

GAHC040015412019



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

Case No. : PIL 21/2019

1:Toko Soni
W/o Toko Togur, resident of Talo village, District Lower Subansiri, AP

VERSUS

1:THE UNION OF INDIA
represented by the Secretary, Ministry of Women and child Development, Govt. of
India, New Delhi

2:THE STATE OF AP
represented by the Commissioner/Secretary
Govt. of AP
Deptt.of Social welfare
Govt. of AP
Itanagar

3:The commissioner and Secretary
Deptt. of Helath and Family welfare
Govt. of AP
Itanagar

4:The Deputy Director
ICDS
Yachuli
Dist. Lower Subansiri
AP

5:The Chief Development Programme Officer
Yachuli
Dist. Lower Subansiri
A

Advocate for the Petitioner : Sunil Mow

Advocate for the Respondent : CGC

**BEFORE
HONBLE MR. JUSTICE SONGKHUPCHUNG SERTO
HONBLE MR. JUSTICE NANI TAGIA**

ORDER

Date : 21-05-2020

(S. Serto, J)

Heard Mr. S. Mow, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and also heard Mr. S. Tapin, learned Sr. Govt. Advocate appearing for respondent Nos. 2, 4 & 5.

None has appeared on behalf of respondent No.1 i.e. the Union of India and respondent No.3/the Commissioner and Secretary to the Government of Arunachal Pradesh (Department of Health and Family Welfare).

This is a PIL filed by a public spirited person to bring to the notice of this Court the way how the Anganwadi Centres are being run in the State of Arunachal Pradesh particularly at 4 (four) centres, namely, Talo, Upper Talo, Lower Talo and Puk Village under Lower Subansiri District for necessary direction or directions. It is alleged in the petition that the Anganwadi Centres at the four places mentioned have not been run as per the provisions of Section 4, 5, 1 (a) and 5 (2) of '*The National Food Security Act, 2013*' and the buildings where the Anganwadi Centres are run are in dilapidated conditions and they are also without proper toilets, water supply and power supply, therefore, not fit for running such centres.

Mr. Tapin, learned Sr. Govt. Advocate submitted that due to the prevailing situation arising out of the spread of *COVID-19 Pandemic* in the country, he could not obtain the required instructions earlier, but off late he has received the same, therefore, he may be granted 3 (three) weeks time to file the affidavit. We understand the difficulties faced by the learned Sr. Govt. Advocate

and also appreciate the efforts made by him to file the required affidavit. However, in view of the prevailing situation, we are constrained to express our concern in the way the Anganwadi Centres are stated to be running in those 4 (four) Centres in particular. Therefore, though the affidavit may be filed during the coming 3 (three) weeks as requested, we direct the respondents to make sure that the 4 (four) Anganwadi Centres are run properly as required under the provisions of '*The National Food Security Act, 2013*' and more care is taken as per the instructions issued by the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh and the Central Govt. from time to time during this times.

List the matter again immediately after 3 (three) weeks.

All the respondents should make sure that their affidavits are filed during the 3 (three) weeks time granted.

JUDGE

Comparing Assistant