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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 09.06.2021

CORAM :

THE HON'BLE MR.SANJIB BANERJEE, CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE SENTHILKUMAR RAMAMOORTHY

W.P.No.11990 of 2021

V.E.Shiva

... Petitioner

Vs

1 The Principal Secretary
Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries
Department Secretariat
Chennai 600 009

2 The Director
Directorate of Animal Husbandry and
Veterinary Services No. 571 Anna Salai
Veterinary Hospital Campus Nandanam
Chennai 600 035

... Respondents

Prayer: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the Respondents to take necessary steps to ensure that the stray Animals are provided with food and water in this COVID -19 Pandemic.

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For Petitioner : Mr.A.M.Natraj
For Respondents : Mr.R.Shunmugasundaram
Advocate General
Assisted by
Ms.Shabnam Banu, Govt. Advocate
: Ms.Poonkuzhali
for Mr.A.Yogeswaran

ORDER

(Made by the Hon'ble Chief Justice)

The Committee appointed by this Court to look into the matter of feeding stray and abandoned animals during the period of lockdown is not represented today.

2. However, a letter dated June 8, 2021 has been addressed by the Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services to the Registry of this Court indicating the various steps taken pursuant to the order dated June 3, 2021.

3. It is recorded in such letter that 2500 kg of dog feed and 200 kg of cat feed had been procured and a total of 500 feeders had been provided with such material to ensure the feeding of stray and abandoned animals. The second tranche of procurement is proposed to be made immediately and distributed once the earlier material has

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exhausted. The report speaks of 3,536 kg of wheat bran being distributed to feed 104 horses.

4. A sum of Rs.19.79 lakh is said to be available in CSR account opened for the purpose of feeding stray and community animals. It was decided by the Committee constituted by this Court that a total sum of Rs.7.916 lakh would be used for the Greater Chennai area. A sum of Rs.11.87 lakh was required to be distributed to 14 other corporation areas.

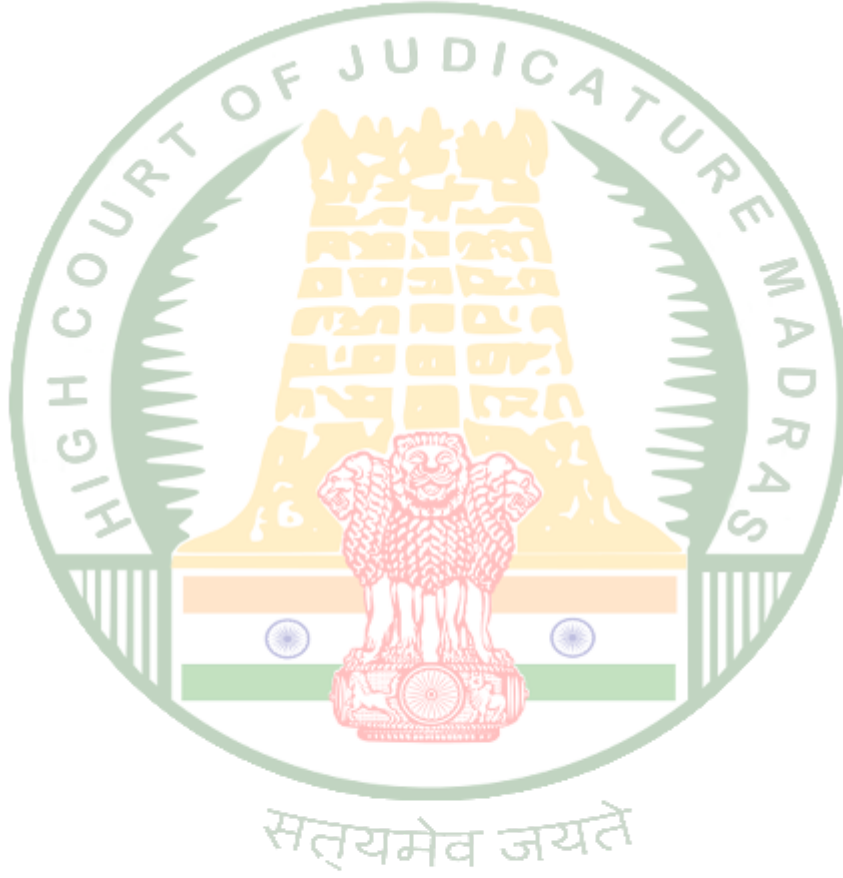
5. Though the petition was purely for the purpose of providing relief to stray animals during the period of lockdown, when scavenging opportunities in and around the urban areas decreased, the Animal Husbandry department should now chalk out a holistic plan for the general treatment of stray animals in the State, providing for a scientific and humane approach even during normal times. A comprehensive plan dealing with vaccinating stray dogs and cats, if necessary, or collaring them or the like should also be thought of in the best interest of both the animals and the human population that they come to contact with.

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The matter will appear on 14.06.2021.

(S.B., CJ.) (S.K.R., J.)
09.06.2021

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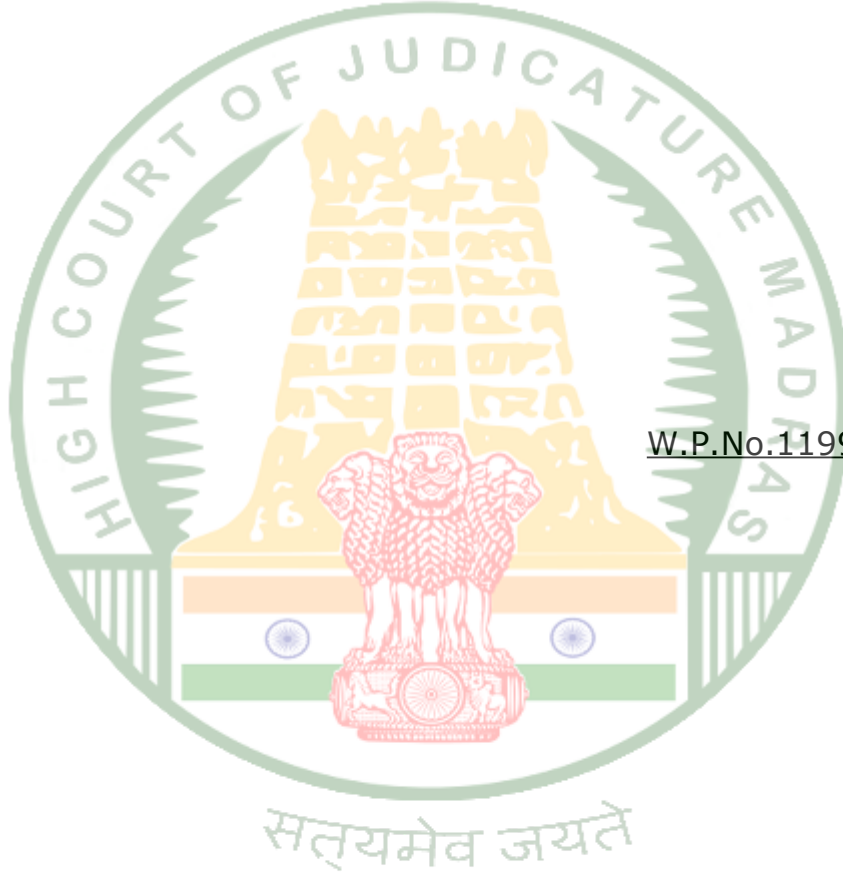
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THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
SENTHILKUMAR RAMAMOORTHY, J.

(sra)



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