

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No.10738 of 2015

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1. Nagrik Adhikar Manch through its Settler namely Shiv Prakash Rai, Son of Late Nageshwar Rai, Resident of village- Gali No.2 Dhobighat Charitarwan, Buxer, P.S- Town, P.S-Buxer, District- Buxer.

.... Petitioner/s

Versus

1. The State of Bihar through the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Bihar, Patna.
2. The Chief Secretary, Govt. of Bihar, Patna.
3. The Secretary, Information and Public Relation Department, Government of Bihar, Soochna Bhawan, Patna.
4. The Union Government of India through the Home Secretary, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
5. The Secretary, Personnel and Training Department, Union Government of India, New Delhi.
6. The Director, C.B.I., New Delhi.
7. The Election Commission of India through Chief Election Commissioner, New Delhi.
8. The Chief Election Commissioner, Election Commission of India, New Delhi.
9. Sri Nitish Kumar, Son of Late Ram Lakhan Singh, Chief Minister, Bihar, 7 Circular Road, Patna and Permanent Address- R/o Village- Hakikatpur, P.S.- Bakhtiyarpur, District- Nalanda.

.... Respondent/s

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Appearance :

For the Petitioner/s : Mr.Dinu Kumar& Mr. Rajesh Kumar Singh
For the Respondent/s : Mr. Lalit Kishore,PAAG
For the Union of India : Mr. S.D. Sanjay,Addl. Soliciter General
For the C.B.I. : Mr. Bipin Kumar Sinha

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CORAM: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

and

HONOURABLE JUSTICE SMT. ANJANA MISHRA

ORAL ORDER

(Per: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE)

3 28-07-2015

We have heard learned counsel for the petitioner and learned Principal Additional Advocate General at length.

The apprehension of the petitioner is that in the name of collecting data , the Government is spending huge amount indulging in advertisement.

We have gone through the Brochure printed by the

Government, which, inter alia, provides engagement of 407 mobile trucks, fitted with audio-visual equipment, and supported by the campaign mobilizer. It is stated that effort is only to collect data for formulation of future projects. It is further stated that the Rural Development Department has already furnished data of 298427 projects.

We are, prima facie, of the view that the exercise undertaken by the State at this stage is not that important and immediate. At the same time, if the intention is only to collect data, it does not need audio-visual equipment, much less the campaign mobilizer.

We, therefore, direct the Information and Public Relation Department (IPRD) that the work undertaken by them shall only be to the extent of collection of data. Under no circumstance, it shall display in live or static photograph of any person whatever, nor they shall indulge in audio-visual campaigning.

Post on 25-8-2015.

(L. Narasimha Reddy,CJ)

(Anjana Mishra, J)

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