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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(CRL) 1361/2021

RAJESH KUMAR

..... Petitioner

Through Mr. S.D. Windlesh and Mr. Abhay
Kumar, Advocates.

versus

STATE (GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI) & ORS. Respondents

Through Ms. Richa Kapoor, ASC for the State
with Ms. Shivani Sharma and Ms.
Surabhi Katyal, Advocates with SI
Mumtaz, Police Station DIV and ACP
Lakshmi Dubey, Police Station
Khyala.

Mr. R.H.A. Sikander, Advocate for
Respondent No.3 along with Mr.
Anurag Kundu, Chairperson,
DCPCR.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUBRAMONIUM PRASAD

ORDER

% **09.12.2021**

1. Pursuant to the order dated 22.11.2021 of this Court, Ms. Kiran Gandhi, Joint Director, Child Protection Unit, Department of Women and Child Development has appeared today. She seeks some time to file a status report.

2. It is stated by Mr. R.H.A. Sikander, learned counsel for the respondent No.3, that he has sent a letter dated 01.12.2021 to the Department of Women and Child Development seeking details regarding

run away of the children from the children home and the incident of kidnapping incidents of the minor children from Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Bhakhtawarpur, Delhi – 110040 and other Child Care Centres in Delhi from 01.01.2020 to 31.10.2021. He, however, states that the reply is yet to be received. Let the said letter be placed on record.

3. As observed in the order dated 22.11.2021, the affairs in the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Bhakhtawarpur, Delhi and other Child Care Centres are appalling and it transpires that children/inmates in the centres run away or are being kidnapped at regular intervals and no concrete action is being taken by the State.

4. The Ministry of Women and Child Development, which is the concerned Department, is directed to file an affidavit regarding the steps taken by the State to ensure that the children/inmates in these homes are not kidnapped and they do not escape from Child Care Centres.

5. Mr. S.D. Windlesh, learned counsel for the petitioner, states that the Child Welfare Committee has been impleaded as respondent No.4. Let reply be filed by respondent No.4 before the next date of hearing.

6. This Court is inclined to appoint Ms. Rebecca Mammen John, learned Senior Advocate as *Amicus Curiae* to assist this Court.

7. Let a copy of the entire petition along with all the annexures be provided to Ms. Rebecca John, learned Senior Advocate by the Registry.

8. List on 11.01.2022.

SUBRAMONIUM PRASAD, J

DECEMBER 09, 2021

S. Zakir