

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
SUO MOTU W.P.(C) PIL No.7118 of 2021

In Re: Olive Ridley Turtles *Petitioners*
Mr. Mohit Agarwal, Amicus Curiae

-versus-

Principal Secretary, Forest and Opposite Parties
Environment Department & Others
Mr. P.K. Muduli, AGA for State
Mr. P.K. Parhi, DSGI for Union of India

CORAM:
THE CHIEF JUSTICE
JUSTICE M. S. RAMAN

ORDER
01.03.2023

Order No.

21. 1. An affidavit dated 23rd February, 2023 has been filed by the Additional Superintendent of Police, Headquarters setting out the details of the recruitment undertaken for the posts of SI, ASI and Constables. It is stated *inter alia* that vacancies in the different Marine Police Stations will be filled up after completion of the entire process by April, 2023.
2. The Court has also perused the affidavit dated 17th February, 2023 filed by the Assistant Conservator of Forests, Puri Wild Life Division setting out the steps taken for conservation and preservation of strategic locations for safe nesting of Olive Ridley sea turtles for the current year.
3. An affidavit has been filed by the Joint Director (Coastal), Directorate of Fisheries, Govt. of Odisha stating *inter alia* that the

Government of India has been requested to modify the guidelines regarding providing tracking devices, including transponders, for traditional and motorized fishing vessels. It is stated that the response of Government of India is awaited. Three more months' time is, accordingly, sought for suggesting the modalities for procurement of transponders.

4. The Court directs notice to issue to the Joint Secretary (Marine), Ministry of Fisheries and Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Govt. of India, to file a response on the above issue before the next date. The Court expects that the necessary amendments to the guidelines would be issued by then. Mr. P.K. Parhi, learned Deputy Solicitor General of India, who is appearing in the matter accepts notice on behalf of the Joint Secretary (Marine), Govt. of India, and undertakes to communicate today's order to the said officer forthwith for necessary compliance.

5. Copies of the above affidavits be served on Mr. P.K. Parhi, learned DSGI, by learned AGA today itself.

6. List on 26th June, 2023.

(Dr. S. Muralidhar)
Chief Justice

(M. S. Raman)
Judge

MRS/Laxmikant