

GAHC010085902021



THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT
(HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH)

Case No. : PIL(Suo Moto)/3/2021

XXXX
GUWAHATI, ASSAM

VERSUS

THE ADVOCATE GENERAL, ASSAM AND ANR.
GOVT. OF ASSAM, GUWAHATI

2:THE GAUHATI HIGH BAR ASSOCIATION
REP. BY ITS PRESIDENT
GAUHATI HIGH COURT
GUWAHAT

Advocate for the Petitioner : SC, GHC

Advocate for the Respondent : ADVOCATE GENERAL, ASSAM

- B E F O R E -

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SUDHANSHU DHULIA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE N. KOTISWAR SINGH

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANASH RANJAN PATHAK

31-05-2021

(Sudhanshu Dhulia, CJ)

The matter is taken up through video conferencing.

Heard Mr. U.K. Nair, learned senior counsel for the Gauhati High Court. Also heard Mr. D. Saikia, learned Advocate General, Assam as well as Mr. S.N. Sarma, learned senior counsel representing the Gauhati High Court Bar Association.

Considering the unique, unprecedented and extraordinary situation which has presented in various forms in our life and considering the daily surge of cases during the COVID-19 pandemic, which is now in its second wave, a suo motu proceeding was initiated by this Court in the form of present PIL and certain directions were given on 10.05.2021, whereby all interim orders passed by the Gauhati High Court and all other subordinate Courts and Tribunals were extended till 01.06.2021. This included interim bail orders also. The matter was, thereafter, directed to be listed today.

Today, we are again addressing the same issue. All the learned counsels who are before us i.e. Mr. D. Saikia, learned Advocate General of the State; Mr. U.K. Nair, learned senior counsel for the High Court and Mr. S.N. Sarma, learned senior counsel representing the Bar Association, have said in one voice that in

the interest of justice, the order dated 10.05.2021 may be extended for a further period of at least two weeks.

We are also of the considered view that under the present circumstances, the order should be extended. Accordingly, the order dated 10.05.2021 is hereby extended for a further period of two weeks i.e. till 15.06.2021.

List this case before this Court on 14.06.2021.

We are conscious of the fact that many of the sureties which have been given for the interim bails, in different cases in the State, would technically be for a limited period only. However, since we have already extended the bail orders initially till 01.06.2021 and now till 15.06.2021, automatically these sureties will also stand extended. All the same, the implication of such an extension and other aspects related to it will be examined by this Court on the next date of listing i.e. 14.06.2021.

(JUDGE)

(JUDGE)

(CHIEF JUSTICE)

Comparing Assistant