



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION
PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION (L) NO.30078 OF 2024

Bharat Ramji Thakkar

.. Petitioner

Versus

Union of India through its Secretary,
Minister of Education Government of
India

.. Respondent

...

Ms.Sabiha Ansari with Aisha Shaikh, Tanvi Rane and Sanobar Sayyed i/b Infini Legal Solutions for the Petitioner.

Ms.Jyoti Chavan, Addl.G.P. with Smt.Rita Joshi, A.G.P. for the State/Respondent Nos.2 to 7 and 9 to 11.

Mr.Huzefa Nasikwala with Farzana Rine for the Respondent No.12.

Ms.Oorja Dhond with Ms.Chaitalee Deochake i/b Ms.Komal R.Punjabi for the Respondent No.6/BMC.

CORAM: ALOK ARADHE, C.J. &
M.S.KARNIK, J.

DATED : 07th APRIL, 2025

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ORDER (PER M.S.KARNIK, J.) :-

1. By this Public Interest Litigation, the Petitioner who claims to be a social worker, has filed this Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for various reliefs, *inter alia*, for directions for proper and effective implementation of supply of Mid-day meal to eligible students and also seek the direction for taking appropriate action in furtherance of the report dated 26/12/2023, recording a finding and thereby

disclosing a scam in distribution of Mid-day meal by misappropriating grains supplied to eligible needy schools and fraudulently conducting unauthroised school under the guise of extended division, thereby causing serious loss to the Government treasury.

2. Heard learned counsel for the Petitioner and learned counsel for the Respondents. The allegations undoubtedly are serious. Ms.Chavan, learned Addl.G.P. has invited our attention to the affidavit in reply of Shri Mushtaq Mahamad Shaikh, Education Inspector (North Zone). It is pointed out that an F.I.R. has been duly filed on 04/03/2025 under the provisions of Sections 409 and 420 of the Indian Penal Code and the investigation of the matter is in progress.

3. As the F.I.R. is already filed and the investigation is in progress, we do not propose to pass any further order in this PIL. Suffice it to observe that the offence obviously will have to be investigated meticulously also having regard to the allegations made in the present PIL, in accordance with law. We expect the charge-sheet to be filed expeditiously. Parties are at liberty to take recourse to appropriate remedies, in case of any grievance.

4. Needless to mention that we have not expressed any opinion on the merits of the allegations, which are subject matter of investigation.

5. The PIL Petition is disposed of.

(M.S.KARNIK, J.)

(CHIEF JUSTICE)

M.M.Salgaonkar