W.P.No. 14032 of 2020 and W.M.P.Nos. 17422 & 17423 of 2020

# IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS DATED: 04.02.2021

#### CORAM:

#### THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE B.PUGALENDHI

# W.P.No. 14032 of 2020

and W.M.P.Nos. 17422 & 17423 of 2020

- 1.Gopinath
- 2.Shanmuga Dev.P
- 3.Sharukumar.S.I
- 4.N.Likitha Prasad
- 5.S.Shivha Sundhari
- 6.Balaganesan.B
- 7. Tapasya B
- 8. Ananthagoma. M
- 9. Ajaysuriya. C.R
- 10.Akshay Sunil.B
- 11.Akshaya.S
- 12.Bertila.A
- 13.Beula Joyce.D.M
- 14.Afrin.A
- 15.Divyaadarshini.N
- 16.Avithran.A
- 17.Janeshwar Raj.Y
- 18.Kathiravan.M
- 19.Sakthi Vinayagam.M
- 20.Hari Anandraj.K
- 21. Mahesh Boopalan
- 22.Rishab.A
- 23.Jayaram.R
- 24. Abilash Pandian. P

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- 25. Yuvasree. P
- 26.Giri Prasad B
- 27.Gokula Krishnan.K
- 28. Aakash Clinton. J
- 29.Durga Vatsala.V
- 30. Dhanush Adhithya. P
- 31.Sanjai.R
- 32.Geethavani.A
- 33.Praveen.M
- 34.Athi Sharmila.R
- 35.Aadarsh.MB
- 36. Thoufig Mohamed. Z
- 37.Manikandan.S
- 38.Sasidharan.R
- 39.Karthik.S
- 40. Sachin Sundar Raj. S
- 41.Kavitha.P
- 42.R.Deva Dharshini
- 43.E.Kayalvizhi
- 44.S.U.Mamta
- 45.A.Subash Chandra Bose

- 46.D.Akshya
- 47.P.Jeevitha
- 48.P.Divyadarshini
- 49.Jr.Cyndhia
- 50.V.R.Adhith
- 51.T.Arun Alzhagiri Nathan
- 52.M.Arun Prakash
- 53.M.Gurumoorthy
- 54. Yukshitha. E
- 55.S.Ashwin Kumar
- 56.A.P.Sree Kalaivanee
- 57.Poushali.U
- 58.Kumudha.S
- 59.S.Mourish

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- 60.N.Mohanmed Ali
- 61.E.Keertha Varshini
- 62.A.Nandhini
- 63.G.M.Karthika
- 64.R.Rithika
- 65.S.R. Vetriyalini
- 66.M.M.Senthamil Selvi
- 67.B.Subranjana
- 68.J.Senthamil Selvi
- 69.S.Swetha
- 70.S.Sathiya Priya
- 71.Vasuki.M
- 72.Pooja.S
- 73.Janani.R.K
- 74.N.D.Vidyavietha
- 75.G.S.Venkatraman
- 76.P.Manusha
- 77.M.Nivetha Harini
- 78.A.Ananthi
- 79.K.Vishnu Prasath
- 80.N.Deepika
- 81.G.Lekha
- 82.R.Mathan Kumar
- 83.J.B.Maria Jeol Costa

- 84.P.Sathiah Kumar
- 85.H.S.Sathyanarayanan
- 86.Karan Menon.R.K
- 87.S.Manoj Prabhakaran
- 88. V. Archana
- 89.M.Rajalakshmi
- 90.K.Gowthaman
- 91.M.Arumugam
- 92.M.Chandru
- 93.Srinithi.M.S

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...Petitioners

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Vs.

- 1.State of Tami Nadu, rep by its Secretary (Law Department) Secretariat, Fort St.George, Chennai – 600 009.
- 2. The Vice Chancellor,
  The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University,
  "Poompozhil" No.5, D.G.S. Dinakaran Salai,
  Chennai 600 028.
- 3.Director of Legal Studies, 198, Purasaiwalkam High Road, Lumbini Square, Purasaiwakkam, Chennai – 600 010.
- 4. The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University(TNDALU) represented by its Registrar "Poompozhil" No.5, D.G.S. Dinakaran Salai, Chennai 600 028.
- 5.The Tamil Nadu Dr.Ambedkar Law University(TNDALU)
  School of Excellence in Law,
  represented by its Director (UG Courses)
  Perungudi Campus, M.G.R.Salai,
  Chennai 600 013. ....Respondents

<u>Prayer:</u> Writ petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking issuance of writ of certiorarified mandamus, calling for the records of the 5<sup>th</sup> respondent pertaining to the Impugned Order vide 4/11

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C.No.724/SOEL/UG/S1/2020 on fee payment dated 29.08.2020 and the subsequent circular C.No.31-Sep1/SOEL/UG/S1/2020 dated 14.09.2020 in the website of the 5<sup>th</sup> respondent and quash the same in so far as the Inter

Fee, Library Fee, AIR Cafe Fee, Infrastructural Facilities fee, Class

Amenities fee, Sports Fee, Moot Court Fee, Admission application fee,

NSS and Youth Red Cross fee are concerned, as illegal, arbitrary and devoid

of merit and consequentially direct the respondents to revise the impugned

circular by waiving / reducing the associated fee.

For Petitioner : Mr.K.M.Mrithun Jayan

For Respondents: Mr.K.Parameswaran for R1 to R3

Mr.V.Vasanthakumar for R4 & R5

## ORDER

The students of the School of Excellency have filed this writ petition challenging the impugned circular dated 29.08.2020 and a circular dated 14.09.2020 in and by which, the respondent / Institution has demanded Library Fee, Internet Fee, Infrastructural Facilities Fee, Class Amenities Fee, Sports Fee, Moot Court Fee, AIR Cafe Fee, Admission

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application Fee, NSS and Youth Red Cross Fee without providing the

aforesaid amenities in the previous year.

2. The case of the petitioners is that due to the Covid -19, the

said academic activities in the respondent / College has not been

commenced so far. Without even providing the basic amenities, permitting

the petitioner to access the library and Internet and other infrastructures, the

respondent, by the circular has demanded fees for library, internet and other

infrastructure facilities etc.,

3. Mr.V.Vasantha Kumar, learned counsel for the respondents 4

and 5 has referred the para 9 to 11 of the counter affidavit in support of his

submissions, which reads as follows:-

"9. That taking into consideration of the ground

realities and visualizing the financial difficulties faced by the

students and parents due to sudden outbreak of COVID - 19,

The Finance Committee in its 82<sup>nd</sup> meeting by circulation dated

02.11.2020 resolved to recommend to the syndicate to grant

concession of 30% (Thirty Percentage) in the fee (other than

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Admission fee, Tuition fee, & AIR Cafe fee) payable during the academic year 2020-2021 in the following heads of fees viz., Library fee, Internet fee, Infrastructural facilities fee, Class Amenities fee, Sports fee, Moot Court fee for students of the first year to the final year of all 5 year / 3 year LLB (Hons) and LLM students, who seek for concession and the Syndicate approved the said recommendation in its 172<sup>nd</sup> (special) Syndicate by circulation on 12.11.2020 which reads as follows:-

The Syndicate unaminously RESOLVEd to approve the minutes of the 82<sup>nd</sup> Finance Committee by circulation on 31/10/2020 recommending grant of 30% fee concession (Other than admission fee, tuition fee & AIR Cafe fee) to the students (Other than NRI Students) those who seek fees concession of all 5 year Integrated Courses, 3 year LL.B (Hons.) and LL.M Dgree Courses offered in the School of Excellence in Law, TNDALU, during the academic year 2020-2021.

10. I respect submit that pursuant to the Syndicate's resolution dated 12.11.2020, the 4<sup>th</sup> respondent on 23.11.2020 addressed a letter in C.No.724/Regr/ Aca/A4/2020 requesting the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent to issue appropriate orders.

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11. I respectfully submit that the pursuant to the letter dated 23.11.2020, the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent issued a communication in Letter (MS) No.318 dated 08.12.2020 accepting the resolution dated 12.11.2020 passed by the Syndicate and accorded permission to grant 30% fees concession for the Academic year 2020-2021."

4. The learned counsel for the respondents by relying upon the Letter (MS)No. 318 dated 08.12.2020 would submit that considering the situation, the Government has also granted waiver of 30% fee to the students for the academic year 2020-2021.

5. Recording the said submissions made by the learned counsel for the respondents that the government has already awarded 30% fee concession for the academic year 2021, this writ petition is disposed of. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed. No costs.

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Internet:Yes/No Index:Yes/No

Speaking / Non-speaking.

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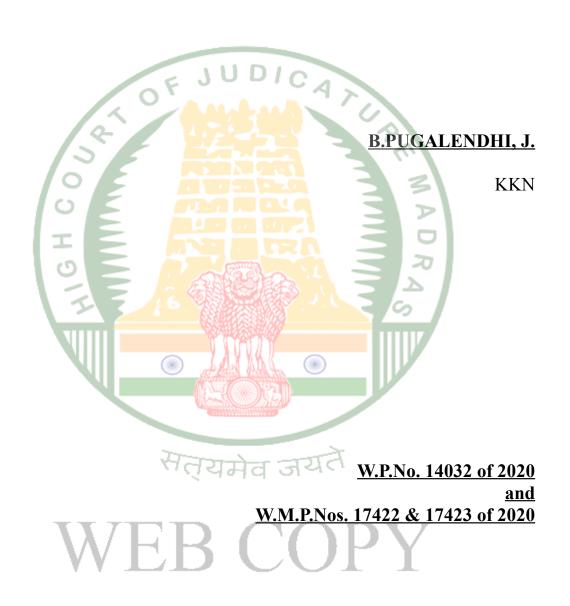
To:-

- 1.The Secretary (Law Department) Secretariat, Fort St.George, Chennai – 600 009.
- 2.The Vice Chancellor,
  The Tamil Nadu Dr.Ambedkar Law University,
  "Poompozhil" No.5, D.G.S.Dinakaran Salai,
  Chennai 600 028.
- 3. The Director of Legal Studies, 198, Purasaiwalkam High Road, Lumbini Square, Purasaiwakkam, Chennai – 600 010.
- 4. The Registrar,
  The Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University(TNDALU)
  "Poompozhil" No.5, D.G.S. Dinakaran Salai,
  Chennai 600 028.

5.The Director (UG Courses)
The Tamil Nadu Dr.Ambedkar Law University(TNDALU)
School of Excellence in Law,
Perungudi Campus, M.G.R.Salai,

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Chennai – 600 013.



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