

**Court on its own motion Vs. State of H.P. & others**CWPIL No. 57 of 2022

28.06.2023 Present: Mr. Abhishek Dulta, Advocate as Amicus Curiae.

Mr. Anup Rattan, Advocate General with Mr. Rakesh Dhaulta, Mr. Navlesh Verma, Mr. Pranay Pratap Singh, Additional Advocates General & Mr. Sidharth Jalta, Deputy Advocate General, for the respondents-State.

Heard the learned Amicus Curiae and Mr. Sidharth Jalta, learned Deputy Advocate General.

2. In this PIL, the petitioner has alleged that there is an illegal felling of forest trees involving the Divisional Forest Officer, Nachan, District Mandi in the area Shikari Kamroo Nag, Devi Dehar-Shikari, Saroph to Kamroo Nag and roads are being laid illegally in extremely dense forest areas without obtaining clearance under the Forest Conservation Act.

3. These facts are disputed by respondents no. 2, 4 & 5. Therefore, this Court deems it desirable to constitute a committee of the Deputy Commissioner, District Mandi, the Superintendent of Police, District Mandi and the Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, District Mandi to verify whether the claims made in the reply filed in this PIL are true or not.

4. Copy of the paper book with all replies be furnished to the said Committee and respondents no. 2, 4 & 5 shall extend full co-operation to the said Committee.

5. Report be filed by the said Committee within three months.

6. List on **10.10.2023**.

(M.S. Ramachandra Rao)
Chief Justice.

June 28, 2023
(hemlata)

(Ajay Mohan Goel)
Judge.

High Court of H.P.

High Court of H.P.