

ITEM NO.8

COURT NO.14

SECTION PIL-W

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s). 786/2025

PRADYOT DEB BURMAN

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 305410/2025 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS)

Date : 26-02-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ MISRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANMOHAN

For Petitioner(s) :

Mr. Siddharth Luthra, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Arjun Aggarwal, AOR
Mr. Vishal Singh, Adv.
Mr. Aman Kumar, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :

Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General
Mr. K.M.Nataraj, A.S.G.
Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, Adv.
Ms. Sansriti Pathak, Adv.
Mr. Anuj Udupa, Adv.
Mr. Udit Dedhiya, Adv.
Ms. Tanvi Dubey, Adv.
Mr. Arvind Kumar Sharma, AOR
Mr. Aman Mehta, Adv.

Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, AOR

Mr. Prateek Kumar, AOR
Mr. Devansh Rai, Adv.
Ms. Teesha, Adv.
Ms. Sanjivani Pattjoshi, Adv.

Mr. R Venkataramani, Attorney General for India
Mr. Pawanshree Agrawal, AOR
Mr. Kunal Chatterjee, Adv.

Ms. Pallavi Langar, AOR
Mr. Bhaskar Deb Burman, Adv.
Mr. Sujeet Kumar Chaubey, Adv.
Mr. Remolish Deb Burman, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. On 11.02.2026, the following order was passed:

"1. In the reply affidavit of State of Tripura a notification dated 22.01.2026 has been placed as 'Annexure R2'.

2. As per the said notification, the earlier three notifications have been rescinded. As a consequence thereof, the 123 new village committees which were to be constituted by reorganizing the existing village committees will no longer be constituted. In view of this development, the State Election Commission must indicate the time frame within which they can complete the exercise of the impending elections. The affidavit may also indicate the possibility of holding elections simultaneously for the District Council and Village Committees.

3. Mr. Ranjeet Kumar, who represents the State Election Commission, Tripura, prays for and is allowed two weeks' time to file an affidavit in light of the above observations.

4. List this matter on 26.02.2026."

2. Pursuant to the above order, a detailed affidavit

has been filed on behalf of the fourth respondent (State Election Commission).

3. In paragraph 14 of the affidavit, it is stated that the schedule for draft publication, claims and objections, and final publication of the electoral rolls has been issued on 18.02.2026, and final publication of the electoral rolls is scheduled on 13.03.2026.

4. It is stated that the schedule for holding District Council elections is expected to be declared by mid-March, 2026, so that polling, counting and all post-election exercises are concluded by mid-April, 2026.

5. We deem it appropriate to accept the aforesaid proposal and request the State Election Commission to ensure that the aforesaid time-schedule is adhered to for holding District Council elections.

6. Insofar as holding of Village Committees elections is concerned, it is stated in the affidavit that it is not possible to hold elections for the District Council and the Village Committees simultaneously.

7. In paragraph 13 of the affidavit, reasons have been disclosed as to why the same is not possible.

8. Upon consideration of the reasons disclosed in the affidavit, we are of the view that the holding of simultaneous elections may not be feasible. Therefore,

we deem it appropriate to request the State Election Commission to fix a separate time schedule for conducting the Village Committees elections.

9. In the affidavit filed on behalf of the State Election Commission, the time schedule for holding Village Committee elections is by September, 2026.

10. At this stage, we may observe that, before the High Court, the State Election Commission had given a time schedule for holding elections to Village Committees under the Tripura Tribunal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC). As per the said schedule, the tentative date of notification was 26.10.2022 and the day of poll was 28.11.2022.

11. In such circumstances, we do not find sufficient justification in the affidavit for deferring the elections to the Village Committees upto September, 2026.

12. We, therefore, require the State Election Commission to file an affidavit specifically disclosing as to why the elections cannot be held prior to the onset of 2026 monsoon. Such affidavit shall be filed by 15.03.2026.

13. An endeavour shall also be made to consider and, if possible, provide a time schedule for holding the

Village Committees elections in the month of May, 2026.

14. List this matter on 18.03.2026.

**(DEEPAK SINGH)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS**

**(PRAVEEN KUMAR)
COURT MASTER (NSH)**