

ITEM NO.58

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 & ORS.

Respondent(s)

([TO BE TAKEN UP AS FIRST ITEM])

Date : 04-01-2019 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.
Mr. Suraj Sanap, Adv.
Mr. Abhishek Manchanda, Adv.
Ms. Kajal Dalal, Adv.
Ms. Dimple Nagpal, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. Tushar Mehta, SG
Ms. Swati Ghildiyal, Adv.
Ms. Shraddha Deshmukh, Adv.
Mr. Rajat Nair, Adv.
Ms. D. Priyanka, Adv.
Mr. G.S. Makkar, Adv.

Mr. Amit Kumar, Adv. Gen.
Mr. Avijit Mani Tripathi, Adv.
Mr. Arini K. Nayak, Adv.
Mr. Upendra Mishra, Adv.

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

Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General has explained in detail the steps which have been taken by the Authorities namely, the officials of Central Government along with that of the State of Meghalaya for undertaking the swift rescue operation. In nutshell his submission is that all possible steps are taken in this behalf. According to him the problem is that since the mine in question where the miners are trapped is an illegal mine, there is no blue print of the mine. Another problem is that this mine is situated near a river and water from the river is seeping to the mine because of this reason even when the steps are taken to lay down the water further water is entering into the mine which is creating more complications. In spite of all this, according to the learned Solicitor General, all possible steps have been taken.

Mr. Anand Grover, learned senior counsel appearing for the petitioner on the other hand submits that even as per letter dated 01.01.2019 addressed by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner for the Government of Meghalaya certain steps which needed to be taken have not been taken till date. He has also produced a copy of news reported in Shillong Times on 03.01.2019 as per which certain observations which are needed have not been started as of now.

Having regard to the aforesaid respective submissions we direct the respondents to file the status report in writing in this Court by 07.01.2019 about the steps which have been taken and the progress of the rescue operation. In this status report the respondents shall also address the issues which are raised in the

aforesaid letter dated 01.01.2019 as well as the news reported in Shillong Times.

List the matter on 07.01.2019.

(ASHWANI THAKUR)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(RAJINDER KAUR)
BRANCH OFFICER