

Item No.52

THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE HIMA KOHLI
AND
THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE B. VIJAYSEN REDDY

WRIT PETITION (PIL) No.134 of 2020

ORDER: (Per the Hon'ble the Chief Justice Hima Kohli)

1. The present petition has been filed with three prayers. Learned for the petitioner concedes that the first prayer, which is to direct the respondents No.1 to 4 to stop the illegal trending on the social network of the respondent No.5 under the name of Islamiccoronavirusjihad, Tablighijamat *etc.*, does not survive any longer as it has worked itself out.

2. The second relief prayed for by the petitioner is for issuing directions to the respondents No.1 and 2/Central Government to restrain all online social media networks operating in India and not to carry out any Islamophobic posts or messages hurting or insulting the feelings of a particular community. Having regard to the manner in which the second prayer is couched, this court being a State High Court cannot grant such a relief. It is for the petitioner to approach the Supreme Court for appropriate orders.

3. In so far as the third relief is concerned, which is for issuing directions to the respondent No.1/Government of India, to register criminal complaint against the respondent No.5/Twitter and its users, who are spreading hatred messages, it is directed that the respondent No.2 shall consider the averments made in the present petition and

take appropriate steps, if considered expedient, as contemplated in law.

4. The present petition is, accordingly, closed along with the pending applications, if any.

HIMA KOHLI, CJ

B. VIJAYSEN REDDY, J

22.04.2021

Lur/vs