



W.P.Nos.32091 and 31647 of 2019

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THE HON'BLE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE
and
P.D.AUDIKEVALU,J.

(Order of the Court was made by the Hon'ble Acting Chief Justice)

Let these petitions be listed after five weeks enabling learned counsel appearing in these matters to find out whether there is any State legislation regarding formation of the Press Council at the State level and, that too, in particular for Tamil Nadu. The aforesaid is required in view of the orders issued by this Court directing the State to form 'Press Council of Tamil Nadu' and other orders regarding its constitution.

2. Learned counsel for the parties have referred to the Press Council Act, 1978 which empowers the Government of India to constitute the Press Council of India. There is no provision under the Act of 1978 providing for constitution of State Press Council.

3. This aforesaid aspect is required to be dealt with on the threshold and if it is found that the directions have been given without



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the existence of statutory provisions for constitution of State Press Council, this Court may *suo motu* review the order. A direction is also given to the sixth respondent in W.P.No.32091 of 2019, i.e., Press Council of India, to provide assistance to the Court on the issue referred to above. It would also be open to the members of the Bar to assist the Court on the subject.

List on 09.02.2022.

(M.N.B., ACJ) (P.D.A., J.)
22.12.2021

vjt



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