

(2002) 03 PAT CK 0110
In the Patna High Court
Case No : C.W.J.C. No. 11147 of 1997

Rajesh Ranjan Sanjay

APPELLANT

Vs

Union of India (UOI) and Others

RESPONDENT

Date of Decision : 21-03-2002

Acts Referred:

Citation : (2002) 2 PLJR 641

Hon'ble Judges : Ravi S. Dhavan, C.J;D.P.S. Chaudhary, J

Bench : Division Bench

Advocate : S.C. Mishra, for the Appellant; Azfar Hassan, J.P. Karn, for the Respondent

Judgement

1. This petition has been filed as a public interest litigation virtually against the railways" administration seeking reliefs to the effect that the railways improve the management and administration of running railways.
2. The Petitioner has taken upon himself a very large format to criticise every aspect of the railways" administration such as crowded platforms and ticket counters, malpractices among vendors and coolies on the platforms, dirty platforms, dirty trains, frequent halts by illegal chain pulling etc. The Petitioner desires that the Court may issue a writ to remedy the situation.
3. In the counter affidavit the railways" administration has come up in equal measures with platitudes on do"s and don"ts for those who use the railways.
4. The fact of the matter is that what the Petitioner desires that the High Court remedy the situation is a misplaced request. This is a matter basically of plain and simple civic discipline and if every citizen would truly become a citizen and not litter the station, not spit on the platforms, not throw cigarette butts all over the railway stations or inside the trains, fall in the line and in the queue when purchasing a ticket, not travel ticketless then indeed some dent would be made in a more efficient running rail system.

5. The entire attack cannot be put upon the railways administration isolated if those who use the railways will not take upon themselves their duty towards using the railway with the same responsibility as keeping their houses clean, and with the same civic sense get into the habit to keep the railways as clean as their habitat.

6. The Petitioner does not seem to reflect on the reality that missing batteries from the carriages, the missing light bulbs and fans from carriages, the toilet mirror and basins not excluded, are part of an organised thievery which fails the administration.

7. Yes, the railway has to gear-up to match the uncivic passenger and the organised big time kleptomaniacs. A stricter means to book such persons.

8. This is a public interest litigation which the High Court cannot deal with as much more civic sense would need to go into the users of the trains. For disciplining the consumer the Petitioner and persons like the Petitioner would need to organise themselves for dedicated social service.

9. Consigned.