

SL. No	Date	Office Notes, reports, orders or proceedings or directions and Registrar's order with Signatures	COURT'S OR JUDGES'S ORDERS
	10.01.2026		WPIL No.170 of 2025 <u>Hon'ble Manoj Kumar Tiwari, J.</u> <u>Hon'ble Siddhartha Sah, J.</u> Mr. Yogesh Chandra Tiwari, learned Standing Counsel for the State/respondent nos.1 & 2. 2. Mr. Bhupendra Singh Bisht, learned counsel for respondent no.3. 3. Mr. Vinay Kumar, Advocate has agreed to appear as Amicus Curiae in this PIL. We, therefore, appoint Mr. Vinay Kumar, Advocate as Amicus Curiae to assist the Court in the matter. 4. Registry shall supply copy of the paper book to learned Amicus Curiae, as per Rules on or before 15.01.2026. 5. This PIL was registered based on a news report regarding substandard material used in the work of restoration of a public library in Nainital. Coordinate Bench, vide order dated 08.09.2025 granted four weeks' time to the respondents for filing counter affidavit. Response affidavit has not been filed so far even though more than four months have elapsed. 6. Learned Amicus Curiae submits that it is more often than not noticed that quality of construction in the works executed by State Departments/Agencies is not upto the required standard and the material used in such construction is also not as per specifications, even though the cost incurred in such works is on much higher side. He submits that there is no system of monitoring and there is lack of accountability due to which, people of the State are not able

		to reap the full benefit of the public money spent in development projects/ works. Learned Amicus Curiae submits that there are instances where Government buildings/bridges/roads developed cracks soon after completion and public money was then again spent in making repairs to make them usable. Learned Amicus Curiae submits that huge amount of public money is spent every year in various projects/development works, therefore, it is imperative that there is a system in place which may monitor (i) the quality of construction and also (ii) the maximum amount payable for a given work, to ensure that people of the State get benefit of every penny of public money, which is spent in development activities. 7. We find some substance in the submission made by learned Amicus Curiae. Public money, if wisely spent to ensure quality, results in creation of asset, which may enure to benefit of the people of State for a long time, however, if the construction is of poor quality, then the asset created, may not give desired benefit to the people or it may require frequent repairs, thus adding to the cost of the project. 8. We, therefore, enlarge the scope of this PIL and cover all kinds of construction/development work done by the State Government through its various departments/ agencies, where tax payers' money or money borrowed by the State from national/international agencies, is used. 9. On the oral prayer made by learned Amicus Curiae, we permit impleadment of Secretary, Public Works Department, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun, Secretary, Irrigation Department, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun, Secretary, Forest, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun, and Secretary, Rural Works
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			Department, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun as respondent nos. 4, 5, 6 & 7 to the writ petition. Needful be done by the Registry by 13.01.2026. All the newly impleaded respondents shall be served through Office of Chief Standing Counsel by 13.01.2026. 10. We, therefore, implore upon the State Government to devise ways and means to ensure that the people of the State get maximum benefit, out of the public money, spent in various development works/ projects by monitoring the quality of material used, and also the workmanship in construction projects. It should be the endeavour of the State authorities to ensure that every work/ project confirms to the national/ international standard. State Government may consider constituting a Committee consisting of domain experts and also persons of unimpeachable integrity from other walks of life. 11. List this matter on 12.02.2026, on which date, the District Magistrate, Nainital and Executive Officer, Nagar Palika Parishad, Nainital shall appear and apprise the Court about the steps taken as regards the public library at Nainital, which was restored at huge cost to public exchequer. 12. Registry shall communicate this order to Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand for information and compliance, electronically, by 12.1.2026. (Siddhartha Sah, J.) 10.01.2026 (Manoj Kumar Tiwari, J.) BS/Akash
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