

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

SUO MOTU W.P.(C) PIL No.7118 of 2021

In Re: Olive Ridley Turtles

....

Petitioners

Mr. Mohit Agarwal, Amicus Curiae

-versus-

***Principal Secretary, Forest and
Environment Department and others***

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

Mr. P. K. Muduli, AGA and Mr. P. K. Parhi, ASGI

**CORAM:
THE CHIEF JUSTICE
JUSTICE R. K. PATTANAİK**

**ORDER
09.03.2022**

Order No.

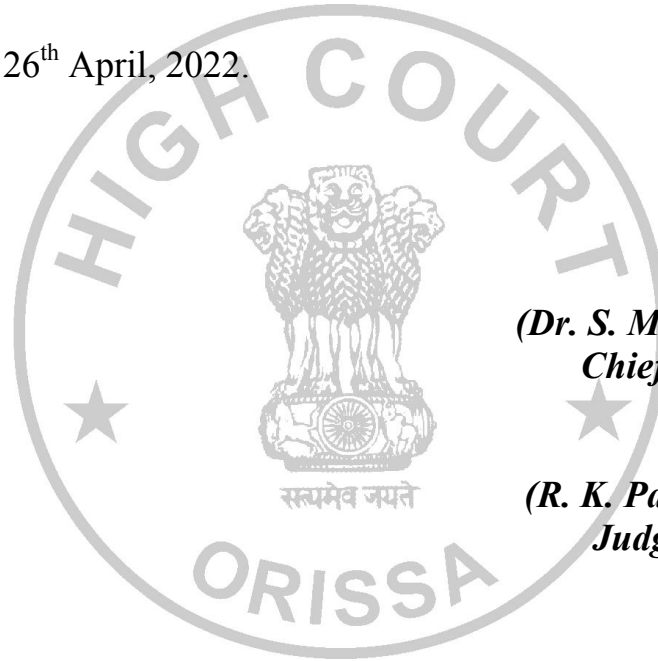
17. 1. The Amicus Curiae has filed a report on two incidents that have taken place in the jurisdiction of the Astaranga Marine Police Station - one on 26th December, 2021 and the other on 31st January, 2022. During both incidents, of the several trawlers that unauthorisedly entered the protected area only a few could be apprehended.
2. Although a response has been filed by the State Government to the report on 7th March, 2022, by and large admitting the above facts, concrete steps that require to be taken for preventing such incidents in future have not been spelt out therein. The Amicus Curiae has pointed out how more than 50% of the posts in all the marine police stations are lying vacant. If the Government has to be serious about deterring such incursions by trawlers into the prohibited zone, concerted action has to be taken on several fronts

including filling up of the vacant posts in the marine police stations in a time bound manner.

3. Mr. P. K. Muduli, learned Additional Government Advocate states that the response of the State Government in this regard in the form of an affidavit setting out the time bound concrete steps to be taken, shall be filed before the next date.

4. On the next date, the State will also inform the Court of the status of installation of transponders.

5. List on 26th April, 2022.



(Dr. S. Muralidhar)
Chief Justice

(R. K. Pattanaik)
Judge

M. Panda