

**W.P.(C) No. 7469 of 2017**

51. 08.03.2021
1. Heard Mr. Mohit Agarwal, learned Amicus Curiae, Mr. M.S.Sahoo, learned Additional Government Advocate for the State Opposite Parties and Mr. S.K. Dalai, learned counsel for Intervener.
  2. An affidavit dated 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2021 has been filed by the Chief Executive of the Chilika Development Authority addressing the various issues that have arisen in the course of the present petition. It is a matter of some concern that the Committee that met on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021 noted that there has been increase of net Gheries of 2193.30 hectares inside Chilika Lake since the affidavit which was earlier filed on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2019 by the Director, Environment. A series of decisions have been taken by the Committee for demolition of the Prawn Gheries in Khurda and Puri districts, demolition of the earthen embankments of the other Gheries/illegal ponds, to find out and stop the sources of the illegal seed supply, to disconnect the Electricity supply to the illegal prawn culture ponds, and to evict the obstructions in Palur canal uncontrolled Boat operations and oil spills and so on. The affidavit sets out the timelines for the various courses of action.
  3. The immediate concern is to implement the decisions taken by the Committee within the timelines set by it. In response to a query by the Court as to how the timelines are expected to be met and what would be the task force involved in that process, Mr. Sahoo, learned Additional Government Advocate says that he will

obtain instructions and file a further affidavit on or before 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.

List on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.

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

**(B.P. Routray)**  
**Judge**

*A.Dash*