

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT PATNA
Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No.5641 of 2020

Shivani Kaushik

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

Union of India

... .. Respondent/s

with

Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7135 of 2020

Dinesh Kumar Singh

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar

... .. Respondent/s

with

Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7207 of 2020

Aditi Hansaria

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar

... .. Respondent/s

with

Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7208 of 2020

Ashish Sinha

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar

... .. Respondent/s

with

Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7209 of 2020

Kishore Kunal

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar



... .. Respondent/s

with

Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7212 of 2020

Abhinay Priyadarshi

... .. Petitioner/s

Versus

The State of Bihar

... .. Respondent/s

Appearance :

(In Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 5641 of 2020)

For the Petitioner/s : Ms. Shivani Kaushik (In Person)

For the Respondent/s : Mr. Lalit Kishore, AG
Mr. Dr. K.N. Singh, ASG
Mr. Naresh Dixit, CGC
Mr. Anjani Kumar (AAG-4)
Mr. Alok Kr. Rahi, AC to AAG-4
Mr. Amit Kr. Jha, AC to AAG-4
Mr. Sanjay Kr. Jha,
Mr. Rakesh Roshan Singh,
Mr. Prashant Sinha, Advocates

(In Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7135 of 2020)

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Dinu Kumar, Advocate.

Ms. Ritika Rani,
Ms. Ritu Raj,
Mrs. Sangita Kumari, Advocates

For the Respondent/s : Dr. K.N. Singh, ASG
Mr. Ratnesh Kumar, CGC
Mr. Lalit Kishore, Advocate General
Mr. Vikash Kumar, SC 11
Mr. Binay Kumar Pandey, Advocate

(In Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7207 of 2020)

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Nikhil Kumar Agrawal,
Mr. Vikash Kumar Pankaj, Advocates

For the Respondent/s : Mr. Lalit Kishore, Advocate General
Mr. Vikash Kumar, SC 11

(In Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7208 of 2020)

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Saket Tiwary,
Mr. Abhixit Singh,

Ms. Bhawna Jhorar, Advocates
For the Respondent/s : Mr. Lalit Kishore, Advocate General
Mr. Vikash Kumar, SC 11
Mr. Rajesh Kumar Verma, ASG

(In Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7209 of 2020)

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Kishore Kunal (In Person)

For the Respondent/s : Mr. Lalit Kishore, Advocate General
Mr. Vikash Kumar, SC 11

(In Civil Writ Jurisdiction Case No. 7212 of 2020)

For the Petitioner/s : Mr. Ritesh Kumar, Advocate
Mr. Kundan Kumar Ojha, Advocate
Mr. Abhinay Priyadarshi, Advocate



Mr. Rajiv Ranjan, Advocate
Ms. Kriti Kumari, Advocate
Mr. Subham Bajaj, Advocates
For the Respondent/s : Mr. Lalit Kishore, Advocate General
Mr. Vikash Kumar, SC 11

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**CORAM: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
and
HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE S. KUMAR
ORAL ORDER**

(Per: HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE)

21 26-11-2020 Learned counsel brings it to our notice that Hon'ble the Supreme Court is now seized with the matter and on pan India basis, comprehensively dealing with the issues, perhaps subject matter of the present *lis*, arising out of the current Pandemic [Covid-19].

2. In April 2020, a young Law student approached this Court seeking specific direction, protecting the interest of persons handling Corona (COVID-19) as also ensuring the creation of infrastructure dealing with the crisis. Subsequently, other persons filed petitions which were tagged to be heard together.

3. At this stage, learned Advocate General states that he shall ascertain the issues involved in the matters pending before Hon'ble the Supreme Court and apprise the Court, also assist as to whether these petitions should be pursued any further or not.

4. Otherwise learned Advocate General informs that



in Bihar, the rate for conducting the tests for the Pandemic Covid-19 has increased substantially. Now on an average, 1.2 lac persons are being tested daily.

5. On the other hand, while seriously not disputing such position, Shri Dinu Kumar, learned counsel appearing for one of the writ-petitioners, informs that the Medical Institutions, specified to deal with Covid-19, are lacking in infrastructure. Illustratively, he mentions that C.T. Scan Machines are either not installed or not fully functional/operational, be it for whatever reason.

6. Well, at this stage, we refrain from dealing with such issues any further, save and except observing that the biggest challenge before the Government is to change the mindset of the people of Bihar and break the myth amongst the local populace that- "*Bihar Corona ko Khaa Gaya Hai.*"

7. Bihar is a highly populated State. Nearly 1/10th (approximately) of India lives here, with the highest population density. As such, various directions issued, policies framed and programmes propagated by the Central Government and the State Government under the provisions of Disaster Management Act, 2005 and Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, needs to be highlighted, popularized and people sensitized, both in the urban



and rural areas.

8. At this stage, learned Advocate General points out that prompted, more so on account of prevailing climatic conditions, the State Government has rather vigorously started a campaign for sensitization the local populace.

9. We only add that, this the Government must undertake by all modes of communications, including electronic and print media. On a personal level Persons engaged in pursuing social beneficially schemes, can be asked to sensitize the general public in adhering the advisories issued, at least of wearing masks; maintaining social distancing; avoiding congregation at public places; and taking all precautions in dealing with the problems arising out of current Pandemic Covid-19.

10. As prayed for learned Advocate General, we adjourn the matter to be listed on 8th of December, 2020.

(Sanjay Karol, CJ)

(S. Kumar, J)

K.C.Jha/-

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