



Serial No.06
Supp. List

HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA
AT SHILLONG

WP(C). No. 221 of 2026

Date of Order: 22.05.2026

North Eastern Hill University

Vs.

Shri. Nantu Das & Anr.

Coram:

Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.S.Thangkhiew, Judge

Appearance:

For the Petitioner/Applicant(s) : Mr. S.Sen, Adv.
Ms. S.Dhar, Adv.
Ms. S.Shallam, Adv.

For the Respondent(s) : Mr. M.L.Nongpiur, Adv. for R 1.

1. Heard Mr. S.Sen, learned counsel for the petitioner.
2. Issue notice.
3. Mr. M.L.Nongpiur, learned counsel is present on behalf of the respondent No. 1 caveator.
4. Notice to issue to the proforma respondent No. 2 within three days.
5. The instant writ petition has been filed assailing an order dated 17-03-2026, on the question of maintainability of an appeal filed under Section 18 of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act, 2013, whereby the Deputy Chief Labour



Commissioner (Central) Guwahati, has entertained the said complaint. Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the respondent No. 1 who had preferred the appeal, firstly is not a workman and is a Grade A Officer under the University and is governed by its own Service Rules. Learned counsel has drawn the attention of this Court to the provision of appeal i.e. section 18 of the Act, and submits that an appeal will otherwise be maintainable when no such Service Rules exists. He further submits that even though under the Rules, the said Court below has been notified as an Appellate Authority under the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, the remedy of appeal however, to the respondent No. 1 would not be available to him under this provision.

6. Mr. M.L.Nongpiur, learned counsel for the respondent No. 1 caveator, has submitted that as there is no provision of appeal provided, the writ petitioner having no other recourse and in view of the fact that the Court below has been notified as an Appellate Authority has thus preferred the statutory appeal. He further submits that the order has been passed since 17-03-2026, and that the matter is fixed for further hearing on 26-05-2026, as such, no interference is called for at this stage.

7. This Court has heard the learned counsel for the parties and also examined the Act in question. In the considered view of this court, this matter deserves further consideration especially an interpretation as to the



ground of appeal keeping in mind the fact that the writ petitioner is not a workman and is governed by its own Service Rules. In this view of the matter, the impugned order dated 17-03-2026 shall remain stayed until the next date.

8. Affidavit to be filed within two weeks.

9. List this matter on 16-06-2026.

Judge

Meghalaya
22.05.2026
"Samantha PS"