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(Common Orders)

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

+ W.P.(C) 3146/2012

JOSE ABRAHAM

..... Petitioner

Through: Mr. Colin Gonsalves, Sr.
Adv. with Ms. Ritu Kumar
and Mr. Deepak Kumar
Singh, Advs.

versus

GOVT OF NCT AND ORS

..... Respondents

Through: Mr. Gautam Narayan, ASC
with Mr. R.A. Iyer, Adv. for
GNCTD.

+ W.P.(C) 4425/2012

MULTI ACTION RESERCH GROUP

..... Petitioner

Through: Mr. Colin Gonsalves, Sr.
Adv. with Ms. Ritu Kumar
and Mr. Deepak Kumar
Singh, Advs.

versus

GOVT. OF NCT DELHI AND ORS

... Respondents

Through: Mr. Gautam Narayan, ASC
with Mr. R.A. Iyer, Adv. for
GNCTD.

+ W.P.(C) 1449/2014 & CM No.3022/2014

AMIT SAHNI

..... Petitioner

Through: Mr. L.S. Chaudhary with
Mr. Ajay Chaudhary, Ms.
Rakhi Tomar, Mr. Viresh
Chaudhary and Mr. Anurag
Singh Tomar, Advs.

versus

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL
(PRISONS) AND ORS

... Respondents

Through: Mr. Gautam Narayan, ASC
with Mr. R.A. Iyer, Adv. for
GNCTD.

+ W.P.(C) 4588/2014

MULTIPLE ACTION RESEARCH
GROUP (MARG)

..... Petitioner

Through: Mr. Colin Gonsalves, Sr.
Adv. with Ms. Ritu Kumar
and Mr. Deepak Kumar
Singh, Advs.

versus

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF
DELHI AND ANR

..... Respondents

Through: Mr. Gautam Narayan, ASC
with Mr. R.A. Iyer, Adv. for
GNCTD.

+ W.P.(CRL) 1138/2014

COURT ON ITS OWN MOTION

..... Petitioner

Through: Court on its own motion.

Versus

STATE

..... Respondent

Through: Mr. Gautam Narayan, ASC
with Mr. R.A. Iyer, Adv. for
GNCTD.

CORAM:

HON'BLE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE C.HARI SHANKAR

ORDER

% **16.11.2017**

1. Apart from these petitions, Mr. Rahul Mehra, learned Sr. Standing Counsel for the Govt. of NCT of Delhi has submitted the reference of the following 10 cases involving the issues relating to the working of the Tihar Jail:

- (i) W.P.(C) No.4733/2014 titled *Court on its own motion vs. Govt. of NCT of Delhi, MCD, NDMC & Ors;*
- (ii) W.P.(C) No.1480/2015 titled *Court on its own motion vs. Union of India through Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs;*
- (iii) Crl. Rev. P. No.463/2012 titled *Rakesh Kumar vs. State of NCT of Delhi;*
- (iv) W.P.(C) No.4425/2012 titled *Multi Action Research Group vs. Govt. of NCT Delhi and Ors;*
- (v) W.P.(C) No.4866/2012 titled *Neha Singh vs. Director General Central Jail and Ors;*
- (vi) W.P. (C) No.1449/2014 titled *Amit Sahni vs. the Director General (Prisons) and Ors;*

- (vii) W.P.(C) No.3146/2012 titled *Jose Abraham vs. Govt. of NCT and Ors.*;
- (viii) W.P.(C) No.1138/2014 titled *Court on its own motion*;
- (ix) W.P.(Crl.) No.1352/2015 titled *Court on its own motion*;
- (x) Crl. Appl No.161/2011 titled *Madhu Bala vs. State*.

2. Mr. Colin Gonsalves, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioners in W.P.(C) Nos.3146/2012, 4425/2012 & 4588/2014 as well as Mr. Gautam Narayan, learned Addl. Standing Counsel for the Govt. of NCT of Delhi prays for a short time to examine these matters and consolidate the issues which require to be heard and addressed by this Court.

3. Our attention is drawn to an order dated 19th September, 2017 passed by the Supreme Court in *Re: Inhuman Conditions Prevailing in 1,382 Prisons*, wherein it was directed for constitution of a Board of Visitors which include non-official visitors of considerable importance so that eminent members of society can participate in initiating reforms in prisons and in the rehabilitation of prisoners in terms of Chapter XXIX of the Model Prison Manual, issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. It was also directed for bringing the Jail Manual of different States in line with the Model Prison Manual framed and issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India.

4. Mr. Gautam Narayan, learned ASC submits that the Govt. of NCT of Delhi has effectively worked on the amendments to the Jail Manual regarding the Board of Visitors and the draft proposal is pending with the Lt. Governor of Delhi.

5. Mr. Gautam Narayan submits that the proposed amendments by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi would effectively bring the Jail Manual in line with the draft Model Guidelines suggested by the Government of India. He prays for a short adjournment to place the position regarding the amendments of the Jail Manual.

6. Let a copy of the draft proposal be also made available to Mr. Colin Gonsalves, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioners, who may examine the same.

7. It shall be open for the learned counsel for the parties to request the Registry to provide digital copies of the above-mentioned matters mentioned in para 1, if the same are available.

List on 18th December, 2017.

ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE

C.HARI SHANKAR, J

NOVEMBER 16, 2017

pmc