

**Serial No.01**  
**Supp. List**

**HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA**  
**AT SHILLONG**

WP(C). No. 275 of 2024

Date of Order: 11.07.2025

## Yatra

Vs.

State of Meghalaya &amp; Ors.

**Coram:**

**Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.S.Thangkhiew, Judge**

**Appearance:**

For the Petitioner/Applicant(s) : Mr. S.Jindal, Adv.  
Mr. I.Kharmujai, Adv.  
Ms. T.Pohlong, Adv.

For the Respondent(s) : Mrs. T.Yangi B, AAG with  
Mr. J.N.Rynjah, GA for R 1-5.  
Mr. T.T.Diengdoh, Sr. Adv. with  
Mr. R.Kharsyad, Adv. for R 6-8.

1. Pursuant to the order of this Court dated 10-07-2025, Mrs. T. Yangi B, learned AAG assisted by Mr. J.N. Rynjah, learned GA appearing for the respondents No. 1-5, has submitted before this Court the conditions with regard to the issuance of permission for the Yatra from Mahadev Khola, Shillong to Mawsynram Cave. The details are enumerated in the letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2025, under the signature of the Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong, and the same is made part of the records.

2. Mr. T.T.Diengdoh, learned Sr. counsel assisted by Mr. R.Kharsyad, learned counsel appearing for the respondents No. 6-8 Village Dorbar, submits that as it is only a pilgrimage and the same is under the supervision of the district authorities, the said respondents have no objection to the said Yatra, but will maintain that as undertaken by the petitioner, there shall be no performance of puja or any articles for performance of such rituals be brought to the cave, such as incense sticks, flowers etc.

3. Mr. S.Jindal, learned counsel for the petitioner has reiterated his submissions and submitted that the Yatra will only be a pilgrimage and at the most, there will only be sprinkling of water on the stone. This suggestion is not acceded to by the learned Sr. counsel for the respondents No. 6-8 and the Headman who is present in Court today.

4. In consideration of the matter and urgency expressed, and the conditions given by the State respondents No. 1-5 through the Deputy Commissioner, and the undertaking given by the Dorbar Shnong, Mawsynram Village to the said Yatra, it is therefore directed that the petitioner shall undertake the pilgrimage as per the conditions which have been enumerated in the communication dated 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2025, and this Court also emphasises the need to maintain order and solemnity and to avoid any littering, or to cause any disruption of traffic movement. The condition that

the Organiser shall also engage Private Security or Volunteers as Traffic Wardens for assistance on the day of the Yatra, shall also be adhered to.

5. Though objections have been raised by the respondents No. 6-8 to the pouring of water on the stone, to balance the equities and in the interest of justice, the Organiser (petitioner) shall only permit a symbolic sprinkling and not pouring of water on the stone on the appointed date. The dates for the Yatra shall be discussed and decided by the parties, and the same be communicated to the District authorities.

6. Mr. T.T.Diengdoh, learned Sr. counsel for the respondents No. 6-8 has drawn the attention of the Court to Clause 9 of the conditions regarding permission to be obtained from the Dorbar Shnong of Mawsynram, and submits that the same is not necessary in view of the fact that the permission granted is by the District authorities. It is needless to add that the overall security and maintenance of law and order shall be the responsibility of the State respondents.

7. List this matter on 31-07-2025, for further orders.

**Judge**

Meghalaya  
11.07.2025  
"Samantha PS"