

Serial No.01
Regular List

HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA
AT SHILLONG

PIL No.6/2021

Date of Order: 09.08.2021

Registrar General, Vs. State of Meghalaya
High Court of Meghalaya

Coram:

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biswanath Somadder, Chief Justice
Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.S. Thangkhiew, Judge

Appearance:

For the Petitioner/Appellant(s) : -
For the Respondent(s) : Mr. A Kumar, Advocate General with
Mr. S Sen Gupta, Addl.Sr.GA
Mr. AH Kharwanlang, GA,

- i) Whether approved for reporting in Law journals etc.: Yes/No
- ii) Whether approved for publication in press: Yes/No

Let the status report filed on behalf of the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Meghalaya, be kept on record.

Upon perusing the same it does not reveal any step taken by Meghalaya Police in order to specifically identify and book those persons who are responsible for spreading false rumours using various social media platforms with regard to the efficacy of the vaccines, in order to create an element of fear psychosis in the society, which is one of the primary reasons for vaccine hesitancy in the State of Meghalaya.

While we appreciate the steps taken by the Department of Health and Family Welfare of the Government of Meghalaya, we simply cannot allow the rumour-mongers to go scot-free. They can be easily apprehended

by the Meghalaya Police (provided it has the will to do so), since all of them are invariably using various social media platforms, thereby leaving an electronic trail. We would request the learned Advocate General to take serious note of this matter and apprise the Court specifically on the next date the steps taken by the Meghalaya Police in this regard.

It appears that the report of the Secretaries of the District Legal Services Authorities, in terms of our judgment and order dated 23rd June, 2021, is not yet ready. We, therefore, extend the time till the next date of hearing.

List this matter on 17th August, 2021, for further consideration.

(H.S. Thanghiew)
Judge

(Biswanath Somadder)
Chief Justice



Meghalaya
09.08.2021
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