

Serial No. 02
Regular List

HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA
AT SHILLONG

PIL No. 4/2023

Date of order: 07.07.2023

Thomas Passah vs. State of Meghalaya & Ors.

Coram:

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjib Banerjee, Chief Justice
Hon'ble Mr. Justice W. Diengdoh, Judge

Appearance:

For the Petitioner : Mr. S. Dey, Adv.

For the Respondents : Mr. N. Syngkon, GA with
Mr. A.H. Kharwanlang, Addl. Sr. GA
Ms. A. Thungwa, GA
Mr. Philemon Nongbri, Adv.

A status report has been filed by the State pertaining to the water supply in the capital city of Shillong.

A rejoinder has been used by the petitioner and a copy thereof forwarded to the State.

Apart from the problem of exorbitant rates charged by water-tankers supplying water to various parts of the city, which the State must immediately regulate and rein in, there have to be long-term and short-term plans put in place for the immediate future and how the State reckons the demand for water would be, say, 20 years hence.

The State would also do well to clean and rejuvenate water-bodies in and around the city particularly the rivers and streams that

may have been choked up or completely contaminated. The District Council should be tasked with the responsibility of ensuring that local folk who live by the water-bodies act responsibly. There are also Central projects with sufficient funds, particularly to the North-Eastern States, that may be availed of. The State should file a comprehensive affidavit covering all aspects indicated hereinabove by the time the matter appears next a fortnight hence.

The affidavit should also indicate the outlines of the Greater Shillong Water Supply Scheme, including whether any place in addition to Mawphlang is proposed as a site for an additional reservoir.

List on July 21, 2023.

(W. Diengdoh)
Judge

(Sanjib Banerjee)
Chief Justice

Meghalaya
07.07.2023
"Santosh, P.S."