

GAHC030001092025



THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT
(HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH)

Case No. : PIL(Suo Moto)/1/2025

IN RE - PRESERVATION AND PROPER MANAGEMENT OF PALA WETLAND
IN MIZORAM MIZORAM

VERSUS

1: THE STATE OF MIZORAM R/B THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF
MIZORAM AND 7 ORS. AIZAWL.

2:THE COMMISSIONER/SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF MIZORAM
ENVIRONMENT FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE DEPT. AIZAWL
MIZORAM.

3:THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FOREST
GOVT. OF MIZORAM AIZAWL.

4:MARA AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT COUNCIL R/B ITS EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY MARA AUTONOMOUS DISTRICT COUNCIL SIAHA.

5:THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
SIAHA DISTRICT SIAHA MIZORAM.

6:THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE DEPT. INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAWAN
JORBAGH ROAD NEW DELHI - 110003.

7:CENTRAL WETLAND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY R/B THE CHIEF
WILDLIFE WARDEN DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT FOREST AND CLIMATE
CHANGE GOVT. OF MIZORAM AIZAWL.

8:STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY R/B THE CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN
DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENT FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE GOVT. OF
MIZORAM AIZAWL

For the Petitioner(s) : Mr. A.R. Malhotra, Advocate.

For the Respondent(s) : Ms. Lalnunhlui, Government Advocate, Mizoram.
: Ms. B. Laldinzuali, Advocate on behalf of Ms. Zairemsangpuii,
Central Government Counsel.

- B E F O R E -

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. ASHUTOSH KUMAR
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MICHAEL ZOTHANKHUMA

11.06.2026

(Ashutosh Kumar, CJ)

The matter concerns the conservation and protection of wetlands under the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 (*hereinafter to be referred as the "Rules of 2017"*).

Pala Wetland is one amongst the identified wetlands as a Ramsar Site in the State of Mizoram with an area of 1850 Ha.

This Court, on an earlier occasion, had noticed the Rules of 2017 framed by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change regarding preservation and management of the wetlands. A holistic integrated Management Plan is necessary for the aforesaid purpose. This Court also noticed that the Management Plan with respect to the year 2024-2025 only has been provided.

Under the aforesaid circumstances, this Court had directed the respondents, particularly, the Secretary, Environment, Forest and Climate Change to file a detailed affidavit with regard to the future course of action for the Court to appreciate the steps taken and the future Management Plan for conservation of Pala wetland.

Ms. Lalnunhlui, learned Government Advocate, Mizoram has submitted before this Court today that instructions have been received

and those shall be annexed with the affidavit, which is required to be filed by a responsible authority in the Department of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, which shall be done by the next date.

Re-notify on **15.07.2026**.

JUDGE

CHIEF JUSTICE

Comparing Assistant