

HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA
AT SHILLONG

PIL No. 10 of 2019

Date of order: 24.05.2023

In Re: Cleanliness of Umiam Lake vs State of Meghalaya

Coram:

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

Appearance:

For the Petitioner : Mr M. Lyngdoh, Adv. vice
Mr S.P. Mahanta, Amicus Curiae

For the Respondents : Mr S. Sengupta, Addl Sr GA
Mr K.P. Bhattacharjee, GA
Mr V.G.K. Kynta, Sr Adv.
Mr P. Nongbri, Adv.

An affidavit has been filed by the Secretary to the State Government in the Forest and Environment Department.

Such affidavit indicates that the sub-committee of experts has drafted a set of norms and guidelines for future construction around the waterbodies in the State. It also appears that the draft guidelines for protection and conservation of waterbodies have also been submitted.

The State submits that the draft guidelines have been circulated for comments from various Departments and the District Councils.

At the request of the State, let the matter stand over for eight weeks for a firm stand pertaining to the guidelines to be indicated.

In the meantime, the State will make every endeavour to preserve all the waterbodies in the State and neither the State nor the local authorities will allow any construction to come up within 50 metres of the high-water mark of the relevant waterbody without the express previous leave of this Court.

It will be open to the parties herein to obtain copies of the draft guidelines from the State so that they can better assist the Court.

List on July 19, 2023.

(W. Diengdoh)
Judge

(Sanjib Banerjee)
Chief Justice

Meghalaya
24.05.2023
"Sylvana PS"

