IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK W.P.(C) No.30556 of 2021

Jayanti Das

Petitioner

Mr. Bijaya Kumar Ragada, Advocate -versus-

State of Odisha & Others....Opposite PartiesMr. Ishwar Mohanty, Addl. Standing CounselMr. P.K. Parhi, DSGI

ORDER

CORAM: THE CHIEF JUSTICE JUSTICE M. S. RAMAN

<u>Order No.</u>

6. 1. Annexure-A/4 to the counter affidavit filed by the State is a chart showing the total number of cases registered under the Odisha Prevention of Cow Slaughter Act, 1960 ('Act') and the Odisha Prevention of Cow Slaughter Rules, 1966 from 2017 onwards. It shows that in 2020, 267 cases were registered in all throughout the State and in 2021, 371 cases were registered. It is however not clear whether the cases pertain to instances of cow slaughter or illegal transportation of animals. In other words, breakup is not given of what types of cases that these pertain to.

2. In para-18 of the rejoinder affidavit filed by the Petitioner, details of 29 cases have been set out. These are spread over the period from 2019 to 2021. However, here again, it is not clear how many cases

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pertain to actual instances of cows slaughter and how many to instances of illegal transportation of animals. These particulars would be relevant for considering the main prayer in the writ petition that there should be a special task force for implementation of the provisions of the above Act.

3. As regards other prayer of the Petitioner that the Act be amended in line with similar statutes in other States, it is stated in affidavit dated 12th December, 2022 of the State Government that this aspect is being examined.

4. A further affidavit on the above issues be filed by the State not later than 1st July, 2023.

सत्यमेव जयते

5. List on 2nd August, 2023.

(Dr. S. Muralidhar) Chief Justice

(M. S. Raman) Judge

Aks