

**HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA**  
**AT SHILLONG**

PIL No. 7 of 2023

Date of order: 17.08.2023

Bakul Narzary

vs

State of Meghalaya & ors

**Coram:**

**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjib Banerjee, Chief Justice**

**Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. Bhattacharjee, Judge**

**Appearance:**

For the Petitioner : Mr S. Chakrawarty, Sr Adv. with  
Mr E. Laloo, Adv.

For the Respondents : Mr K. Khan, AAG with  
Mr S. Sengupta, Addl Sr GA  
Ms S. Laloo, GA  
Dr N. Mozika, DSG with  
Ms K. Gurung, Adv.

At the outset, learned DSG submits that though the rules have been promulgated by the Union Ministry of Environment, the appropriate Ministry to deal with the matter would be the Ministry of Animal and Husbandry. Accordingly, the Union Ministry of Animal Husbandry, having its office at Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001 is added as the respondent No. 6.

2. Copies of the petition and the orders passed should be forwarded to the added respondent immediately.

3. The State reports that in accordance with the Rules of 2017, appropriate district animal market committees have now been put in place. Since such committees may have been newly constituted though the State says that such constitution was in June, 2022, it is possible that no meaningful steps have yet been taken or there are no uniform guidelines promulgated by the State in such regard.

4. For a long time, in several matters this Court has been referring to the aesthetically hideous display of carcasses on either side of main roads, be it for vending chicken or mutton or pork or beef. Apart from the visual pollution, which may not be appealing to even the most carnivorous of non-vegetarians, the dust and grime that the carcasses are exposed to make them unhygienic for human consumption. This Court has been appealing to the State to take effective measures to ensure that such carcasses are not openly displayed and are kept within cases to ensure that the dust and grime of the roads do not get to them.

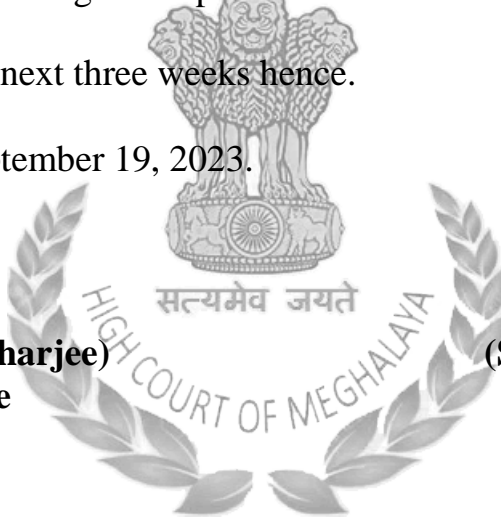
5. Apart from this there is the more important aspect of how animals which are culled for meat are ferried, both across the State and over the State borders. Surely, there is a lot of room for more ethical treatment of animals than tying up dozens of live chickens by their legs and having them hanging upside down from cycle handles or pushing

far too many animals into a cramped vehicle with not enough legroom and ferry them over long distances.

6. Since the relevant bodies have now been constituted for more than a year, effective measures ought to have been taken in respect of the matters referred to above and also the conditions in the market place, both with respect to better treatment of animals and, obviously, hygiene and cleanliness. The State will file a report in respect of the matters referred to herein through a responsible official in the secretariat when the matter appears next three weeks hence.

7. List on September 19, 2023.

**(B. Bhattacharjee)**  
**Judge**



**(Sanjib Banerjee)**  
**Chief Justice**

Meghalaya  
17.08.2023  
"Sylvana PS"