

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE AMIT RAWAL
&
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE P.M.MANOJ

Wednesday, the 16th day of April 2025 / 26th Chaithra, 1947
WP(PIL) NO. 24 OF 2025(S)

PETITIONER:

M.R AJAYAN, AGED 61 YEARS, SON OF MR. M K REGHU, EDITOR,
GREEN KERALA NEWS, RESIDING AT THEKKETHALAKKAL HOUSE,
CHERIYA PALLAM THURUTH, KOTTICHIRA PALLAM, NORTH PARUR (PO),
ERNAKULAM, PIN - 683 513.

RESPONDENTS:

1. UNION OF INDIA, REPRESENTED BY ITS REVENUE SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI, PIN - 110 001.
2. INTERIM BOARD OF SETTLEMENT(II) NEW DELHI, NEW DELHI, 9TH FLOOR, LOK NAYAK BHAVAN, KHAN MARKET, NEW DELHI, REPRESENTED BY ITS SETTLEMENT OFFICER, PIN - 110 003.
3. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (SEBI), SEBI BHAVAN, BKC. PLOT NO. C4-A, 'G' BLOCK, BANDRA-KURLA COMPLEX, BANDRA (EAST), MUMBAI, MAHARASHTRA, REPRESENTED BY ITS CHAIRMAN, PIN - 400 051.
4. CENTRAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, PLOT NO 5-B, CGO COMPLEX, LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI, REPRESENTED BY ITS DIRECTOR, PIN - 110 003.
5. DIRECTOR, SERIOUS FRAUD INVESTIGATION OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, PT. DEERNDAYAL BHAWN, CGO COMPLEX, LODHI ROAD, NEW DELHI, PIN - 110 003.
6. PRINCIPAL CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF INCOME TAX, AYYAKAR BHAVAN, OLD RAILWAY STATION ROAD, ERNAKULAM NORTH (PO), ERNAKULAM, KERALA, PIN - 682 018.
7. REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES KARNATAKA, E WING, 2ND FLOOR, KENDRIYA SADAN, SANTHOSAPURAM, KUDREMUKH COLONY, KORAMANGALA, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA, PIN - 560 034.
8. COCHÍN MINERAL AND RUTILE LIMITED, P.B. NO. 73, VIIL/224, MARKET ROAD, ALWAYE (PO), ERNAKULAM, KERALA, REPRESENTED ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR S.N. SASIDHARAN KARTHA, PIN - 683 101.
9. S.N. SASIDHARAN KARTHA, MANAGING DIRECTOR, COCHÍN MINERAL AND RUTILE LIMITED, VIIL/224, MARKET ROAD, ALWAYE (PO), ERNAKULAM, KERALA, PIN - 683 101.
10. SARAN S KARTHA, SON OF S.N. SASIDHARAN KARTHA, JOINT MANAGING DIRECTOR, COCHÍN MINERAL AND RUTILE LIMITED, VIIL/224, MARKET ROAD, ALWAYE (PO), ERNAKULAM, KERALA, PIN - 683 101.
11. JAYA S KARTHA, WIFE OF S.N. SASIDHARAN KARTHA, DIRECTOR, COCHÍN MINERAL AND RUTILE LIMITED, VIIL/224, MARKET ROAD, ALWAYE (PO), ERNAKULAM, KERALA, PIN - 683 101.

12. ANIL ANANDA PANICKER, SON- IN-LAW OF S.N. SASIDHARAN KARTHA, DIRECTOR, COCHIN MINERAL AND RUTILE LIMITED, VIIL/224, MARKET ROAD, ALWAYS (PO), ERNAKULAM, KERALA, PIN - 683 101.
13. EXALOGIC SOLUTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED, (OPC) NO.21, 2ND FLOOR, PID 98-50-21, NEW NO. 020-W0181-40, 1ST MAIN ROAD, HEBBAL GANGANAGARA LAYOUT, BANGALORE, REPRESENTED ITS DIRECTOR MS. VEENA THAIKKANDIYIL, PIN - 560 032.
14. VEENA THAIKKANDIYIL, DAUGHTER OF MR. PINARAI VIJAYAN, PRAVIK, PANDIALAMUKKU, PINARAYI (PO), THALASSARY, KANNUR DISTRICT, KERALA, PIN - 670 741.
15. PINARAI VIJAYAN, AGED 81 YEARS, SON OF MR. KORAN, PRAVIK, PANDIALAMUKKU, PINARAYI (PO), THALASSARY, KANNUR DISTRICT, PRESENTLY WORKING AS CHIEF MINISTER OF STATE OF KERALA, PIN - 670 741.
16. KERALA STATE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (KSIDC), T.C. XI/266, KESTON ROAD, KOWDIAR (PO), THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, KERALA, REPRESENTED BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR, PIN - 695 003.
17. ACHUTHA JANARDHANA PAI, DIRECTOR, COCHIN MINERAL AND RUTILE LIMITED, VIIL/224, MARKET ROAD, ALWAYS (PO), ERNAKULAM, KERALA, PIN - 683 101.
18. T.P THOMASKUTTY, DIRECTOR, COCHIN MINERAL AND RUTILE LIMITED, VIIL/224, MARKET ROAD, ALWAYS (PO), ERNAKULAM, KERALA, PIN - 683 101.
19. PRASANTH RAGHUNATHAN, DIRECTOR, COCHIN MINERAL AND RUTILE LIMITED, VIIL/224, MARKET ROAD, ALWAYS (PO), ERNAKULAM, KERALA, PIN - 683 101.

Writ petition (public interest litigation) praying inter alia that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed along with the WP(PIL) the High Court be pleased to direct the Director of Income Tax (Investigation), to produce all the statement and affidavits of Mr. S.N Saidharan Karatha (MD), Mr. K.S Suresh Kumar (CFO), Mr. K.S Suresh Kumar (CGM) of M/s. Cochin Mineral and Rutile Limited and entries and records evidencing payments made to Mr. Pinarai Vijayan pursuant to Exhibit P1 order in sealed cover before this Hon'ble Court pending disposal of the above Writ Petition

This petition coming on for admission upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(PIL) and upon hearing the arguments of M/S. SHAJI CHIRAYATH, JIJI M. VARKEY, M.K.SAFEELA BEEVI, SAVITHA GANAPATHIYATAN & M.M.SHAJAHAN, Advocates for the petitioner and of SRI.L.SUNDARESAN, ADDITIONAL SOLICITOR GENERAL OF INDIA along with SRI. DINESH, DEPUTY SOCICITOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN CHARGE, the court passed the following:

P.T.O.

ORDER

Issue notice before admission.

Sri. L.Sundaresan, Additional Solicitor General of India has put in appearance along with Sri. Dinesh, Deputy Solicitor General of India in charge and submitted that Station House Officer has already filed a charge sheet in the competent court and the competent court has already taken the cognizance. However, the said cognizance has been challenged in this Court vide filing No.427 of 2025 and the status quo order has been issued but there is no stay of the cognizance and the matter is posted immediately after re-opening.

The learned ASGI is directed to place on record the list of the persons involved in Ext.P1 order in a sealed cover to this Court on the next date of hearing. Post on 27/05/2025.



Sd/- AMIT RAWAL JUDGE

Sd/- P.M.MANOJ JUDGE

APPENDIX OF WP(PIL) 24/2025

Exhibit P1

**TRUE COPY OF THE ORDER OF INTERIM BOARD OF
SETTLEMENT(II) NEW DELHI DATED 12TH JUNE 2023.**

