

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No. 13403 of 2015

Bipin Bihari Pradhan

....

Petitioner

Mr. B.K. Ragada, Advocate
Mr. Goutam Misra, Sr. Advocate (Amicus Curiae)
Ms. Pami Rath, Advocate (Amicus Curiae)
Mr. B.P. Tripathy, Advocate (Amicus Curiae)

-versus-

State of Odisha and others

.... ***Opposite Parties***

Mr. P.K. Muduli, A.G.A. for the State
Mr. P.K. Parhi, DSGI along with
Mr. B.S. Rayguru, CGC for Union of India
Mr. Pankaj Sinha, Advocate along with
Ms. Sevati Soren, Advocate for Intervenor

**CORAM:
THE CHIEF JUSTICE
JUSTICE M.S. RAMAN**

ORDER
16.11.2022

Order No.

32.

I.A. No.6754 of 2022

1. Pursuant to the order dated 18th May 2022, an affidavit has been filed by Dr. Ajit Kumar Mohanty, Special Secretary (PH) to Government, Health and Family Welfare Department, Government of Odisha on 1st August, 2022 *inter alia*, stating in para 4 that after the integration of the NLEP Programme with the General Health Care System, the posts of Para Medical Workers (PMWs) have been abolished by a Government Order dated 22nd November 2001, which was informed to the SS & EPD Department on 14th September 2021 and that “at present, the leprosy work is being carried out by the General Health Care staff like Medical Officers, AYUSH, MOs, Physiotherapists, Multi Purpose Health Worker (MPHW), ASHA as is implemented for other programmes.”

2. Copy of the said affidavit has not been served on the learned counsel for the Applicant in the present application viz., Mr. Pankaj Sinha, who appears along with Ms. Sevati Soren, Advocate.

3. Mr. P. K. Muduli, learned Additional Government Advocate states that he will arrange to have a copy of the said affidavits served on them today itself. A copy thereof be also served to the learned Amicus Curiae.

4. Mr. Muduli undertakes to file a further affidavit disclosing the number of Multi Purpose Health Workers, available for treating persons affected with leprosy which numbers have been increasing steadily as is evident from the Annexure-2 to the present I.A. The further affidavit be filed at least one week prior to the next date with an advance copy to the learned counsel for the Applicant and the Amicus Curiae and everyone else who wants it.

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5. Pursuant to the order passed on 24th September 2022, affidavits have been filed on 10th and 14th November, 2022 enclosing pen-drives containing photos and videos of the colonies visited by various teams. Mr. Misra, learned Senior Advocate (Amicus Curiae) states that he has received the copies of these affidavits and the videos only yesterday and needs some time to examine them and make submissions.

6. List on 7th December, 2022.

(Dr. S. Muralidhar)
Chief Justice

(M.S. Raman)
Judge