

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE V.G.ARUN**

**Tuesday, the 17th day of January 2023 / 27th Pousha, 1944
WP(C) NO. 1485 OF 2023(I)**

PETITIONER:

**AGNES MICHALE, AGED 46 YEARS, W/O.P.D. BABU, KALLARACKAL HOUSE,
CHERANELLOOR P.O., KOCHI 682 034.,**

RESPONDENTS:

- 1. CHERANELLOOR GRAMA PANCHAYATH REPRESENTED BY ITS
SECRETARY, PANCHAYATH OFFICE, CHERANELLOOR, ERNAKULAM, PIN: 683 544.,**
- 2. THE SECRETARY, CHERANELLOOR GRAMA PANCHAYATH, PANCHAYATH OFFICE,
CHERANELLOOR, ERNAKULAM, PIN: 683 544.,**
- 3. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, CHERANELLOOR POLICE
STATION, CHERANELLOOR, ERNAKULAM, PIN-682 034.,**
- 4. RAJU ANTONY, AGED 49 YEARS S/O. ANTONY, NADUVILEPARAMBIL HOUSE,
CHERANELLOOR P.O., ERNAKULAM, PIN: 682 034.,**

Writ petition (civil) praying inter alia that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed along with the WP(C) the High Court be pleased to direct the 2nd and 3rd respondents to conduct an immediate inspection of the illegally erected CCTV Camera by the 4th respondent and to do necessary steps to protect the privacy of the petitioner by removing the same, pending disposal of the Writ Petition.

This petition coming on for admission upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(C) and upon hearing the arguments of M/S K.R.VINOD, M.S.LETHA, CHITHRA C.EDADAN, NABIL KHADER Advocates for the petitioner and GOVERNMENT PLEADER for R3, the court passed the following:

V.G. ARUN, J.

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Dated this the 17th day of January, 2023

ORDER

Admit. Issue notice to respondents 1, 2 and 4 through speed post. Learned Government Pleader takes notice for the 3rd respondent.

2. The writ petition is filed aggrieved by the installation of CCTV Surveillance Camera by the petitioner's neighbour/4th respondent, allegedly focused towards the compound and residence of the petitioner.

3. I am of the *prima facie* opinion that, in the guise of installing CCTV surveillance cameras for security reasons, individuals should not be permitted to snoop into the affairs of their neighbours. The situation calls for issuance of orders or guidelines dealing with the manner in which CCTV cameras are to be installed. It is for the State Police Chief to come out with appropriate guidelines in this regard, in consultation with the State Government. The State Police Chief is therefore suo motu impleaded as the additional 5th respondent. Learned Government Pleader

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takes notice for the additional respondent.

4. The Government Pleader shall make available a copy of this order to the State Police Chief and convey the concern expressed by this Court.

Post after a month.

H/o.

Sd/-

**V.G. ARUN
JUDGE**

bpr

