State of Meghalaya and it only intended to verify as to whether along with the coals procured from the States of Nagaland and Meghalaya transported by Railways, coal of Assam origin were also being so transported. It is submitted that only documents submitted by the intending transporters of coal to the Railways is to be verified by the respondent No. 3 and if from the documents or the transit passes, no coal of Assam origin is found to be so transported, no objection would be issued by the respondent No. 3 jointly with the Directorate of Geology and Mining. In view of the above premises, it is submitted by Mr. Sharmah, learned counsel for the respondent No. 3 that the said communication dated 10-02-2022 being issued only to prevent unauthorized transportation of Assam origin coal, the same would not mandate an interference from this Court.

8. I have heard the learned counsel for the parties and also perused the materials available on record.

9. The challenge in the above noted writ petitions being to the communication dated

10-02-2022, the same being relevant is extracted hereinbelow:

*ASSAM MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.*

*(A Govt. of Assam undertaking)*

*Regd. Office*

*CIN-U-14107AS1983SGC002045*

*Khanij Bhawan, Near Ganesh Mandir*

*Email : [amdcghy@rediffmail.com](mailto:amdcghy@rediffmail.com)*

*R.P. Road, Dispur, Guwahati - 781006, Assam*

*GSTIN : 18AACCA8762A1ZU*

*Ref. No. AMDC/MS/7/2020-21/1051*

*Date : 10/02/22*

*To,*

*The Chief Freight Transportation Manager*

*NF Railway, Maligaon, Guwahati, Assam*

*Sub: Requirement of NOC for Coal transport by Rail Rake-Regarding*

*Sir,*

*With reference to the subject cited above, the undersigned informs you that in Assam jurisdiction, as the AMDCL is the only Govt. agency under Mines & Minerals Department, Govt. of Assam which is involved in the sale of coal, the undersigned requests that before laying of rail rake for transportation of Coal, the TP's/supporting documents /papers submitted by the Intending Coal transporters shall be sent to the office of the undersigned for verification & issue of NOC Jointly by the office of the undersigned & the Directorate of Geology & Mining, Assam before the transportation of the Coal by Rail rake from any railway station under the territorial jurisdiction of Assam State.*

*This is for your information & necessary action.*

*(N. ANAND, IFS)*

*Managing Director,*

*Assam Mineral Development Corn. Ltd.*

*Ref. No. AMDC/MS/7/2020-21/1052-1053*

*Date: 10/02/22*

10. A perusal of the said communication dated 10-02-2022 would reveal that the Managing Director of the respondent No. 3 Corporation, had projected that the respondent No. 3 was the only Govt. agency under the Mines and Mineral Department,

Govt. of Assam involved in the sale of coal and accordingly requested the Railway authorities that the transit permits/ supporting documents/ papers submitted by the intending coal transporters, be forwarded to the office of the Managing Director of the respondent No. 3/ Corporation for verification and issue of NOC jointly by the respondent No. 3 and the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Assam before transportation of coal by rail rake from any railway station in the State of Assam. The materials brought on record as well as the submission made by the learned counsel for the parties reveal that the petitioners in the above noted writ petitions have procured coal which they seek to transport through Railway to various other States in the country, from the States of Nagaland and Meghalaya, after complying with the requirements for such procurement as existing in the States of Nagaland and Meghalaya. It is also evident from the materials available on record that before registering a intent from transportation of coal by Railways rakes, the Railway authorities mandatorily require the intending tenderer to furnish certain specified documents. The Railway authority upon perusing the said documents draw satisfaction with regard to the genuineness of the coal sought to be transported through Railways. It is only on genuineness of intents placed that the railway permits the transportation of the coal to the various other States of the country by placing rakes for the purpose.

11. Article 301 of the Constitution of India mandates for freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse throughout the territory of India. Article 302 mandates that it is only the Parliament which may by law impose such restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse between one State and another or within any part of the territory of India

as may be required in the public interest. Further Article 304 mandates that the legislature of a State made by law impose such reasonable restriction on the freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse with or within that State as may be required in public interest.

12. The requirements placed upon the railways by the respondent No. 3 by the communication dated 10-02-2022 in the considered view of this Court places an unreasonable restriction on the freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse between the States. As noticed, hereinabove, the petitioners have projected that they have procured coal from the States of Meghalaya and Nagaland after complying with all requisite provisions of law as existing in the said States and the coal so procured along with all valid documents are sent by road to the State of Assam, for transportation from various Railway heads in the State of Assam for transportation therefrom to various other States in the country by way of Railway rakes. Materials brought on record including the written instructions furnished by Mr. Sharmah, received from the respondent No. 3 does not in any manner indicate that the documents as furnished by the petitioners for transportation of coal procured from the States of Nagaland and Meghalaya are suspected to be not genuine. The only reason assigned by the respondent No. 3 for issuance of the communication dated 10-02-2022 is that along with the coal procured from the States of Meghalaya and Nagaland transported from the various Railway heads in the State of Assam to various other States of the country, Assam origin coal procured from the respondent No. 3 is also included. Accordingly, it is projected that it is only to verify the genuineness of the transit passes produced by the intending tenderers of Assam origin

coal procured from the respondent No. 3, that the said communication dated 10-02-2022 was so issued. Given the said stand taken by the respondent No. 3 before this Court, this Court is of the considered view that the stipulation as contained in the communication dated 10-02-2022 could not have also been made applicable to the coal transported by the Railways on intents placed by the coal transporters who had procured such coals from the States of Nagaland and Meghalaya.

13. The restrictions now sought to be imposed on trade, commerce and intercourse between the States by the respondent No. 3, which is only an autonomous body under the Govt. of Assam, is in violation of Article 304(b) of the Constitution of India. Article 304(b) of the Constitution of India having laid down that it is only the Legislature of a State which may by law impose such reasonable restrictions on the freedom of trade, commerce or intercourse with or within that State as may be required in the public interest, such restrictions could not be placed for any reason by the respondent No. 3. Accordingly, this Court is of the view that the stipulation as contained in the communication dated 10-02-2022 is clearly not sustainable.

14. The respondent No. 3 could not have required the Railway authorities to hold up the transportation of coals basing on intents by various coal traders including the petitioners in the above noted writ petitions who had placed the said intent for coal, which admittedly were procured from the States other than the State of Assam. This Court is of the considered view that the stipulations made in the communication dated 10-02-2022 amounts to an unreasonable restriction on the freedom of trade, commerce and intercourse as set out in the Constitution of India.

15. In view of the above discussions, this Court is of the considered view that the communication dated 10-02-2022 would not be sustainable and accordingly, the same is set aside. The setting aside of the communication dated 10-02-2022 would not prevent the respondent No. 3 to put in place measures for protection of its interest with regard to the transportation of Assam origin coal by putting in place provisions in strict accordance with law holding the field.

16. With the above observations and directions, the above noted writ petitions stand disposed of.

## JUDGE

## Comparing Assistant

Gobinda  
Prasad Sarma

Digitally signed by Gabriela Peralta Sierra  
DN: cn=Gabriela Peralta Sierra, o=UNIVERSIDAD  
NACIONAL AUTONOMA DE MEXICO, ou=Escuela  
Nacional de Estudios de Posgrado, email=gabriela.peralta@unam.mx, c=MEXICO