

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 14.06.2021

CORAM :

THE HON'BLE MR.SANJIB BANERJEE, CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE SENTHILKUMAR RAMAMOORTHY

W.P.No.12035 of 2021
and W.M.P.No.12805 of 2021

Grace Banu

... Petitioner

Vs.

- 1 The Chief Secretary
Government of Tamil Nadu
Secretariat, Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009.
- 2 The Government of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Secretary
Cooperation Food and Consumer Protection Department
Secretariat, Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009.
- 3 The Government of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Secretary
Social Welfare & Nutritious Meal Programme Department
Secretariat, Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009.
- 4 The Government of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Secretary
Health and Family Department
Secretariat, Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009.

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5 The Government of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Secretary
Revenue and Disaster Management Department
Secretariat, 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

(i) to issue a Corrigendum to the G.O.(Ms) 37 dated 7.5.2021 of the Department of Cooperation, Food and Consumer Protection to extend Covid-19 cash relief Rs.4000/- to transgender persons in Tamil Nadu who do not possess Ration Cards;

(ii) direct that the first installment of Rs.2000/- of cash relief to be paid in the month of May 2021 under the G.O.(Ms) 37 dated 07.05.2021 is also paid to transgender persons who do not have ration cards, either on the basis of their transgender identity cards or any other government ID;

(iii) to conduct awareness programmes for Transgender Persons in the State of Tamil Nadu regarding Covid-19 Vaccination, especially to clarify and assure them on the safety of vaccines for those who are undergoing hormone therapy and other treatment; and

(iv) to conduct special vaccination drives for transgender persons in Tamil Nadu by assisting them to register online and get special vaccination slots in local community health centres.

For Petitioner : Ms.Jayna Kothari, S.C.
For Mr.C.Prabhu

For Respondents : Mr.R.Shanmughasundaram
Advocate-General
assisted by
Ms.Shabnam Banu
Counsel for the State

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ORDER

(Made by the Hon'ble Chief Justice)

In response to the government notification dated June 3, 2021, it is submitted on behalf of the petitioner that not all transgenders have any form of identification or acknowledgment by any government organisation of their status. It is the further submission that the Transgender Board in the State has not been functioning for about a year and several applications for being recognised as transgenders remain pending.

2. The suggestion on behalf of the petitioner is that for the purpose of obtaining the limited assistance extended by the government to transgenders who carry some identification papers, the persons who have applied to the Transgender Board may be considered as eligible to receive the assistance.

3. Learned Advocate-General assures the Court that the matter will be considered. The State should consider whether all applicants who have applied to the Transgender Board in the State by May 31, 2021 (and not beyond) may be considered as transgenders for the

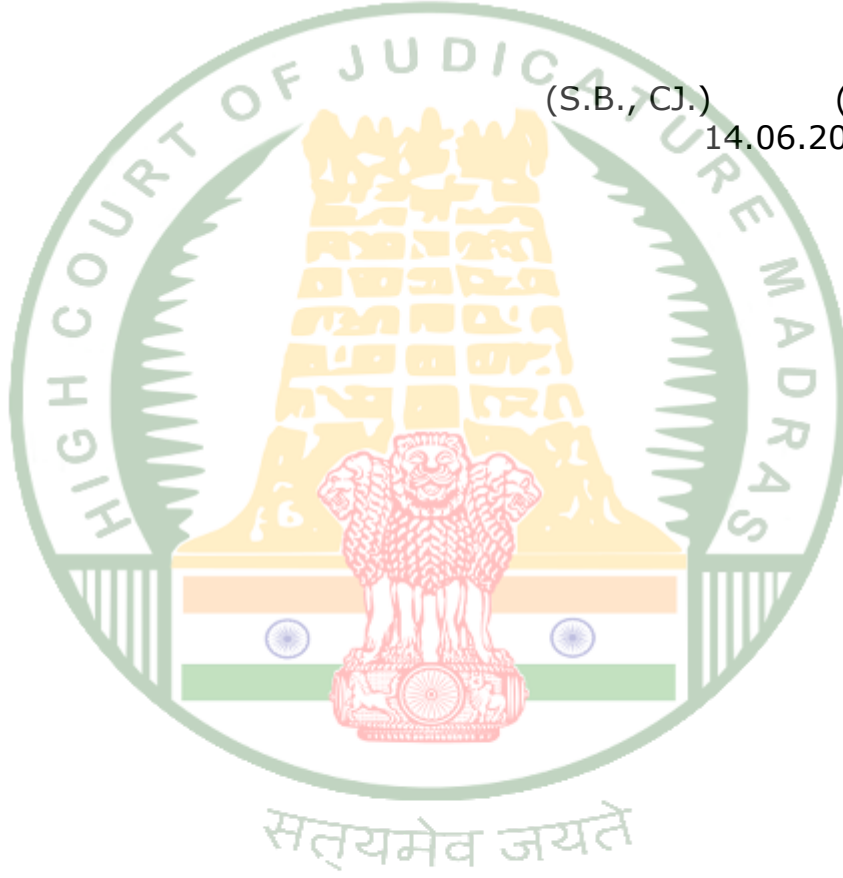
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purpose of obtaining the benefit announced by the State and extended already to some of the recognised transgenders.

List the matter on 18.06.2021.

sasi/bbr

(S.B., CJ.) (S.K.R., J.)
14.06.2021



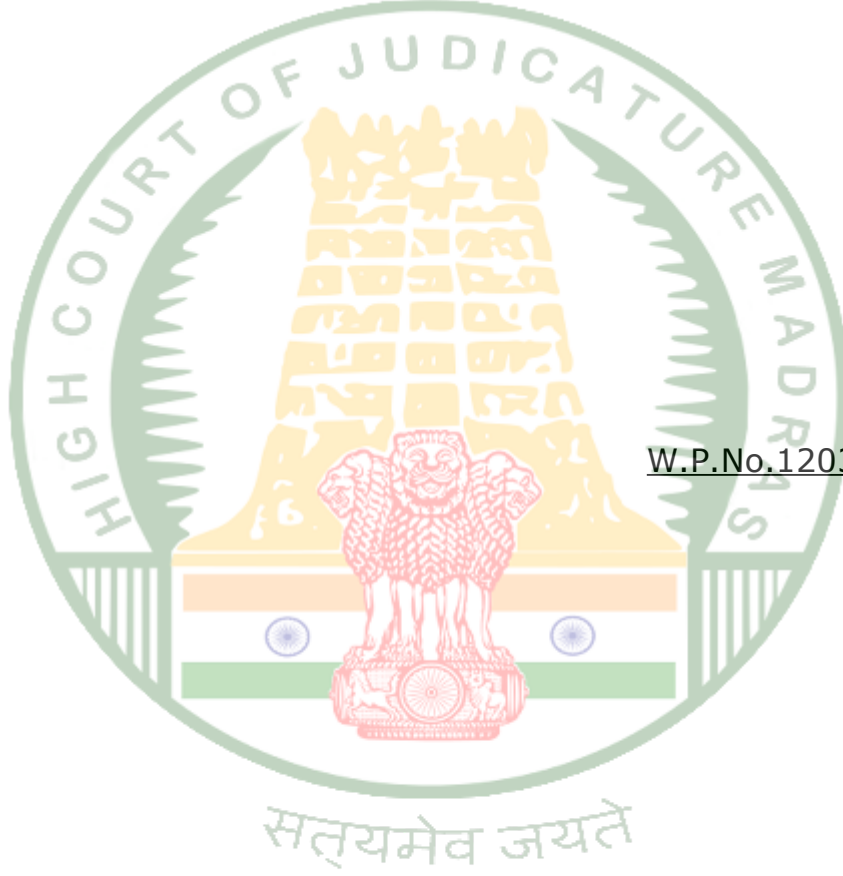
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W.P.No.12035 of 2021

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

(sasi)



W.P.No.12035 of 2021

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