

Govt in Catch-22 over secret killing report



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Stunned by the High Court directives on the secret killing reports, Dispur is holding talks with legal experts to tide over the Catch-22 situation and to ensure a hassle-free proceeding for Thursday's Assembly session.

According to information, the Assam government finds it difficult to table the Justice K N Saikia Commission report on the floor of the House along with the Justice J N Sarma Commission report which was rejected by the Tarun Gogoi government in its previous regime.

"If an acceptable legal option fails to come up on Wednesday evening, the government will not be able to table the report on secret killings during the Mahanta regime. Submission of the Justice J N Sarma Commission report along with the Action Taken Report as per the court directives is not very easy right now," say sources here.

The entire development came up when a division bench of Gauhati High took up a write petition by former Chief Minister Prafulla Kumar Mahanta challenging the Justice K N Saikia report.

The "rejected" Justice N Sarma Commission report virtually gave clean chit to Mr Mahanta but it failed to indict the main culprits behind the

extra judicial killings during the AGP-led fourt party alliance government.

The court, however, rejected Mr Mahanta's plea to reject the findings of the Saikia Commission report but observed that if the petitioner was not happy with the commission, he could approach the appropriate forum for redressal.

Notably, the government was getting ready to table the Saikia Commission report on Thursday.

Recently, Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi observed that he found it horrifying while he was going through the report. He maintained that without the knowledge of the man in power, these killings could not have taken place.

Talking talking to reporters former Chief Minister, Prafulla Kumar Mahanta came down heavily on Mr Gogoi and charged him with violating the spirit behind the inquiry by making the findings public.

editor

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