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W.P. (C) No. 9095 of 2020

6. 09.04.2020

Pursuant to the direction of this Court, learned Additional Government Advocate furnished the letter issued by the Special Secretary to Government, Health & Family Welfare Department dated 08.04.2020.

At point No.2 they have disclosed the position in respect of supply of masks, dress and other equipments. At point No.3 they have disclosed the list of COVID Hospitals already operational and at Sl. No. 4 it has been disclosed the numbers of doctors, nurses and other paramedical staffs under Health & Family Welfare Department. Under Sl. No. 6 the details of some critical items supplied on weekly basis in the month of March 2020. However the place and requirement details have not been supplied.

Let learned Additional Government Advocate obtain such details by the next date. As per the direction of the Apex Court the State Government shall also ensure the facilities of free COVID-19 test as directed by the Apex Court by bringing a notification to that effect.

It is brought to the notice of this Court that during lockdown period, numbers of vehicle are being seized by the Police authorities on the premises of violation of conditions by some authorities.

Keeping in view the precarious condition prevailing in the State having no particular mechanism in the matter of availability of vegetables, medicines and other such usable items within walkable distance for all, collection of same involves different category of people including Senior Citizens, women and persons unable to ride cycle may be forcing many people to move to particular areas for such collection. Until any particular guideline Arun.

and proper arrangement are brought in the matter of above, there should not be complete ban of movement of two wheelers and relaxation may be made subject to satisfactory explanation by such riders. This may not be construed to be a complete lifting of Ban. As it is for the complete lockdown situation, people of the State are also in serious misery and complete ban of movement of two wheelers in absence of system making availability of essential commodities at the walkable distance will add further to the miseries of the people. We hope and trust that the Government in appropriate Department and the D.G. of Police will look into this from the humanitarian approach and angle.

We expect and hope that Government in its appropriate Department shall bring out composite planning on availability of such essential items locally thereby requiring no use of two wheelers at the earliest. In the meantime, it is directed that vehicles already seized shall be released by obtaining undertaking from the persons concerned, from which such vehicles are being seized, that he/she shall not utilize the same any further. Further such vehicle shall be released at least thrice without imposing fine and only on above undertaking Such practice may continue at least till Government comes up with proper guideline and mechanism for making available of useful commodities indicated hereinabove within walkable distance.

S. Panda,
Acting Chief Justice.
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Biswanath Rath. J.

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