Party Name : THE STATE OF TRIPURA Vs NIKHIL CH. TRIPURA ON BEHALF OF ACCUSED IATINDRA TRIPURA

THE HONBLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (ACTING)

Heard Mr. R.C. Debnath, the learned Additional Public Prosecutor appearing for the applicant. This Court had, by the order dated 12.01.2016 passed in IA No.25 of 2016 arising out of Bail Appln. No.64 of 2015, directed the respondents to ensure that by 31st March, 2016, FIRs could be lodged both by SMS service as well as by E-mail in each and every police station in the State. This Court had also observed that if there were any police stations where internet facility was not available, then the State would be at liberty to file an application for exemption of those specific police stations by giving clear cut indication as to when such police stations would have internet facilities. In compliance with the order of this Court vide the letter dated 05/03/2016, the Director General of Police, Tripura had informed that out of 80 police stations in the State, 76 police stations had already been provided with internet connectivity through SWAN, Broadband(VPNoBB), VSAT and Wimax and that the remaining 4 police stations would also be provided with internet connectivity in the near future. It is in respect of these 4 police stations namely, Teliamura GRP police station, Ambassa GRP police station, Manu GRP police station and Vanghmun police station that exemption has been sought for from providing internet connectivity till the time such facility is made available by the BSNL authority. It appears that extending internet connectivity to these 4 police stations cannot be done without the cooperation of the BSNL Authority, which is the appropriate authority for the installation.

Under the circumstances, the BSNL Authority in the State is directed to give top priority to the proposal of the Director General of Police, Tripura for provision of the internet connectivity to the four aforementioned police stations so that FIRs may be filed through E-mail in these 4 police stations. Consequently, these 4 police stations are exempted from operation of the order dated 12--2016 until further orders.. The prayer for exemption is, accordingly, allowed. The application is allowed in the above terms.