

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. NITIN JAMDAR
&
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE BASANT BALAJI

Thursday, the 14th day of August 2025 / 23rd Sravana, 1947
WP(PIL) NO. 91 OF 2025(S)

PETITIONER:

TELLMY JOLLY, AGED 29 YEARS, D/O JOLLY A.D, E2,
GALAXY MIDWINTER, JOHN ALUNKAL ROAD, KOCHU KADAVANTHARA,
ERNAKULAM, PIN - 682 020.

RESPONDENTS:

1. UNION OF INDIA, REPRESENTED BY SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE, 4TH FLOOR, A-WING, SHASTRI BHAWAN NEW DELHI, PIN - 110001
2. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT, SHASTRI BHAWAN, DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD ROAD, NEW DELHI, PIN - 110001
3. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT, (UNION OF INDIA), SHASTRI BHAVAN, NEW DELHI, PIN - 110001
4. STATE OF KERALA, REPRESENTED BY CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
5. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, WOMEN AND CHILD DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
6. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, SOCIAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
7. SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEPARTMENT OF LAW, SECRETARIAT, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001
8. DIRECTOR, WOMEN AND CHILD DEPARTMENT, POOJAPURA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695012
9. DIRECTOR, SOCIAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT (DOWRY PROHIBITION OFFICER), VIKAS BHAVAN, 5TH FLOOR, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695012

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 respondents to file an action taken report pursuant to the implementation of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, the Dowry Prohibition (Maintenance of Lists of Presents to the Bride and Bridegroom) Rules, 1985 and the Kerala Dowry Prohibition Rules, 2004.

P.T.O.

This petition coming again on for admission upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(PIL), this Court's order dated 31/07/2025 and upon hearing the arguments of M/S. KALEESWARAM RAJ, THULASI K. RAJ & APARNA NARAYAN MENON, Advocates for the petitioner, SRI. K.ARJUN VENUGOPAL, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT COUNSEL for R1 to R3 and of SRI. V.TEK CHAND, SENIOR GOVERNMENT PLEADER (B/O), the court passed the following:

P.T.O.



Nitin Jamdar, C.J. & Basant Balaji, J.

W.P.(PIL) No.91 of 2025

Dated this the 14th day of August, 2025

ORDER

Heard Ms.Thulasi K.Raj, learned counsel for the Petitioner, Mr.Arjun Venugopal, learned Central Government Counsel for Respondent No.1 and Mr.V.Tek Chand, learned Senior Government Pleader for the State.

2. Pursuant to the earlier direction, the State has filed a counter affidavit dated 11 August 2025. Regarding the data to be placed on record, the learned Senior Government Pleader tenders apology that though it is referred to in the counter affidavit, it has remained to be annexed. He now tenders a copy of the data in respect of the complaint received and action taken pursuant to Rule 5 of the Kerala Dowry Prohibition Rules, 2004. A copy of this data be served on the learned counsel for the Petitioner.

3. The learned Central Government Counsel for the Union of India submits that as recorded in the earlier order, the stand of the Union of India will be filed by way of a counter affidavit. When such a counter affidavit is filed, liberty is granted to the Petitioner to file a reply thereto.

W.P.(PIL) No.91 of 2025

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5. Post on 16 September 2025.

Sd/-

Nitin Jamdar
Chief Justice

Sd/-

Basant Balaji
Judge

ds 14.08.2025

