

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No.38895 of 2023

.... *Petitioner(s)*

Mr. Sidharth Prasad Das, Adv.

-versus-

State of Odisha & Ors.

.... *Opposite Party(s)*

Mr. Ch. Satyajit Misra, AGA

CORAM:

DR. JUSTICE S.K. PANIGRAHI

Order
No.

ORDER

10.01.2024

04.

1. This matter is taken up through hybrid arrangement.
2. During course of hearing, learned counsel for the Petitioner produced a Pen drive and the videos therein show that there has been unrest in the village.
3. Learned counsel for the Petitioner submits that the issue germinates due to viral of a nude photograph of the daughter of the Petitioner by some miscreants of the village. He further submits that when the Petitioner contacted the local Police and lodged FIR against the culprits, the villagers soon after ganged up against the Petitioner and a Kangaroo Court was conducted in the Village and the Petitioner was slapped with a fine of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand) only.
4. Learned counsel for the Petitioner also contended that the Petitioner has been ostracized from the village, which is not acceptable in a civilized society where rule of law prevails.

5. At this juncture, learned counsel for the State submits that after the incident an FIR has already been lodged against the people, who are involved in the incident.

6. Considering the gravity of the situation, this Court vide order dated 22.12.2023 had directed the Superintendent of Police, Nayagarh to have a personal visit to the concerned village and submit a detailed report regarding the said incident and what sorts of action the Police has taken.

7. It appears that except lodging an FIR against the culprits, the Police have not taken any serious step to settle the issue. It seems that the Police has been quite complacent on this issue and has not taken any further steps that they should have taken.

8. In such view of the matter, the I.G of Police, Central Division, Odisha is directed to have a personal visit to the village and enquire as to what sort of action has been taken against the culprits and ensure that the Petitioners are living peacefully in the village without any disturbance.

9. Let the I.G of Police, Central Division file a detailed report in terms of the above order by the next date.

10. List this matter on 8th February, 2024.

11. Free copy of this order be supplied to the learned counsel for the State.

(Dr. S.K. Panigrahi)
Judge