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WPA 6462 of 2020 CAN 1 of 2020 (Old: CAN 5103 of 2020) CAN 2 of 2020 CAN 3 of 2020 (Via Video Conference)

Biswanath Chowdhury Vs. The Chairman, National Council for Teachers Education & Ors.

Mr. Debasish Kundu Mr. Srijib Chakraborty Mr. Amitayu Kundu Mr. Suryaneel Das ..for the Petitioner.

Mr. Kishore Datta Mr. Tapan Kumar Mukherjee Mr. Somnath Naskar ..for the State.

Mr. Amitava Chaudhuri Mr. M. Chaudhuri Mr. N. Roy ..for the University.

Mr. Jaydip Kar Mr. Nabankur Paul Md. Apzal Ansari ..for the Respondent No.5.

Pursuant to the order dated December 11, 2020, the District Magistrate, Cooch Behar, Pawan Kadyan, is present.

A second report has been prepared, together with copies of the photographs taken during the District Magistrate's visit to both Matikata and Jatrapur.

The District Magistrate has acknowledged that he committed a bonafide mistake in not visiting the site or furnishing a report despite the clear order of October

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13, 2020 in such regard. The District Magistrate has also tendered his unqualified apologies in court.

In the light of the subsequent report prepared by the District Magistrate and the repentance shown for the earlier mistake, the District Magistrate is discharged. The contempt proceedings are dropped. His personal appearance is dispensed with.

Since Mr. Kadyan has a long career, the court wishes him well but reminds him that his obligation every step of the way in his official capacity is to the citizen and to steer clear of the road of unfairness, unreasonableness and arbitrariness, particularly, at the behest of the political executive.

As far as the second report is concerned, the petitioner and the other parties will be entitled to obtain copies thereof from Mr. Mr. Tapan Kumar Mukherjee, Government Advocate. The photographs taken during Mr. Kadyan's visit should be available with Mr. Mukherjee, for the court to look into the same, if necessary.

The matter will now appear on December 21, 2020.

(Sanjib Banerjee, J.)

(Hiranmay Bhattacharyya, J.)

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