

Case :- PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION (PIL) No. - 1486 of 2020

Petitioner :- Mukul Choudhary

Respondent :- Union Of India And Another

Counsel for Petitioner :- Nitesh Kumar Srivastava, Sr. Advocate Shri. Mehmood Pracha

Counsel for Respondent :- A.S.G.I., C.S.C., Purnendu Kumar,

Hon'ble Govind Mathur, Chief Justice

Hon'ble Piyush Agrawal, J.

The cause, sought to be agitated in this petition for writ, pertains to provide certain facilities and protection to the *Safai Karamcharies*/sanitation workers/scavengers, who are discharging their duties under different local bodies, including the Cantonment Boards.

As per the averments contained in the petition for writ, the *Safai Karamcharies*/sanitation workers/scavengers are required to visit not only colonies in different cities, but also the residential houses where COVID - 19 infected persons may be residing. The employees of the categories aforesaid may receive infection of the disease from such houses and therefore, they deserve to have complete protection.

The petition for writ, though does not mention any details with regard to such employees working with different local bodies in the State of Uttar Pradesh, has relied upon a technical brief given by the World Health Organization. The brief aforesaid also contains interim guidance relating to personal protection of such employees.

Presumption of the petitioner is that in the State of Uttar Pradesh, the protection suggested must have not been extended and therefore, necessary directions are required to be issued by this Court.

The details too have not been given about any of the *Safai Karamchary*/sanitation worker/scavenger, who has been infected by *virus* COVID - 19.

Be that as it may, having considered the documents annexed with the writ petition and the guidelines prescribed by the different bodies in relation to extension of protection to the vulnerable persons, we deem it appropriate to dispose of this petition for writ by keeping the petitioner at liberty to approach the competent authorities of the Government of India as well as the State of Uttar Pradesh for getting protection guidelines

executed in accordance with the protocol introduced and the Statute & law, if any, applicable.

The petitioner, if approaches the authorities concerned, the suggestions given shall be considered objectively.

Order Date :- 7.12.2020

Amit Mishra

(Piyush Agrawal, J.)

(Govind Mathur, C.J.)