

R.M. AMBERKAR  
(Private Secretary)

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION  
WRIT PETITION NO. 692 OF 2022**

Somnath Laxman Giri & Anr. .. Petitioners  
**Versus**  
State of Maharashtra & Ors. .. Respondents

Mr. Harshan Inamdar for the Petitioners  
Ms. S.D. Vyas, B Panel Counsel for the State  
Mr. Kacharu Sandhan, Respondent No.5 present in person  
Mr. Ramesh Malhari Dhumal, Assistant Inspector General (Planning and Conn) a/w Mr. Kailas A. Gaikwad, Joint Secretary, Home Dept, Mantralaya are present.

**CORAM : S.J. KATHAWALLA &  
MILIND N. JADHAV, JJ.**

**DATE : FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

**P.C.:**

1. Since the Courts are repeatedly given an excuse by the police officials manning the Police Stations in the State of Maharashtra that the CCTV cameras installed at the police station are not functioning since a long time thereby committing breach of the directions given by the Supreme Court in the case of **Paramvir Singh Saini Vs. Baljit Singh & Ors.**<sup>1</sup>, we had passed a detailed Order on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 seeking information from the Chief Secretary, State of Maharashtra qua the CCTV cameras installed at all the police stations in the State and the corrective action taken to restore the functioning of all non-functional CCTV cameras.

2. In response to the said Order, the Chief Secretary, State of

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1 (2021) 1 SCC 184

Maharashtra has filed an Affidavit dated 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, which in our view, is devoid of relevant particulars and therefore, completely unsatisfactory. We have not been informed whether CCTV cameras are installed at the police stations as directed by the Supreme Court in paragraph 16 of its Order in the case of Paramvir Singh (supra) and why CCTV cameras till date have remained to be installed in a number of police stations. Interestingly, out of 1089 police stations, the work of installation of CCTV Surveillance system is completed only in 547 Police Stations. This is so because it appears that only two contractors have been selected to execute the project of installing CCTV surveillance system in 1089 Police Stations. When a question was put by the Court as to how the two contractors are selected to execute the work amounting to Rs. 60 Crores, Mr. Ramesh Malhari Dhumal, Assistant Inspector General who is present in Court, is unable to answer the question. Again we are informed by them that 453 CCTV cameras which are recently installed are non-functional. No particulars are given as to where the said 453 non-functional cameras are installed and what steps are taken to restore the functioning of the same. In view thereof, Advocate Ms. Vyas representing the State on instructions states that a detailed Affidavit will be filed on the adjourned date. Stand over to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2022 when the learned Advocate General is requested to remain present and assist the Court.

(MILIND N. JADHAV, J.)

(S.J.KATHAWALLA, J.)