

ITEM NO.63

COURT NO.2

SECTION PIL-W

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s). 3/2019

ADITYA N PRASAD

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA &amp; ORS.

Respondent(s)

Date : 11-01-2019 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE A.K. SIKRI  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S. ABDUL NAZEER

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Anand Grover, Sr. Adv.  
Ms. Astha Sharma, AOR  
Mr. Amit Verma, Adv.  
Ms. Dimple Nagpal, Adv.  
Mr. Suraj Sanap, Adv.  
Mr. Abhishek Manchanda, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. Tushar Mehta, S.G.  
Mr. A.N.S. Nadkarni, A.S.G.  
Ms. Shraddha Deshmukh, Adv.  
Ms. Swati Ghildiyal, Adv.  
  
Mr. Amit Kumar, Adv. Gen.  
Mr. Avijit Mani Tripathi, AOR  
Mr. Shaurya Sahay, Adv.  
Mr. T.K. Nayak, Adv.  
  
Mr. Gr. Cpt. Karan Singh Bhati, Adv.  
Mr. Damodar Solanki, Adv.

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

Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General of India, as well as learned counsel for the State of Meghalaya have apprised the Court regarding the various steps which have been taken to tackle

the problem.

Mr. Anand Grover, learned senior counsel appearing for the petitioner, on the other hand, submits that due to lack of coordination and also some hurdles which are being faced by the teams of persons which are working on the site, the desired results are not coming out. He has submitted a note in this behalf giving various suggestions to assist the rescue operation. In this note, it is inter alia mentioned that the main hurdles which are coming in the rescue operation are:

- a) Remote location & difficult terrain.
- b) No blue print of the mines.
- c) Water seeping into the mine(s) from unknown source.
- d) No knowledge of connection with nearby mines.

This note also highlights for associating National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad, National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Roorkee and some other private research institutes including Planys Technology, Chennai.

It is submitted that the petitioner has contacted the concerned Officers of all these institutes who are ready to give helping hand and assist in the rescue operation in every possible manner. It is stated that these institutes are capable of mapping the mines which would go a long way in redeeming the situation. He also submits that though underwater rovers are available, these are to be airlifted and in this behalf Air Force can do the needful.

Learned Solicitor General states that the Government has already contacted the aforesaid institutes, namely, NGRI,

Hyderabad, NIH, Roorkee and requested them for their help. He also assured that all the suggestions which are made in the note submitted by Mr. Anand Grover would be taken into consideration and will be acted upon in whatever manner possible.

List on 18.01.2019.

(SUSHIL KUMAR RAKHEJA)  
AR-CUM-PS

(RAJINDER KAUR)  
BRANCH OFFICER