



**Court on its own motion vs. State of H.P. & Ors. A/w
connected matters**

**CWPIL No.203 of 2017 a/w
CWPILs No.71, 77, 96, 100, 105
and 125 of 2018**

15.05.2024 Present: Mr. Ankush Dass Sood, Senior Advocate as Amicus Curiae with Mr. Gaurav Chaudhary, Advocate, in CWPIL No.203 of 2017.

Mr. Anup Rattan, Advocate General with Mr. Pranay Pratap Singh, Additional Advocate General, for the respondents-State.

Mr. Aman Sood, Advocate, for respondents no.28 and 29 in CWPIL nos.71, 77 and 105 of 2018.

Ms. Farhana Khan, Advocate vice Ms.Vandana Misra, Advocate, for respondent-HPSLSA.

Heard learned Additional Advocate General.

Perused the status report dt. 2nd January, 2024 filed by the Director General of Prisons & Correctional Services, Himachal Pradesh.

The said report mentioned that as per the H.P. Prison Manual, 2021, (para 4.10.1) there is a requirement of at least one Medical Officer for every 300 prisoners. Admittedly, there are 2808 prisoners in 14 jails functional in the State, but there are only 4 posts of Medical Officers in the jails, which are claimed to have been filled up, but the requirement as per Prison Manual referred to above, is there ought to be at least 9 Medical Officers.

The respondent shall explain why this norm of Prison Manual is not being complied with.

The respondents shall also file a status report as to why the Sub Jail Nalagarh (Kishanpura) has not yet been made operational, and when the recruitment of Warders in the Department of Prisons & Correctional Services, Himachal Pradesh, which had already been initiated, would be completed and when they would be posted for duties. The status report shall also indicate when the three works which are to be done in Sub Jail Nalagarh (Kishanpura) would be completed so that the said sub jail Nalagarh can be made fully functional.

List on 24th July, 2024.

(M.S. Ramachandra Rao)
Chief Justice

(Jyotsna Rewa Dua)
Judge

May 15, 2024
(vt)