APHC010192772024

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

Bench Sr.No:-8 [3446]



WP(PIL) NO: 93 of 2024

Animal Rescue Organization and another

...Petitioner(s)

Vs.

The State Of Andhra Pradesh and Others

...Respondent(s)

Sri K S MURTHY, Senior Counsel a/w. PONNADA SREE VYAS, Advocate(s) for Petitioner(s)

GP FOR GENERAL ADMINISTRATION, GP FOR MUNCIPAL ADMN URBAN DEV, GP FOR PANCHAYAT RAJ RURAL DEV, AGP FOR ANIMAL HUSBANDARY, GP FOR IRRIGATION COMM AREA DEV, GP FOR HOME, GP FOR AGRICULTURE, GP FOR REVENUE, GP FOR TRANSPORT, JUPUDI V K YAGNA DUTT, M. SANTHOSH REDDY, N. SRIHARI, Advocate(s) for Respondent(s)

CORAM : THE CHIEF JUSTICE DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR SRI JUSTICE R RAGHUNANDAN RAO

DATE: 24th April 2024

PC:

The present PIL has been filed highlighting the rampant cruelty which is being perpetrated on animals in gross violation of the Government Order bearing No.23, dated 01.10.2015, which was issued pursuant to the directions issued by the combined High Court for the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in WP(PIL).No.206 of 2015, dated 31.08.2015.

According to the said order, dated 31.08.2015, the Court, after noticing the fact that the animals were being treated cruelly either during the course of their illegal transportation or after they had been brought

into the cattle market areas, had issued the directions to the Government to frame a comprehensive policy in that regard which led finally to the issuance of G.O.Ms.No.23, dated 01.10.2015.

According to the said G.O, various guidelines had been prescribed which *inter alia* envisages the Shandy Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC) to ensure that there is provision for ramps, CC cameras, proper arrangements for feeding, drinking water and a shed for animals. Besides this, the guidelines also prescribed that there should be a GPS installed in the transport vehicles which should also contain partitions in the vehicle as per specification. Among other things, the guidelines also envisage that the SLMC shall submit monthly reports to the SPCA Chairman, who is the District Collector, as also to the State Animal Welfare Board.

Learned Senior Counsel representing the petitioners submits that an RTI was filed with the Animal Husbandry Department to know as to whether the reports as were required to be filed in terms of the G.O on a monthly basis were being filed or not. In response to the said RTI query, the petitioners were informed that no such information was being filed as was otherwise envisaged.

Photographs have been annexed by the petitioners which reflect a very sorry state of affairs. The photographs reflect number of dead animals in the cattle marketing area are being handled by cranes and other heavy machinery. Some of the photographs annexed with the petition also reflect dilapidated state of the fodder area as also the water troughs which contain no water. Even the covered sheds seem to be totally inadequate considering the large number of animals that are seen to be accommodated in the cattle market area.

VERDICTUM.IN

3

HCJ & RRR,J WP(PIL)_93_2024

Learned Senior Counsel for the petitioners would submit that in the first instance, the Collector of Kakinada District i.e., respondent No.17 as also the Collector of East Godavari District i.e., respondent No.18 be directed to file reports as to the manner in which the G.O.Ms.No.23 has been implemented and to reflect the steps which will be taken by the concerned SLMCs to give effect to the spirit of G.O.Ms.No.23.

Let a detailed affidavit be filed by respondents No.17 & 18 along with a comprehensive report.

Notice returnable on 19.06.2024.

Personal notice to respondent No.6 is permitted.

List on 19.06.2024.

DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR, CJ

R RAGHUNANDAN RAO, J

Vjl