

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 28.07.2021

CORAM :

THE HON'BLE MR.SANJIB BANERJEE, CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE SENTHILKUMAR RAMAMOORTHY

W.P.No.11850 of 2021

M.Karpagam

.. Petitioner

Vs.

1. Commissionerate for the Welfare of
Differently Abled
No.5, Kamarajar Salai
Lady Wellington College Campus
Chennai 600 005.

2. The Government of Tamil Nadu
rep. by its Secretary
Health and Family Welfare Department
Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009.

.. Respondents

Prayer: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to frame a standard operating procedure for vaccinating homebound persons, persons with disability persons at Institutions, Nursing Homes, etc.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Prabhakaran

For Respondents : Mr.P.Muthukumar
Counsel for State

ORDER

(Made by the Hon'ble Chief Justice)

The matter pertains to special measures being adopted by the State to vaccinate persons with disabilities.

2. A report has been filed by the Health Secretary on July 26, 2021. The report reveals that as at July 21, 2021, 1,10,222 persons with disabilities have been vaccinated across the 38 administrative districts in the State. More than 11,700 persons with disabilities have been vaccinated in Chennai. What is evident is that almost all of the vaccinations pertain to the first dose, apart from 2408 persons who are in institutional care who have received both doses of Covaxin.

3. It is hoped that every effort is made and the State goes out of its way to ensure that all persons with disabilities residing in the State are completely vaccinated as expeditiously as possible and, preferably by the end of September 2021, subject to the appropriate gap between the two doses being maintained.

4. Since the original grievance of the petitioner was that no special drive had been undertaken by the State to reach vaccines to persons with disabilities and the latest status report reveals quite to the contrary and the substantial effort made by the State to make special provisions for persons with disabilities, there may not be any further apprehension that the State may not take care of persons with disabilities or administer vaccine to such persons.

5. In the light of the appropriate and prompt action taken by the State as evident from the status report filed, W.P.No.11850 of 2021 is disposed of as it may have outlived its purpose.

6. In the unlikely event that the second doses are not administered, the petitioner will have liberty to bring such matter to the notice of the court by way of a fresh petition.

7. There will be no order as to costs.

(S.B., CJ.) (S.K.R., J.)
28.07.2021

Index : yes/no
sra

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

(sra)

To:

1. The Commissionerate for the Welfare of Differently Abled
No.5, Kamarajar Salai
Lady Wellington College Campus
Chennai 600 005.
2. The Secretary
Health and Family Welfare Department
Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009.



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