

DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN, J

W.P(C)No.2887 of 2021

Dated this the 25th day of September, 2023

ORDER

Sri.Inbasekar K. IAS, District Collector, Kasaragod, had appeared in person online, impressing upon this Court the steps taken by him to ensure that the identified 36 families are given their houses at the earliest.

2. It is gratifying that the District Collector unequivocally admits that there are no impediments - legal or otherwise - in handing over the houses to the beneficiaries; and that all which now remains are certain maintenance works over the same, for which, he has also made available an estimate, prepared by the Public Works Department (PWD).

3. Sri.Sunil Kumar Kuriakose - learned Government Pleader, affirmed that if the houses are repaired and maintained, it can be handed over to the 36 beneficiaries without delay. He added that, as is also available in the report of the District Collector, the petitioner themselves have come forward in altruism to expend the amounts required and that if they finds any difficulty, they can disclose the same to the District Collector, who then can take

necessary further action.

4. Sri.Sanand Ramakrishnan - learned counsel for the petitioner, submitted that since his client has expended large amounts of money for the construction of the 36 houses, they are willing to repair them, subject to finances being available with them. He, however, submitted that the matters have come to this stage today, only because of delay and since the houses have been kept unused for the last several years.

5. I must record upfront that the intent of this Court is to bring solace to the 36 families, who are suffering for the last several years. They require the unflinching support of the community and the official Authorities and this is without any doubt. The tragedy is that even after the house were ready, there were impediments after impediments in the past, in putting them to use; but when all of them have been now resolved, a situation has arisen it has become wasted due to non-use. Therefore, all which now requires to be done is to rectify them and make them ready for habitation.

6. One cannot be oblivious of the stark reality that the victims and their families are living in great pathos, even in rented houses.

Indubitably, a house in their name would be the greatest beneficence that one can extend to them, because they would then have the safety of a roof over their head and walls to protect them.

7. It is, therefore, apodictic that steps have to be taken swiftly and quickly, so that the families are able to be accommodated with dignity in the houses available.

8. This Court will not countenance any further delay, particularly because this writ petition has been pending, for no apparent reason, for the last three years.

9. Resultantly, I direct the petitioner to meet the District Collector, Kasaragod, at 11.00 a.m. on 27.09.2023; and they will then formulate the modalities for completing the works on the houses at the earliest. This court expects that work will be completed quickly, at least by the 15 of next month, so that all the families can be in the safety of a comfortable home thereafter. This shall be kept in mind and a report to this effect shall be placed before this Court by the District Collector, when the matter is next listed.

List this case on 04.10.2023, on which day also, I request the

District Collector, Kasaragod to be present personally for deliberation.

Sd/-

**DEVAN RAMACHANDRAN,
JUDGE**

H/O

MC