

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK**

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

***Bipin Bihari Pradhan*** ..... ***Petitioner***

Mr. Gautam Misra, Senior Advocate (Amicus Curiae)

Ms. Pami Rath, Advocate (Amicus Curiae)

Mr. B.P. Tripathy, Advocate (Amicus Curiae)

Mr. B.K. Ragada, Advocate

*-versus-*

***State of Odisha and Others*** ..... ***Opposite Parties***

Mr. P.K. Muduli, Additional Government Advocate for State and

Mr. B.S. Rayguru, Central Govt. Counsel

**CORAM:**  
**THE CHIEF JUSTICE**  
**JUSTICE G. SATAPATHY**

**Order No.**

**ORDER**  
**25.04.2023**

36. 1. The Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government, Department of Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities is present online.
2. In compliance with the directions issued by this Court in its order dated 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023, four affidavits have been filed by the State. As regards utilization of funds, in the affidavit dated 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023, it is stated that the funds are released by the Central Government under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme in a common pool fund from where monies are utilized for specific activities. Enclosed with this affidavit are charts showing the utilization of funds from the year 2013-14 onwards. It is stated that for the year 2022-23, the utilization is 96% of the funds available with the State Government.

3. On the question of the inmates of Lewis Leprosy Colony, Baripada being provided with quarters and electricity connections, the affidavit dated 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 of the District Social Security Officer (DSSO), Balasore has reported compliance. As regards providing of permanent Looms, it is assured that within six months' time, they will be provided to the inmates. One inmate who required reconstructive surgery was successfully operated upon and discharged on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2013.

4. The DSSO, Puri has stated in the affidavit dated 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 that ten residential units are proposed to be constructed within the premises of Niladri Nilaya Rehabilitation Centre for the Sanjayjee Colony Inmates at an estimated cost of around Rs. 1.19 Crores. The proposal has been sent to the Government on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2023. Mr. P. K. Muduli, learned Additional Government Advocate for the State assures the Court that the above proposal will be cleared at the earliest so that the construction work can begin within a period of three months from today. As regards providing shoes of Grades-1 and 2, a survey was conducted in both the Jibaramjee Palli and Sanjayjee Colony and 99 beneficiaries were found eligible. It is expected that the CRSR, Bhadrak will be providing the shoes by the end of April, 2023.

5. Another affidavit dated 24<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 of the Additional Secretary to Government, Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (SS&EPD) has been handed over in Court giving details of the Reconstructive Surgeries performed in 27 Districts. The figure of 97 such surgeries pending has been

explained as owing to 59 persons being unwilling for surgery, 21 being medically unfit and 17 having migrated to other places.

6. Mr. B. P. Tripathy, learned Amicus Curiae (AC) suggests that of the 13 colonies for persons with leprosy set up all over the State, reliable information regarding the condition in some of the colonies is not available. The three AC among themselves will chalk out a plan for visiting the colonies at Rourkela, Jharsuguda and Bargarh and submit reports to the Court before the next date.

7. The Courts has also perused the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Monitoring Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2023 where some of the measures are still required to be undertaken by the State Government have been discussed. The Court expects the next meeting of the Monitoring Committee to be held within a period of two months from today.

8. In terms of the request made by the three AC in this Court, the State Government is requested to spare the services of Mr. Ishwar Mohanty, learned Additional Standing Counsel to also attend the meetings of the Monitoring Committee so that there is no communication gap as regards the implementation of the orders of this Court passed from time to time in this case.

9. List on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.

**(Dr. S. Muralidhar)**  
**Chief Justice**

**(G. Satapathy)**  
**Judge**