



W.P.No.27637 of 2023

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N.SESHASAYEE, J.

The short question involved in this case is that, pursuant to the order of a learned Single Judge of this Court in W.P.Nos.8780 and 10091 of 2008, dated 12.10.2012, a committee was constituted under the chairmanship of the District Collector, the fourth respondent in this case, for the fixation of a fair price for green tea cultivated in the Nilgiris. The committee, after collecting certain data about the market price of green tea at that relevant point of time in 2014, fixed it at Rs.14.54 per Kg. However, the cost of cultivation has increased for the farmers, whereas the procurement price for tea is stuck at Rs.14.54 per Kg, without any movement upwards. According to this, the petitioner, based on an assessment of the cost for producing 1 Kg of green tea, an average tea grower / farmer had to incur about Rs.22.50 per Kg. This implies that the cost of cultivation is more than the cost of the tea as fixed by the committee. Therefore, the petitioner, who is a member of a certain association named Nakubetta Badugar Welfare Society, has applied for considering their representation seeking an enhancement of the price for green tea.



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2.Mr.K.S.Jeyaganesh, the learned Central Government Standing Counsel, takes notice for the first respondent, and Mr.C.Kathiravan, the learned Special Government Pleader takes notice for the respondents 2 and 4.

3.Since this Court is keen to monitor how the authorities respond and react to the plight of the tea growers in Nilgiris, this Court chooses to post this matter every Friday, from 29.09.2023, as well as the degree of sensitivity and urgency they exhibit in the matter.

20.09.2023

Anu

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