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

+ W.P.(C) 6444/2021

RATIRAM AHIRWAR & ORS. Petitioners

Through Mr. Chirayu Jain, Adv.

versus

DELHI BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION WORKERS
WELFARE BOARD & ANR. Respondents

Through Ms Urvi Mohan, Adv. for DBOCWW
Board/R-1

Ms. Hetu Arora Sethi ASC-GNCTD for R-2

CORAM:

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE REKHA PALLI

ORDER

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13.07.2021

CM APPL.20221-22/2021 (Exemptions)

1. Exemptions allowed, subject to all just exceptions and with the condition that the petitioner shall file the duly attested affidavit within two weeks of resumption of regular functioning of the Court.
2. The applications stand disposed of.

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3. The present petition has been preferred by four daily wage construction workers seeking the following reliefs:

“a. Issue mandamus directing the Respondent Board to

release COVID 19 ex-gratia (2021) relief to the Petitioners,

b. Issue mandamus directing the Respondent Board to release CoVid 19 ex-gratia (2020) relief to the Petitioner No. 2, Petitioner No. 3 and Petitioner No. 4,

c. Issue mandamus directing the Respondent Board to publish full list of beneficiaries who have been given CoVid 19 ex-gratia relief (2020 and 2021) and also to publish the list of registered workers who have not/to whom the Respondent Board could not pay, the ex-gratia relief, along with reasons thereof;

d. Issue mandamus directing the Respondent Board to pay costs to the Petitioners

e. Pass any other order or grant any other relief as it may deem fit

4. Mr. Chirayu Jain, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that even though the petitioners are duly registered with respondent no.1 i.e. Daily Wage Building Construction Workers Welfare Board, they have not yet received the COVID-19 *ex-gratia* amount in accordance with the decision taken by the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi in exercise of his power under Section 22 of the Building and Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service), Act, 1996.

5. Issue notice. Ms. Urvi Mohan and Hetu Arora Sethi accept notice on behalf of respondent no. 1 and 2, respectively. Ms. Mohan, learned counsel for respondent no.1 submits that the said respondent is conscious of its obligation and sincere efforts are being made to release the due payments to the eligible

workers.

6. Keeping in view the fact that there may be other similarly situated workers who have not yet received the due *ex gratia* relief, I am of the view that the respondent no.1 ought to expeditiously publish the list of registered workers along with the details of payments released to them and if not, the reasons thereof. An affidavit in this regard, setting out the steps taken by the respondent no.1 till date, for publication list of the beneficiaries alongwith details of the amount released in favour of the petitioners be filed within a period of three weeks. Response thereto, if any, be filed within a week thereafter.

7. List on 17.08.2021.

REKHA PALLI, J

JULY 13, 2021

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