

**WPA 7807 of 2020**

**The Court on its own motion.  
In Re : Monitoring of pending  
criminal trials against MP's and MLA's  
(Through Video Conference)**

Mr. Saikat Banerjee  
Ms. Juin Dutta Chakraborty  
Mr. V. Tripathi  
... ... for the High Court Administration  
Mr. Y. J. Dastoor, ASG  
Mr. Phiroze Edulji  
Mr. Arijit Majumdar  
... ... for the Union of India  
Mr. Saswata Gopal Mukherjee, PP  
... ... for the State

The response in the form of affidavit in pursuance to the order dated 15.12.2021 has been filed by the Registrar General today.

In that response, it has been disclosed that 244 criminal cases relating to MPs/ MLAs were pending in the State of West Bengal and Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands as on 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021. It has been pointed out that out of these 244 cases there are 130 cases pending in the Special Court at Mayukh Bhawan, Salt Lake City and in other courts of the State 114 cases are pending.

Learned counsel for the High Court Administration has drawn the attention of this Court to the suggestions given in the response relating to the cases not only in the Special Court but in the other Courts of the State. The suggestion relates to appointing the Nodal Officer if any, in the rank of Deputy Commissioner of Police exclusively

for this purpose and that timely production of witnesses, expeditious examination of investigating officer and improvement in infrastructural facilities.

Learned counsel appearing for the High Court Administration has also informed that the Administrative Committee is considering the steps which are to be taken in pursuance to the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 24.11.2021 in WP (Civil) 699 of 2016 in the matter of Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay versus Union of India & Another.

The Registrar General is directed to give the details of the infrastructural facilities which are lacking and required to be improved upon by way of a further affidavit.

Learned counsel for the State also seeks adjournment on the ground of non-availability of learned Advocate General.

List on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2022.

**(Prakash Shrivastava, C.J.)**

**(Rajarshi Bharadwaj, J.)**