

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 07.06.2021

CORAM :

THE HON'BLE MR.SANJIB BANERJEE, CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE SENTHILKUMAR RAMAMOORTHY

W.P.Nos.10486, 10812, 11644 and 11851 of 2021,
W.P.No.12184 of 2020
and W.P.(MD) No.9485 of 2021

W.P.No.10486 of 2021

Suo-Motu writ petition

Vs

- 1 Union Government of India
Rep. by its Secretary Ministry of Health
and Family Welfare Department of Health and
Family Welfare Nirman Bhavan
New Delhi 110 011.
- 2 State of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Chief Secretary Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009.
- 3 State of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Principal Secretary Health and
Family Welfare Department Fort St. George
Chennai 600009.
- 4 The Commissioner
Disaster Management and Municipal
Administration Department Government of
Tamil Nadu Chennai 600 005.

5 The Director
Drugs Controller Department DMS Campus
Chennai 600018. ... Respondents

and batch cases.

COMMON ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by the Hon'ble Chief Justice)

Reports have been received from the Union, the State and the Union Territory. The situation now appears to be under control. Considering the alarming level that the second surge had grown to, it required all-round work with a degree of cooperation between the Centre and the State and the Union Territory as was envisaged to tackle the situation.

2. Both the State and the Union Territory appear to have taken appropriate measures to deal with the problem, though there may have been a state of unpreparedness at the initial stage. Even the Centre accepted the sometimes unusual requests made by this Court to augment the supply of oxygen, so that there were no oxygen related deaths in the State and the dearth of supply from one end was made up by allocation of supply at another end.

3. In view of the reports filed, which indicate the allocation of vaccine to the State and the Union Territory in the month of June, 2021, the allocation of the cocktail of drugs necessary to treat Covid and the allocation of drugs to deal with mucormycosis, the Centre appears to be on the right track. It is hoped that the efforts to expeditiously augment the supply of vaccines would be kept up so that the entire population can be vaccinated as quickly as possible.

4. It has been suggested by one of the intervenors that for students who wish to study abroad and for residents abroad who had come on short visits, or others who need to undertake international travel, both the State and the Centre should consider vaccinating such persons on a priority basis and some norms in such regard should be put in place. It is hoped that both the Centre and the State look into such aspect so that the aspirations and convenience of a number of citizens or non-residents can be taken care of. In such regard, it is also recorded that in the vaccination certificate, passport numbers may be recorded, whenever such a request is made by the relevant individual. With several countries

now opening up and allowing international travellers from India, this aspect of the matter gains even more significance.

5. The State's report deals with various aspects of the matter, including the concern expressed by this Court on overcharging at private medical facilities. It is hoped that the efforts are kept up to ensure that there has been no profiteering at the expense of distressed citizens.

6. The matter will now appear a fortnight hence, primarily to obtain information as to the further augmentation of the vaccination drive, including spreading awareness among people to come forward and vaccinate themselves.

Let the matter appear again on 21.6.2021.

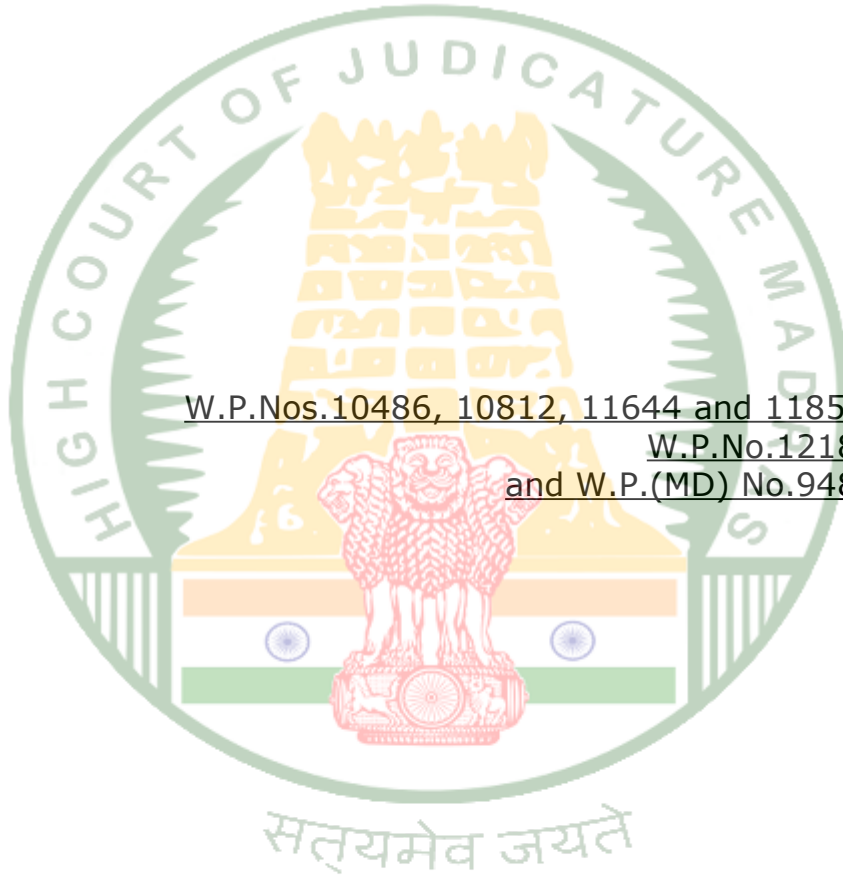
(S.B., CJ.) (S.K.R., J.)
07.06.2021

sasi

W.P.No.10486 of 2021 etc.

THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
SENTHILKUMAR RAMAMOORTHY, J.

(sasi)



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W.P.No.12184 of 2020
and W.P.(MD) No.9485 of 2021

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