

GAHC010245602022



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

Case No. : WA/53/2023

KABINDRA PRASAD SARMA AND ANR
S/O LATE SANKAR PRASAD SARMA
BORDOLOI, KAMAKHYA DEVALAYA RESIDENT OF KAMAKHYA DHAM
GUWAHATI, 781010 ASSAM

2: THE DEITY OF GODDESS SRI SRI KAMAKHYA
REPRESENTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES/BARDEURI SAMAJ
NAMELY PHANINDRA SARMA
SON OF LATE SITARAM SARMA
KAMAKHYA DEVALAYA KAMAKHYA HILL
GUWAHATI 78101

VERSUS

THE STATE OF ASSAM AND 67 ORS.
REPRESENTED BY THE SECY. TO THE GOVT. OF ASSAM, DEPTT. OF
REVENUE, DISPUR, GUWAHATI 781006

2:THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
KAMRUP
GUWAHATI

3:THE SETTLEMENT OFFICER
KAMRUP.

4:THE ADDITIONAL DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
REVENUE
KAMRUP
GUWAHATI.

5:SHRI RADHIKA KALITA
SON OF LATE AMBIRAM KALITA

6:SHRI JITEN DAS
SON OF LATE GOBINDA DAS

7:SRI BASU DEV GAYAN
SON OF LATE DABIN GAYAN

8:SHRI SUNESWAR DAS
SON OF BHOLARAM DAS

9:SHRI SAMIR SARMA
SON OF SHRI AMRIT SHARMA

10:SHRI JAGADISH SARMA
SON OF SHRI KHARGESWAR SARMA

11:SHRI MUHIT SARMA
SON OF SHRI PARAMANANDA SARMA

12:SRI SAILESWAR SARMA
SON OF LATE SAKRESWAR SARMA

13:SRI RATUL PRASAD SARMA
SON OF LATE HIRANYA PRASAD SARMA

14:SRI NALIN PRASAD SARMA
SON OF SRI KAMALA PRASAD SARMA

15:SHRI KAJAL SARMA
SON OF SHRI SANKAR SARMA

16:GUWAHATI METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
BHANGAGARH
GUWAHATI

17:COMMISSIONER AND SECRETARY
TO THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
GUWAHATI DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

18:SRI LALIT MOHAN DAS
VILLAGE KAMAKHYA GAON
MAUJA JALUKBARI
POST OFFICE GUWAHATI-12
DISTRICT KAMRUP

19:SHRI JOGESWAR SAIKIA
S/O SHRI MALBHOG SAIKIA
ADDRESS KALIPUR
GUWAHATI

P.S. BHARALUMUKH UNDER MAUZA JALUKBARI DISTRICT KAMRUP
ASSAM

20:. SRI MAHANTA SWAMI RASH BEHARI DAS KATHIA BABA
SON OF SHRI MAHANTA SWAMI DHANANJOY DAS KATHIA BABA
GURUKUL ROAD
POST OFFICE VRINDAVAN
DISTRICT MATHURA
UTTAR PRADESH
REPRESENTED BY HIS CONSTITUTED ATTORNEY SRI NISHITENDU DHAR
ADVOCATE SON OF LATE NAGENDRA KUMAR CHOUDHURY
A.K.AZAD ROAD
REHABARI
P.PO.GUWAHATI-08
DISTRICT KAMRUP
ASSAM

21:SHRI NANDI NATH SARMA
ASSAM

22:SHRI PURNA CHANDRA SARMA
S/O SHRI PRABHAT CH.SARMA RESIDENT OF KAMAKHYA HILL TOP
P.S. JALUKBARI
GUWAHATI

23:SRI SUBHAS SARMA
S/O SHRI PRABHAT CH.SARMA RESIDENT OF KAMAKHYA HILL TOP
P.S. JALUKBARI
GUWAHATI

24:SRI MRINAL SARMA
S/O SHRI ARUN CH.SARMA RESIDENT OF KAMAKHYA HILL TOP
P.S. JALUKBARI
GUWAHATI

25:SRI KALYAN SARMA
S/O SHRI ARUN CH.SARMA

RES. 21 TO 25 ARE RESIDENT OF KAMAKHYA HILL TOP
P.S. JALUKBARI
GUWAHATI

26:SRI PALIT KR BORA
S/O LATE PADMANATH BORA R/O DAHABARACHUK
JORHAT-01
PRESENTLY RESIDING AT ARUNADAY APARTMENT BLOCK NO.1
FLAT NO 302

27:ASHEERBAD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY PVT LTD
INCORPORATION NO 03-04583
REPRESENTED BY ITS DIRECTOR SMTI RATNA SARMAH

28:SRI RABINDRA NATH SARMAH
S/O LATE PITAMBAR SARMAH R/O MALIGAON CHARIALI
P/S JALUKBARI GUWAHATI-11

29:SRI NILAMBAR SARMAH
RESIDENTS OF A.T. ROAD
VILLAGE AND P.O.-KAMAKHYA
P.S. JALUKBARI
GUWAHATI KAMRUP METRO

30:SRI BHABA KT. SARMAH
RESIDENTS OF A.T. ROAD
VILLAGE AND P.O.-KAMAKHYA
P.S. JALUKBARI
GUWAHATI KAMRUP METRO

31:SRI KAMALA KT. SARMAH
RESIDENTS OF A.T. ROAD
VILLAGE AND P.O.-KAMAKHYA
P.S. JALUKBARI
GUWAHATI KAMRUP METRO

32:SRI LAKSHI KT. SARMAH
RESIDENTS OF A.T. ROAD
VILLAGE AND P.O.-KAMAKHYA
P.S. JALUKBARI
GUWAHATI KAMRUP METRO

33:WEST GUWAHATI COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
PANDUNATH GUWAHATI
KAMRUP
ASSAM REPRESENTED BY PRINCIPAL AND SECRETARY SMT GITANJALI
CHOUDHURY

34:SMT GITANJALI CHOUDHURY
WIFE OF SRI BRAJENDRA CHOUDHURY
RESIDENT OF KAHILIPARA
SURABHI PATH
JANAKPUR
GUWAHATI 5

35:THE DEPUTY REGISTRAR
KAMRUP METRO PANBAZAR
GUWAHATI-781001

36:THE SENIOR SUB REGISTRAR
KAMRUP METRO PANBAZAR
GUWAHATI-781001

37:THE SUB REGISTRAR
KAMRUP METRO PANBAZAR
GUWAHATI-781001

38:THE JOINT SUB REGISTRAR
KAMRUP METRO PANBAZAR
GUWAHATI-781001

39:THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
KAMRUP METRO
GUWAHATI-781001

40:THE ADDITIONAL DEPUTY COMMISSIONER REVENUE
KAMRUP METRO
GUWAHATI-781001

41:DR. SUBHASH KHANNA
S/O SRI KRISHANLAL KHANNA MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SWAGAT
HOSPITAL P LTD. BHARALUMUKH
GUWAHATI-09

42:SHRI BRAJEN KALITA
S/O LATE NAREN KALITA R/O KALIPUR
GUWAHATI
DIST KAMRUP ASSAM

43:SUBHAM PLANNERS LTD.
FORMERLY SUBHAM PLANNERS PVT. LTD
REGISTERED OFFICE
AT SUBHAM VELOCITY
5TH FLOOR
HARI RAM BORA PATH
G.S. ROAD
OPP- WALFORD
GUWAHATI-5
REPRESENTED BY ITS DIRECTOR
SRI ROHIT LOHIA
R/O SRIKUNI HOUSE
HOUSE NO- 11
MAHADEVPUR
REHABARI
GUWAHATI-8
DIST- KAMRUP (M), ASSAM.

44:SRI SUPARAS MAL BAID
S/O LATE KANKHYA LAL BAID
R/O MALIGAON
GUWAHATI
DIST- KAMRUP (M)
ASSAM.

45:SRI ARABINDA SENGUPTA
S/O DILIP KUMAR SENGUPTA.

46:SMTI. AJANTA SENGUPTA
W/O SRI ARABINDA SENGUPTA.

47:SMT. KRISHNA BISWAS
S/O LATE PARTHA PRATIM BISWAS

48:SRI PARTHA PRATIM BISWAS
S/O LATE AJIT KUMAR BISWAS.

49:SMT. SUNITA JHABAK
W/O SRI RAJ KUMAR JHABAK

50:SMT. SONU SETHIA
W/O SRI DHANPAT R. SETHIA

51:SRI DHANPAT R. SETHIA

S/O SRI SUMER MAL SETHIA

52:SRI KRISHNA SHARMA
S/O SRI SANWARMAL SHARMA.

53:SMT. KALPANA NEOG
W/O SRI KABYAJYOTI NEOG

54:KABYAJYOTI NEOG
S/O LATE JYOTISH CHANDRA NEOG

55:SRI VIMAL CHAND KHAJANCHI
S/O LATE VALCHAN KHANCHI

56:SMTI. CHANDRAKALA KHAJANCHI
W/O SRI VIMAL CHAND KHAJANCHI

57:SMT. PARWATI DEVI HARLALKA
W/O LATE NAND KISHORE HARLALKA

58:SRI JITENDRA KUMAR YADAV
S/O SRI PRABHUNATH YADAV

59:SRI AMIT KUMAR YADAV
S/O SRI PRABHU NATH YADAV

60:SRI SANDIP KEDIA
S/O SRI MAHABIR PRASAD KEDIA

61:SRI SEKHAR PODDER
S/O LATE SRISH CHANDRA PODDER

62:SMT. SNEHA HARLALKA

D/O LATE DILIP AGARWAL

63:SMT. SWAPNA DUTTA
W/O LATE PANKAJ DUTTA

64:SRI SANJIB KUMAR MITRA
S/O LATE BYOMKESH MITRA

65:SRI SEKHAR PODDER
S/O LATE SRISH CHANDRA PODDER

66:SMT. SNEHA HARLALKA
D/O LATE DILIP AGARWAL.

67:SMT. SWAPNA DUTTA
W/O LATE PANKAJ DUTTA
RESPONDENT NO 45 TO 67 ARE RESIDENTS OF DWARKA ENCLAVE
MALIGAON
GUWAHATI-781012
KAMRUP (M)
ASSAM.

68:SRI RIJU PRASAD SARMA
S/O LATE RABATI PRASAD SARMA
RESIDENT OF KAMAKHYA HILL
GUWAHATI 781010
KAMRUP M ASSA

For the Appellants

: Mr. D.K. Mishra, Sr. Adv.
Mr. B. Prasad, Adv.
Mr. P.K. Sharma, Adv.

For the respondent Nos.2, 3 & 4 : Ms. M. Bhattacharjee,
Addl. Senior Govt. Advocate.
For the respondent No.41 : Mr. R.C. Saikia, Adv.

**BEFORE
HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE SOUMITRA SAIKIA**

ORDER

Date : 17.02.2023

Heard learned Senior counsel, Mr. D.K. Mishra assisted by Mr. B. Prasad, learned counsel for the writ appellants. Also heard Ms. M. Bhattacharjee, learned Additional Senior Government Advocate, Assam representing respondent Nos.2 to 4 and Mr. R.C. Saikia, learned counsel representing respondent No.41.

Learned Senior counsel, Mr. D.K. Mishra fervently urged that the notification under Section 3 of the Assam State Acquisition of Lands Belonging to Religious or Charitable Institution of Public Nature Act, 1959 [in short, Act of 1959] was never served on the persons responsible for the management of the property of the temple as required under Sub-Section 2 of Section 3 of the Act of 1959.

Reference is also made to the minutes of the meeting dated 28.07.1997 wherein, after detailed consideration of the problems relating to the land in question, a resolution was drawn that an action to fix and demarcate the retainable area of the Devalaya would be taken and till such demarcation, regular settlement of the Devalaya land shall not be allowed.

Learned Senior counsel urged that no such demarcation was ever made and in gross derogation of the resolution (supra), the land of deity is sought to be acquired.

Learned counsel representing the respondents have controverted the submissions advanced by learned Senior counsel for the appellants.

Having heard and considered the submissions advanced at the Bar and after perusing the impugned judgment and the records of the case, we feel that the matter requires consideration and hence, is fit to be admitted.

Admit.

Issue notice.

Service upon the respondent Nos.2 to 4 and 41 is waived as they are already represented by respective learned counsel. Process be issued to the remaining respondents.

In the meantime, *status quo* as it exists today in respect of the land in question, including possession and status in revenue records, shall be maintained.

List the matter after 4(four) weeks.

JUDGE

CHIEF JUSTICE

Comparing Assistant