

W.P.Nos.5957 of 2021, 923 of 2007 and 38224 of 2005

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

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

It is submitted on behalf of the State that even though the legal requirement may not have been complied with, certain other factors need also to be taken into consideration, particularly in the wake of the pandemic and the economic loss suffered by all States, including this State. It is further submitted that though it is imperative that all buses become disabled friendly, but the disabled friendly buses cost much more than ordinary buses and require much better road conditions, particularly within the city limits, than may now be available.

2. Appropriate measures should have been taken much earlier so that things would not come to such a pass. Though it can be appreciated that the pandemic has caused a severe loss and city roads may still not be viable to receive low platform heavy duty vehicles, there has to be much more acquisition of disabled friendly buses and investment in appropriate roads since the law has been in place for a

considerable period of time. At the same time, some latitude may be offered so that the larger public interest is served and the blanket embargo on acquisition of buses does not completely disable the public transport system.

3. The State seeks time to indicate the road-map that has been referred to in one of the previous orders. The State also seeks time to furnish appropriate figures so that some time may be afforded to the State to go in for a mix of disabled friendly and ordinary buses for a limited period before all buses acquired from a particular date will be as required by law to be disabled friendly.

List these matters on 30.09.2021.

(S.B., CJ.) (P.D.A.,J.)
26.08.2021

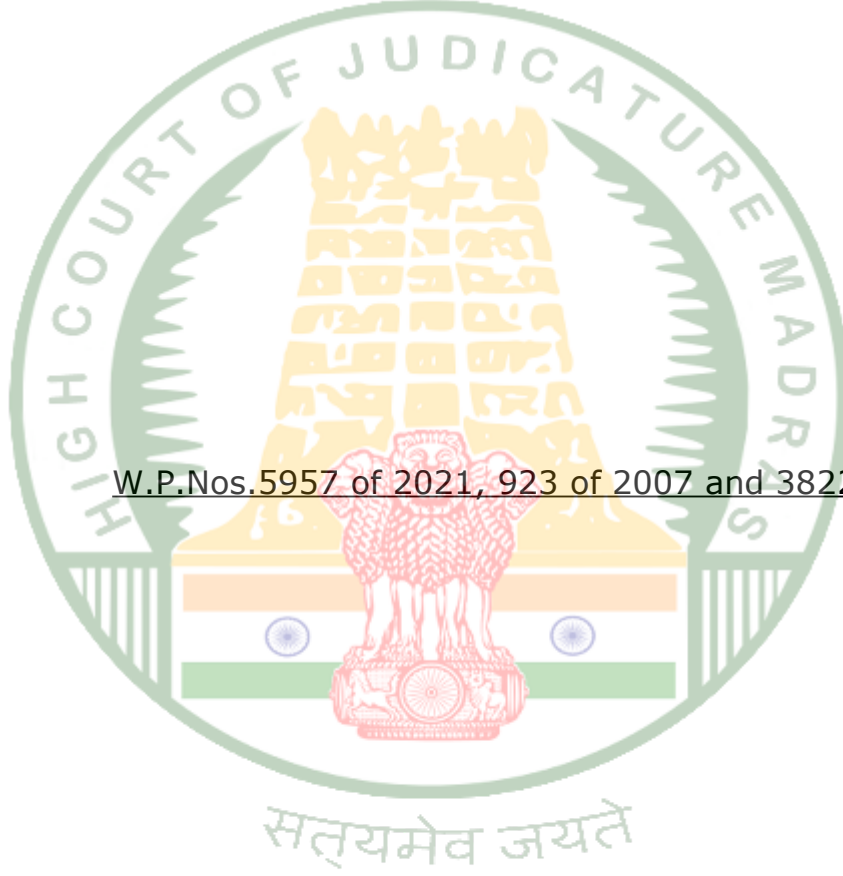
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