

**HIGH COURT OF TRIPURA**  
**A\_G\_A\_R\_T\_A\_L\_A**  
**WP(C)(PIL) No.06 of 2021**

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Court on its own motion.

For Respondent(s) : Mr. S. S. Dey, Advocate General,  
Mr. Ratan Datta, Public Prosecutor,  
Ms. A. Chakraborty, Advocate.

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**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. AKIL KURESHI**  
**HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S. TALAPATRA**

**O\_R\_D\_E\_R**

**16/07/2021**

*(Akil kureshi, CJ)*

This public interest petition arises out of *suo motu* cognizance taken by the Court of untimely death of a young married lady which was preceded by some unfortunate incidents of the village people gathering and humiliating her for her alleged extra marital activities. When this PIL was pending, the husband of the lady also committed suicide. These two cases were clubbed together for common investigation. Preliminary investigation carried out by the IO was not progressing as desired. The Court had, therefore, constituted a Special Investigation Team (*SIT, for short*) to carry out further investigation. The SIT so constituted, has submitted its report dated 14.07.2021 in sealed covers for the Court perusal. This report gives detailed steps painstakingly undertaken by the Investigating Officers under the supervision and guidance of senior members of the SIT. The report would

suggest that the investigation is at an advanced stage and very shortly the SIT would be in a position to submit its final report before the concerned Court. During such investigation, the SIT has also added certain offences against persons already joined as accused. We are fully satisfied with the investigation carried out by the SIT and in that view of the matter, our role in this PIL must be over. We would, therefore, like to withdraw from this issue and allow the normal criminal justice delivery system to take over. We are, however, anxious that the issue must reach finality as soon as possible.

Under the circumstances, this PIL is disposed of with following directions :

- (i) As assured by the SIT in its report dated 14.07.2021, let the final report upon completion of investigation be submitted before the concerned Court.
- (ii) Upon such report being submitted, the concerned Courts shall thereafter proceed in accordance with law.
- (iii) If charge-sheets are filed against any of the accused, we expect that the entire trial would be completed within a period of six months from the date the corona related restrictions on the functioning of the Courts are lifted.

Though not necessary it is clarified that nothing stated by us in this order or any of the previous orders would prejudice the accused in their defence. All the accused would have fullest opportunity to prove their innocence and like any other criminal trial the starting point would be the presumption of innocence of the accused. The trial Court shall decide the case unmindful of any of the observations made by us. If during the course of trial the SIT perceives any threat to any of the witnesses, necessary steps or witness protection shall be taken.

PIL disposed of accordingly.

**(S. TALAPATRA), J**

**(AKIL KURESHI), CJ**



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