

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI.

W.P. (PIL) No. 3694 of 2015

COURT ON ITS OWN MOTION

Dated: 10th August, 2015

Per Virender Singh, C.J.

This court noticed through electronic media of today i.e. 10.08.2015 that stampede took place on 10.08.2015 at about 04:30 a.m., near a temple of Goddess Durga in Belbagan locality which is about 3 k.m far from Baba Baidya Nath Dham Temple, Deoghar. The said fact is also available on e-newspaper, **prabhatkhabar.com**.

2. According to the report, the tragedy took place when people started trying to jump queue in order to get closer to the temple. In the aforesaid incident about 11 persons have been reported dead and more than 50 persons were injured.

3. *Suo Motu* cognizance is being taken on the aforesaid news item and following persons are being made as party respondents:-

- (i). The State of Jharkhand through the Chief Secretary, Jharkhand;
- (ii). The Dy. Commissioner, Deoghar;
- (iii). The Director General of Police, Jharkhand;
- (iv) The Superintendent of Police, Deoghar;
- (v). The Jharkhand State Hindu Religious Trust Board, Jharkhand; and
- (vi). The Management Board, Baidyanath Dham Temple, Deoghar.

4. On asking of the Court, Mr. Ajit Kumar, learned Additional Advocate General, appears and accepts notice on behalf of the State.

5. Let notice be issued to the remaining respondents.

6. The respondents are being directed to file their counter affidavits with regard to acknowledge this court about the cause of accident, measures, both interim and final, are being

taken for preventing the similar accident in future, about the persons who are responsible for the above accident and the steps which has been taken against them.

7. Earlier also one writ being C.W.J.C No. 1799 of 2001 had been filed in the nature of Public Interest Litigation for Management and improvements in the Administration of Shri Baidyanath Temple in Deoghar and this court by order date 08.05.2002 constituted a Managing Committee for managing the affairs of Shri Baidyanath Temple. The said committee has been given the charge of control and management of the temple and also has been held responsible with regard to all the affairs of the temple administration.

8. Further, in the order dated 08.05.2002, liberty was granted to the parties to approach before this court if they felt for any modification; clarification or vacation with respect to any directions issued earlier or for obtaining any order as might be considered desirable.

9. Since the aforesaid writ is also related to the management of Shri Baidyanath Dham Temple, this Court is directing the Registry to tag the records of C.W.J.C No. 1799 of 2001 along with this PIL.

10. In the meantime, the Respondents are directed to take all the steps which are necessary for proper treatment of the injured persons, for giving proper assistance to the legal heirs of the deceased persons and also for giving proper assistance to the other devotees which have gone and are going to offer prayer in Baidyanath Temple, Deoghar.

11. The member Secretary, JHALSA, is also directed to co-ordinate with the district administration for providing adequate relief/rehabilitation of the persons affected by this accident.

12. Registry is directed to diarize it as Public Interest Litigation.

13. List again on 28th August, 2015 along with the records of C.W.J.C. No. 1799 of 2001.

14. Copy of the order shall be provided to Mr. Ajit Kumar, learned Additional Advocate General, under the seal and signature of Court Master.

(Virender Singh, C.J.)

(P.P. Bhatt, J.)

SB/SI