

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM
PRESENT
THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. NITIN JAMDAR
&
THE HONOURABLE MRS. JUSTICE SHOBA ANNAMMA EAPEN**

**Thursday, the 11th day of September 2025 / 20th Bhadra, 1947
WP(C) NO. 32493 OF 2019(S)**

PETITIONER:

**KULATHOOR JAISINGH, AGED 42 YEARS S/O LATE DEVANESAN,
THUNDUVILA HOUSE, KULATHOOR, UCHAKKADA P.O.,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM -695 506.**

RESPONDENTS:

***1. STATE OF KERALA, (DELETED),
REPRESENTED BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 001.**

**RESPONDENT NO.1 IS DELETED FROM THE PARTY ARRAY AS PER
ORDER DATED 29/11/2019 IN WPC.**

**1. THE HEALTH SECRETARY, HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF KERALA, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 695 001.**

ADDL. R2 & R3 IMPEADED

**2. THE DIRECTOR, RAJIV GANDHI CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY,
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM-695 014.**

**3. THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF VIROLOGY,
KERALA UNIT, ALAPPUZHA-688 005.**

**ARE IMPEADED AS ADDL. R2 AND R3 AS PER ORDER
DATED 21/10/2021 IN IA.3/2021 IN WPC.**

P.T.O.

Writ petition (civil) praying inter alia that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed along with the WP(C) the High Court be pleased to direct the 1st respondent to issue circular for exhibiting stock of emergency medicine in front of the pharmacy of the hospital, till the disposal of the Writ Petition (Civil).

This petition again coming on for orders upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support of WP(C), this Court's order dated 26/08/2025 and upon hearing the arguments of SRI.R.GOPAN, Advocate for the petitioner, SRI.N.MANOJ KUMAR, STATE ATTORNEY & SRI.K.R.RANJITH, GOVERNMENT PLEADER for the respondents, SRI.G.BIJU, AMICUS CURIAE, SRI.SANTHOSH MATHEW, SENIOR ADVOCATE for KERALA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY, the court passed the following:

P.T.0



NITIN JAMDAR, C. J. & SHOBA ANNAMMA EAPEN, J.

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Dated this the 11th day of September, 2025

ORDER

Heard Mr. R. Gopan, learned counsel for the Petitioner in W. P. (C) No. 32493 of 2019, Mr. G. Biju, learned Amicus Curiae and Mr. K. R. Ranjith, learned Government Pleader.

2. Pursuant to our earlier direction, a meeting was held by the Chief Secretary on 1 September 2025 for the formulation of comprehensive guidelines on school safety and security, including prevention and management of snakebites. The minutes of the meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary and the draft guidelines in the form of a Circular are placed before us by the learned Government Pleader. The minutes states that the meeting was conducted on 1 September 2025 which was attended by the Principal Secretary, Forest and Wildlife Department, Special Secretary, Local Self Government Department, State Mission Director, National Health Mission, Additional Secretary, Education Department, Assistant Director, Medical and Hospital Administration, Additional Director, Education Department, Additional Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, a representative from the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology, Assistant Conservator of Forests and a Virologist from the National Institute of Virology.

3. In the meeting, the draft guidelines, which was prepared by the Nodal Officer and Assistant Director of Health Services in consultation

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with the Directorate of General Education, were discussed and the Chief Secretary opined that the draft guidelines is comprehensive and the same can be adopted. It was decided to circulate the draft guidelines to the concerned Departments in order to obtain their response by 3 September 2025. It was also decided to consider whether the snakebite can be notified as a notifiable disease after considering the legal position. It was further decided to carry out a detailed study by the Forest Department along with the Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology for producing antivenom in respect of other species of snakes also apart from the common ones.

4. Learned Amicus Curiae and the learned counsel for the Petitioner in W. P. (C) No. 32493 of 2019 state that they will also go through the draft Circular and give their inputs so that the Circular, as contemplated by the State Government, can be issued.

5. Since this is a Circular/Policy, it may always be modified if any lacunae are noticed or further measures are found necessary. What is necessary is that a comprehensive guidelines are in place so that steps to address the issue can be initiated at the earliest.

6. Post on 17 September 2025.

Sd/-
NITIN JAMDAR
CHIEF JUSTICE

Sd/-
SHOBA ANNAMMA EAPEN
JUDGE

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