

**IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA**  
[ CIRCUIT BENCH AT PORT BLAIR ]

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**WPA(P)/11/2024**

**Shri Indra Pal Singh**

**Vs.**

**Union of India and others**

Mr. Md.Tabraiz ... for the petitioner

Mr. Shatadru Chakraborty  
Mr. Dibesh Dwivedi ... for the Administration

November 13, 2024

[SR]

*Item no. 1*

1. The instant public interest litigation has been filed by a public spirited person as regards the frequent power disruption and/or failure in the Islands.
2. It is submitted that the power failure extends at time about eight hours in a day. The said disruption affects the daily life of the citizens of the Islands and also trade, commerce and industry. It is submitted by the Mr.Tabraiz that the present capacity of the power plant in the Islands is about 34 MW and the demand is about 46 MW. The aforesaid information has been obtained under the RTI Act by the petitioner.
3. It is also submitted that the Electricity Act and the Rules framed thereunder provide for compensation to consumers in the event of disruption which is to be adjusted towards future bills levied on the consumers. The Electricity Department of the Administration does not apply the same although it is implemented in the State of Goa.

4. This Court directs Mr. Shatadru Chakraborty, learned counsel who normally represents the Administration to obtain instructions on behalf of the respondents in the matter. The Secretary (Power), A & N Administration shall explain the existing capacity of the power plant in the Islands and the steps being taken towards augmentation and increase of capacity and supply of electricity commensurate with the demand.

5. It is submitted that repeated communications from the Ministry of Power to the Islands in this regard not yielded any fruitful results.

6. The Union of India shall also file an affidavit as regards steps being taken for setting up of the proposed LNG power plant in the Islands and status of the same, on the next day.

7. This Court directs Mr. Tulsi Lal, who normally represents the Union of India in this Court be served notice on behalf of the Union of India. Mr. Lal, shall obtain instructions and ensure filing of affidavit as directed herein above.

8. List the matter on the first day of the second week in the next Circuit Bench.

**( Rajasekhar Mantha, J. )**

**( Partha Sarathi Sen, J. )**