

The office. no such  
writ can be



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The writ is available against any public or quasi-public authority, administrative or other but it cannot be issued against a President or Rajpramukh (now no more) for anything done by them in the exercise of their power and duties nor can it be issued against an inferior officer who is bound to obey the orders of his superior authority. No such writ can be available against a private person. In A. C.

Gilbert v. Registrar, High Court, Allahabad, [A. I. R. 1953 All. 178] writ was disallowed against the Registrar of the Court since the writ was sought against him not in respect of an action taken by him in his official capacity but as claimant of title to an immovable property. The Court observed: “ A writ of mandamus only issued to a public authority or a holder of a public office not to act contrary to any provision of a statute in the capacity of such holder of a public office.

No such writ can be issued against a person whether an individual or a juristic person who purports to exercise a right by virtue of a claimed title to a certain property.” A writ lies to a quasi-public body as, for example, the principal of a college maintained out of a public fund [Sekkilar v. Krishna Moorthy, AIR 1952 Mad. 112]. A writ may also lie against a University as it is a public body. [Hemendra Chandra Das v.

Gohati University, AIR 1954 Assam 65]. Mandamus can also be issued to a Corporation with regard to its duty which is incumbent upon it in its corporate capacity. Article 226 expressly provides that a writ is available against the Government also.