

**HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA  
AT HYDERABAD  
(Special Original Jurisdiction)**

**MONDAY, THE EIGHTH DAY OF JUNE  
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY  
PRESENT**

**THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI RAGHVENDRA SINGH CHAUHAN ,  
AND  
THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE B VIJAYSEN REDDY**

**WP(PIL) NOS: 59, 61, 78, 82, 91 AND 96 OF 2020**

**WP(PIL) No. 59 OF 2020**

**Between:**

1. Prof. P.L. Vishweshwar Rao, Occ. Convenor, Telangana Democratic Forum and Vice President of Telangana Jana Samithi, R/o. H.No. 33-23/1, Officers Colony, Rama Krishnapuram, Secunderabad – 500056.
2. Dr. Cheruku Sudhakar, MBBS, S/o. Usha Goud, Occ. Doctor, H.No.14-70, V.T. Colony, Nakrekal, Nalgonda District, Telangana State - 508211

...Petitioners

**AND**

1. Union of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Maulana Azad Road, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi - 110011.
2. The State of Telangana, Rep by Chief Secretary, Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
3. The State of Telangana, Rep by its Principal Secretary to the Medical and Health Department, Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
4. The State of Telangana, Rep by its Principal Secretary to the Finance Department, Telangana Secretariat, B.R.K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
5. The State of Telangana, Rep by its Principal Secretary to the Civil Supplies Department , Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
6. The State of Telangana, Rep by its Principal Secretary to the Labour Department Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
7. The Commissioner and Director, Medical and Health Department, Koti, Hyderabad, Telangana.
8. The Commissioner, Civil Supplies Department, Civil Supplies Bhavan, H.No.6-3-655/1/A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Punjagutta Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad, Telangana.
9. The Labour Commissioner, State of Telangana, T. Anjaiah Bhavan, RTC X Road, Hyderabad.

...Respondents

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed herein, the High Court may be pleased to issue a Writ, Order or Direction more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus in declaring the inaction of the respondents in providing proper quarantine to the passengers, who came from Abroad to Telangana from 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2020 to 25th March, 2020 for 14 days and non-providing Medical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), N-95 Masks to the Doctors, Para-Medical Staff, who are working in the Medical field in prevention of Spread of Covid-19 in the State of Telangana and also in non-import-non manufacture the Medical Equipment like Diagnosis kits of COVID-19, Ventilations, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), N-95 Masks, Sanitizers etc., in protection of right to life of Public at large, and non-supplying the daily essential goods at reasonable prices like food-grains, vegetables, medicines etc., in door delivery to the public at large and non-providing daily essential food-grains, vegetables, fruits, Masks, medicines, shelter and minimum expenses etc., to the lakhs of Un-organized labour, beggars, Inter-State Migrant Labors, Orphans, Street Children, Destitutes, Nomadic Tribes, Semi -Nomadic Tribes and Hostel Students, who are non-registered in the white card scheme and living in the State of Telangana in the lock down period as illegal, arbitrary, discriminatory, unreasonable, unfair, unjust, unlawful, unconstitutional, whimsical, perverse, mockery and against to an Article 14, 19, 21 of Constitution of India and against to the Provisions of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 and The Inter State

Migrant Workmen Act, 1979 and other Labor Laws and against to the Catena of Judgments of an Apex Court and this Honble Court and Consequently, direct the respondents to quarantine the all passengers, who came from Abroad to Telangana by All ways (Airway, Railway and Road Transport) from 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2020 to 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 for 14 days and direct the respondents to either manufacture or import the large Scale Diagnosis Kits of COVID-I9, N-95 Masks, kits of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Ventilators to protect the lives of Doctors, Para-medical staff and Public at Large of Telangana, who are working in the field of prevention of Spread of Covid-19 and direct the respondents to provide daily minimum needs, like food grains, vegetables, fruits, shelter, N-95 Masks, sanitizers and Minimum Expenses to the lakhs of unorganized labor, beggars, Inter-State Migrant Labour, Orphans, Street Children, Destitutes, Nomadic Tribes, Semi-Nomadic Tribes, Hostel Students, who are non-registered in the white card scheme and living in the State of Telangana and to direct the respondents to supply in door delivery daily need essential goods at reasonable prices like food-grains, vegetables, fruits, N-95 Masks, sanitizers, etc., and also direct the respondents to Diagnosis of COVID-19 to the people at home in lock down period till no COVID-19 Positive get into the record in the State of Telangana

This petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of Sri Prabhakar Chikkudu, Counsel for the petitioner and of Sri Namavarapu Rajeshwar Rao, Assistant Solicitor General on behalf of Respondent No. 1 and Sri B.S. Prasad, Advocate General on behalf of Respondent Nos. 2 to 7 and 9, and of Sri A. Jagan, Advocate for the respondent No. 8,

**WP(PIL).NO.61 OF 2020**

**Between:**

Sri. K.Karuna Sagar,, Advocate, Flat No.516, 5<sup>TH</sup> Floor, SVRS Neeladri Apartments, Champapet, Hyderabad 500035

Petitioner

**AND**

1. State of Telangana, Rep. by its Chief Secretary, Secretariat, Hyderabad
2. State of Telangana, Represented by its Principal Secretary, Home Department, Secretariat, Hyderabad.
3. The Director General of Police, State of Telangana Lakdikapool, Hyderabad.
4. The Commissioner of Police, Bhasheerbagh, Hyderabad
5. State of Telangana, Represented by its Principal Secretary, Women and Child Welfare Department, Hyderabad

Respondents

In compliance with the directions of His Lord the Hon'ble Chief Justice on the office note dated 04.04.2020 filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the letter dated 02.04.2020 sent by the petitioner herein through email, this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to issue an appropriate Writ, Order or Orders more particularly, one in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus to call for remarks and records from the Respondents herein relating to and in connection with the inaction of the State Government to take appropriate steps in providing security to the Doctors and other supporting staff who are treating the COVID-19 patients since the life of citizens are put in danger as a shocking incident that took place 1.4.2020 wherein the duty Doctors treating the COVID-19 patients at Gandhi Hospital, Hyderabad were attacked by the Family members of a deceased COVID-19 patient and destroyed the hospital property by breaking the windows, who developed COVID-19 positive after attending the Tablighat Jamaat meeting at Nizamuddin, Delhi and that though the duty Doctors and staff are working 24/7 for the last one month, this type of inhuman behaviour towards the Doctors and staff is highly condemnable and stringent action should be taken against the miscreants and that this type of incidents took place in Khammam and Nizamabad Districts

also and hence non-bailable cases should be registered against the assaulters under IPC, particularly u/s 11 of Telangana Medicare Service Persons and Medicare Service Institutions (Prevention of violence and damage to property) Act, 2008. Consequently, to direct the Respondents herein to take stringent action against the miscreants by registering non-bailable cases under IPC and particularly u/s 11 of Telangana Medicare Service Persons and Medicare Service Institutions (Prevention of violence and damage to property) Act, 2008;

The petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the letter dated 02.04.2020 filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments Sri B.S. Prasad, Advocate General (TG) for the Respondent Nos. 1 to 5, the Court made the following.

**WP(PIL). No. 78 of 2020**

**Between:**

1. Prof. P.L. Vishweshwar Rao, S/o. Late Ponna Laxmana Rao
2. A. Rajendrababu, S/o. Late Nagappa

Petitioners

**AND**

1. The State of Telangana, Rep. by its Chief Secretary, Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
2. The State of Telangana, Rep. by its Special Chief Secretary, Medical and Health Department, B. R. K. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
3. The State of Telangana, Rep. by its Principal Secretary to the Medical and Health Department, Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
4. The Commissioner and Director, Medical and Health Department, Koti, Hyderabad, Telangana.

Respondents

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed therewith, the High Court may be pleased to issue a Writ, Order or Direction more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus in declaring the action of the respondents in issuing an impugned proceedings Lr. No. 82/Peshi/DME/2020, Dated 20.04.2020, not to collect samples from the dead bodies for further Covid-19 testing in the State of Telangana and not notified the Covid-19 100 Bedded hospitals erstwhile District Head Quarters Or 50 Bedded Hospitals in the Present District Head Quarters other than the Area of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation in protection of the right to life of Urban, Sub-urban and Rural public at large by providing trained staff, medical equipment and medicines as illegal, arbitrary, discriminatory, unreasonable, unfair, unjust, unlawful, unconstitutional, whimsical, perverse, mockery, in human, bad in law, ulterior motive and against to an Article 14, 19, 21 of Constitution of India and against to the Provisions of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 and against to the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and other Acts and against to the Caterina of Judgments of an Apex Court and this Honourable Court.

**IA NO: 1 OF 2020**

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct the respondents to notify the Covid-19 100 Bedded Hospitals in the Head Quarters of erstwhile Districts or Covid-19 50 Bedded Hospitals in the present District head Quarters other than the Area of Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) by providing sufficient trained staff and medical equipment and also medicines in protection of the right to life of the public at large forthwith, pending disposal of WP(PIL) 78 of 2020, on the file of the High Court.

**IA NO: 2 OF 2020**

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct the respondents to take the samples by Para Medical Staff from the Dead bodies for conduct test of Covid-19 in the State of Telangana, pending disposal of WP(PIL) 78 of 2020, on the file of the High Court.

**IA NO: 3 OF 2020**

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition, the High Court may be pleased to suspend an impugned proceedings issued by the 4<sup>th</sup> respondent in Lr. No.82/Peshi/DME/2020, Dated 20.04.2020, forthwith, pending disposal of WP(PIL) 78 of 2020, on the file of the High Court.

The petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of Sri Prabhakar Chikkudu Advocate for the Petitioners and of Advocate General for the respondents

**WP(PIL). No. 82 of 2020**

**Between:**

Dr. K.P. Rajender Kumar, Retd. District Medical and Health Officer, Jogulamba, Gadwal District, Flat No.403, Durga Harmony, H.No.6.3.552/ 1, Erramanzil Colony, Hyderabad 500 082

Petitioner

**AND**

1. Union of India, rep. by its Secretary Department of Medical and Health, Central Secretariat, New Delhi.
2. Indian Council of Medical Research, (ICMR) COVID-2019. New Delhi.
3. State of Telangana, Rep. by its Chief Secretary, Secretariat, Hyderabad.
4. State of Telangana, Represented by its Principal Secretary, Medical and Health Department, Secretariat, Hyderabad.
5. The Director of Medical and Health, Government of Telangana, Koti, Hyderabad.
6. Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.

Respondents

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the letter dated 28.04.2020 sent by the petitioner herein through email, the High Court may be pleased to issue an appropriate Writ, Order or Orders more particularly, one in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus to call for records and remarks from the Respondents herein relating to and in connection with issuance of letter bearing No. Spl/COVID/DPHGW/2020 dated 20/04/2020 by the office of the Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, Government of Telangana directing not to take samples and conduct COVID-19 tests on the dead bodies and if that is so cause of the death will not be revealed and there is every likelihood of spreading the virus upon (1) Health Service Providers, i.e. front line workers i.e., Doctors, Nurses, ANMs, Asha Workers, (2) Family Members and Close Contacts and (3) Funeral Service Providers and also people who came into contact with the deceased, damage the purpose of precautionary measures taken by the Government to safeguard the lives of the public at large, (Recently in Kurnool, samples of deceased Dr. Ismail Hussain, who was a Doctor, and his six family members were found to be COVID-19 positive).

and

Consequently to direct the Respondents herein to take samples of the dead bodies and conduct COVID-19 tests as there is every likelihood of spreading the virus upon (1) Health Service Providers, Doctors, Nurses, ANM, Asha Workers, (2) Family Members and Close Contacts and (3) Funeral Service Providers and also people who came into contact with the deceased as a precautionary measure to safeguard the lives of the public at large.

The petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the letter dated 28.04.2020 sent by the petitioner herein through email, and upon hearing the arguments of Dr. K.P. Rajender Kumar as party in person and Sri Namavarapu Rajeshwar Rao, Assistant Solicitor General, for the Respondent No. 1 & 2 and Advocate General for the respondents No. 3 to 6.

**WP(PIL). No. 91 OF 2020**

**Between:**

Varun Sankineni, S/o Sankineni Venkateshwar Rao

Petitioner

**AND**

1. The Union of India, Rep. by its Under Secretary, Medical and Health Department, (COVID -19) Central Secretariat, Sastry Bhavan, New Delhi
2. The Indian Council of Medical Research, (ICMR), Rep. by its Director General, (COVID -19), Health Research Department, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi 110 029

3. The State of Telangana, Rep. by its Chief Secretary, (GAD) Dept., Secretariat, Saifabad, Hyderabad.
4. The State of Telangana, Rep., by its Special Chief Secretary, Medical and Health Department, (COVID -19), Secretariat, Saifabad, Hyderabad
5. The State of Telangana, Rep., by its Prl, Secretary, Medical and Health Department, (COVID -19), Secretariat, Hyderabad.
6. The Commissioner and Directorate of Medical and Health Department, (COVID-19) Koti, Hyderabad.
7. The District Medical and Health Office, Rep., by District Medical and Health Officer (FAC), Suryapet Collectorate, Suryapet, Suryapet dist., erstwhile Nalgonda District
8. The Superintendent of (COVID -19), Gandhi Hospital, Secunderabad,

Respondents

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed therewith, the High Court may be pleased to issue a writ order or direction more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus, a)declaring that the action of the Respondents in failing to conduct/provide for adequate testing of COVID-19 for the citizens of the State of Telangana and more particularly the residents of Suryapet district of erstwhile Nalgonda district as a constitutional failure of the State duty, violating the citizens fundamental rights including the rights guaranteed under Article 14 and 21 of the Constitution of India and resultantly direct the Respondents. b)To review the testing criteria to include collecting samples and conducting tests of all asymptomatic persons, in the areas affected with the outbreak in the State of Telangana and more particularly the district of Suryapet c) To incorporate Rapid Antibodies Blood Test method in order to exponentially increase the population tested and efficiently identify the areas affects and people carrying the virus who may or may not show any symptoms. d)Consequently speed up the process testing through door to door step sample collection in order to ensure widespread accessibility of the testing facilities, (This will not only increase the number of people tested per million but also ensure the safe collection of samples and proper maintenance of the chain of custody). e)To start Door to Door sample collections and testings of any person showing any signs/symptoms of COVID-19 in Suryapet District, so that testing and quarantine can be done at home instead of travelling to hospitals, therefore minimizing the pressure on the already overburdened hospitals. f)To prepare and make available online data (through a dedicated web-portal), of the areas covered by door to door testing and sample collection and total no. of tests conducted, segregated into two categories i.e., symptomatic and asymptomatic, containing necessary details such as areas covered, total no. persons tested, whether the persons found positive was symptomatic or asymptomatic or with any travel history, etc. g)To direct the Respondents herein to release the test results of the samples collected within a reasonable time-frame and make available the said results on any dedicated web-portal or in the media and award costs to the petitioner herein ,

#### **IA NO: 1 OF 2020**

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition, the High Court may be pleased to appoint a court monitored expert committee for identifying the extent of testing and for suggesting the localities /zones/municipal/ gram panchayath areas in the State of Telangana and more particularly in the Suryapet district erstwhile Nalgonda district in which steps for rapid testing ought to be undertaken by the Respondents forthwith, pending disposal of WP(PIL) 91 of 2020, on the file of the High Court.

The petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of Smt Gorantla Sri Ranga Pujitha Advocate for the Petitioner and Sri Namavarapu Rajeshwar Rao, Assistant Solicitor General for the respondent No. 1 & 2 and Sri B.S. Prasad, Advocate General for the respondent No. 3 to 8.

#### **WP(PIL). No. 96 OF 2020**

##### **Between:**

1. Surya Balu Mahendra, S/o Late S. Sudheer Kumar, Aged . 32 years, Occ: Advocate R/o. MIG 418, G2, R. K. Residency, KPHB Colony, Kukatpally, Hyderabad - 500072. Aadhar Number . 402674220948 Pan Number . BOWPS3690K, Mobile Number . 8790747440 Bank Account No. 35655287909 Mail ID. mahendra.suryagmmail.com
2. Bala Krishna Mandapati, S/o M. Sambaiah, Aged. 36 years, Occ: Academician R/o Hat No. 502, Ashok Residency, Street Number 6, East Maredpally, Nehru Nagar, Hyderabad-

500026, Aadhar number - 281777817877, Pan Number - APLPM9326D Mobile Number -9502265851 Bank Account No. 074750700000809 Mail id. baluktb7P@gmail.com

...Petitioners

AND

1. The State of Telangana, Rep., by its Chief Secretary, Government of Telangana, Secretariat, Hyderabad.
2. The Special Chief Secretary, to Government, Health, Medical and Family Welfare Department, Government of Telangana, Secretariat, Hyderabad.
3. The Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, Government of Telangana, Koti, Hyderabad.
4. The Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Telangana, Koti, Hyderabad.
5. The Director of Medical Education, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.
6. The Telangana Vaidya Vidhana Parishad, Rep. by its Commissioner, Koti, Hyderabad
7. The Union of India, Rep. by its Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi.
8. Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Rep., by Its Director General V. Ramalingaswami Bhawan, P.O. Box No. 4911 Ansari Nagar, New Delhi - 110029

Respondents

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed therewith, the High Court may be pleased to issue Writ or Direction preferably Writ of Mandamus declaring the action of the Respondents No.1 to 6 in not undertaking COVID-19 Testing of Asymptomatic Primary Contacts, Symptomatic Secondary Contacts and other patients with ILI (Influenza like Illness) symptoms in the State of Telangana as per the Guidelines of ICMR Dt.09/04/2020 as arbitrary, opposed to Public Health and in violation of Article 21 of the Constitution of India and consequently direct the Respondents to undertake wide spread COVID-19 Testing in the State of Telangana and also further appropriate measures to curtail the spread of Corona Virus.

#### IA NO: 1 OF 2020

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct the Respondents No.1 to 6 to forthwith undertake wide spread COVID-19 Testing in the Hotspot Areas in the State of Telangana as per the Guidelines of ICMR Dated 09/04/2020, pending disposal of the Writ Petition (PIL) in the interest of Justice., Pending disposal of WP(PIL) 96 of 2020, on the file of the High Court.

The petition coming on for hearing, upon perusing the Petition and the affidavit filed in support thereof and upon hearing the arguments of Mr.Kowturu Pavan Kumar Advocate for Petitioners, and GP for Medical & Health (TG) for Respondents 2 to 5 and Mr.Navamavarapu Rajeshwar Rao, Assistant Solicitor General for Respondents 7&8, the Court made the following.

#### **COMMON ORDER:**

In compliance of the Order, dated 26.05.2020, Mr. Srinivasa Rao, Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, Telangana, has submitted a Report. The same shall be taken on record.

A bare perusal of the Report, along with the Media Bulletin issued by the Government on a daily basis clearly reveals that the factual position is not being revealed to public at large in the Media Bulletin. For, according to the Report, the number of positive cases as on 02.06.2020 are 239, yet according to the Media Bulletin dated 02.06.2020, and Media Bulletin dated 03.06.2020, the number of positive cases is 87 for 02.06.2020, and 127 for 03.06.2020. According to the Report, Pahadishareef falling within the Ranga Reddy District shows 32 positive cases, and Aziz Nagar also falling within Ranga Reddy District shows 5 positive cases. However, the Media Bulletin dated

02.06.2020 shows that in the Ranga Reddy District, there are only 7 positive cases. This Court has asked Dr. Srinivasa Rao to explain the discrepancy in the data provided in the Report, and the data published in the Media Bulletin. To this pointed query of this Court, Dr. Srinivasa Rao has only sought time to explain as to how wide differences exist in the number of positive cases, which are discovered.

In the Order dated 26.05.2020, this Court had clearly opined that the availability of different medical equipments, such as PPE Kits, N-95 Masks, Surgeon/ 3-ply Masks, Sanitizers, Examination Gloves, and Surgical Gloves, which were shown as existing in the “stocks” are not relevant factor. What is relevant is to know the distribution of all these items for the benefit of medical staff in each hospital dealing with COVID-19 patients. This Court had hoped that the relevant information would be revealed in the present Report submitted by the Dr. Srinivasa Rao. However, the Report merely indicates the availability of these items in the “stocks” as on 02.06.2020. Merely because the Report claims that there are 7,21,039 PPE Kits available in the State and District Stores, is not heartening, but what is important to know is the number of PPE Kits being distributed in each hospital to the Doctors, and the medical staff.

Recently, the Media Bulletin indicates that even the Medical Doctors are falling victims to COVID-19. According to one Report, 72 Doctors have come down with COVID-19. Consequently, 400 medical staff members should be quarantined. Needless to say that this is an alarming number. Therefore, it is imperative that all the protective equipments should be distributed not only amongst the Doctors, but also amongst the other medical staff dealing with COVID-19 patients.

By order, dated 26.05.2020, this Court had also directed the State to carry out random testing, and community testing. This Court has asked Dr. Srinivasa Rao whether “random testing”, and “community testing” has been carried out, or not? He informs this Court that they are yet to commence as the State Government has placed an order for 25,000 kits, and until and unless these kits are received by the Medical Department, “random testing”, and “community testing” cannot be initiated.

By Order, dated 26.05.2020, this Court had emphatically directed the Health Department to ensure that dead bodies being released by the hospitals are duly tested for the presence of corona virus. However, according to the Media Reports, the testing of the dead bodies is not being carried out. Interestingly, the Report submitted by Dr. Srinivasa Rao is absolutely silent on the issue whether the dead bodies are being tested, or not?

The learned Advocate General claims that the Order, dated 26.05.2020, has been challenged by the State before the Hon’ble Supreme Court. But the learned Advocate General frankly concedes that the directions issued by this Court have not been stayed by

the Hon'ble Supreme Court, so far. Since the directions have not been stayed by the Apex Court, the State Government is duty bound to carry out the directions. After all, these directions have been issued in order to protect the people of the State from the menace of COVID-19. Until and unless the dead bodies are duly tested for the presence of corona virus, and until and unless the true facts and figures are revealed to the public, through the Media Bulletins issued by the Government on a daily basis, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to curtail, and to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the State. For, in the absence of relevant data, as pointed out by different guidelines issued by the ICMR, the spread of the disease would be unknown to the Medical Department, and to the State Government. Such ignorance would prevent the Government from formulating the correct, and necessary policies for tackling COVID-19 in the near future. Moreover, unless the correct figures are published for the information of the general public, people would have a mis-impression that COVID-19 has been reduced to the extent that they can disregard the safety measures prescribed by the Central Government, and the State Governments. Needless to say that if the guards are down, more people will become vulnerable to COVID-19. Therefore, it is imperative that all the directions issued by this Court are religiously and zealously implemented by the Health Department.

It is, indeed, trite to state that if the directions issued by this Court are not implemented by the respondents, this Court eventually would have no other option, but to issue contempt notice to the respondents for their intentional, and wilful disobedience of the orders passed by this Court. This statement is being made as a warning to the respondents, not to ignore the directions of this Court. For, neither the majesty of the law, nor the majesty of the High Court, can be ignored by the respondents.

This Court directs Dr. Srinivasa Rao to give the complete facts, and the critical figures with regard to the number of COVID-19 positive cases, with regard to the numbers of testing carried out, within the State from 26.05.2020, till 07.06.2020. He is further directed to ensure that the Media Bulletin issued daily by the Government states the correct facts, and figures, and as already directed by this Court in W.P. (PIL) No.111 of 2020, that the relevant facts mentioned therein must not only be published in the Media Bulletin, but must also be published in the regional papers in the regional language, so that the people are well aware of the extent, and the danger of the COVID-19. If the directions issued by this Court are not followed, this Court will hold Dr. Srinivasa Rao personally liable, along with the Principal Secretary, Medical and Health Department, for the disobedience of the directions issued by this Court.

The learned Advocate General is directed to inform this Court whether the Government is planning to designate hospitals in other towns in the State as earmarked for treatment for COVID-19, or not? In case, such hospitals have been earmarked, the list of the same should be provided to this Court.

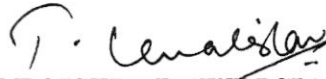
The learned Advocate General is also directed to submit the information with regard to the establishment of the mobile labs, and with regard to the private testing labs, which are permitted to operate throughout the State. The learned Advocate General is further directed to furnish the information with regard to the present testing in the private hospitals in the Cities of Hyderabad, and Secunderabad.

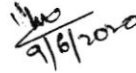
The Government is further directed to publicize the names and addresses, along with the telephone numbers of the private labs, or the private hospitals, where the testing for COVID-19 is permitted, and is being carried out, for the information of the general public.

List these cases on 17.06.2020.

SD/- CHIEF JUSTICE SRI RAGHVENDRA SINGH CHAUHAN  
AND  
SRI JUSTICE B VIJAYSEN REDDY

//TRUE COPY//

  
REGISTRAR (JUDICIAL-II)



  
SECTION OFFICER

To,

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Union of India, Maulana Azad Road, Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi - 110011.
2. The Chief Secretary, State of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
3. The Principal Secretary to the Medical and Health Department, State of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
4. The Principal Secretary to the Finance Department, State of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, B.R.K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
5. The Principal Secretary to the Civil Supplies Department, State of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
6. The Principal Secretary to the Labour Department, State of Telangana, Telangana Secretariat, B. R. K.R. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
7. The Commissioner and Director, Medical and Health Department, Koti, Hyderabad, Telangana.
8. The Commissioner, Civil Supplies Department, Civil Supplies Bhavan, H.No.6-3-655/1/A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Punjagutta Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad, Telangana.
9. The Labour Commissioner, State of Telangana, T. Anjaiah Bhavan, RTC X Road, Hyderabad.
10. The Special Chief Secretary, Medical and health Department, State of Telangana, B. R. K. Bhavan, Hyderabad.
11. The Principal Secretary, Home Department, State of Telangana, Secretariat, Hyderabad
12. The Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research, (ICMR) COVID-2019. New Delhi.
13. Director of Public Health and Family Welfare, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.
14. The District Medical and Health Officer (FAC), District Medical and Health Office, Suryapet Collectorate, Suryapet, Suryapet dist., erstwhile Nalgonda District
15. The Superintendent of (COVID -19), Gandhi Hospital, Secunderabad,
16. The District Collector, Nirmal District
17. The Superintendent of Police, Nirmal District
18. The District Health Officer, Nirmal District  
(Addressees 1 to 18 by RPAD)
19. One CC to Sri Prabhakar Chikkudu Advocate [OPUC]
20. One CC to Dr. K.P. Rajender Kumar, Party in person (OPUC)
21. One CC to Smt Gorantla Sri Ranga Pujitha, Advocate (OPUC)

HIGH COURT

HCJ  
&  
BVRJ

DATED: 08.06.2020

NOTE: LIST THESE CASES ON 17.06.2020

ORDER

WP(PIL) NOS: 59, 61, 78, 82, 91 AND 96 OF 2020

DIRECTION



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