

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK**

**W.P.(C) No.18607 of 2021**

***Sanjiv Joshi***

....

***Petitioner***

Mr. Sukumar Patjoshi, Senior Advocate

*-versus-*

***State of Odisha and others***

....

***Opposite Parties***

Mr. M.S. Sahoo, A.G.A. for the State

**CORAM:**

**THE CHIEF JUSTICE**

**JUSTICE B.P. ROUTRAY**

**ORDER**

**15.09.2021**

**Order No.**

08.

1. Pursuant to the order passed by this Court on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021, an affidavit has been filed the Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha seeking to address the issues highlighted in the said order on availability of RT-PCR and Rapid Antigen Test kits in the rural areas.

2. Mr. Patjoshi, learned Senior Advocate appearing for the Petitioner expresses reservations on the contents of the said affidavit and states that he would like to file a response thereto. He is permitted to do so before the next date.

3. In paragraph-4 of the order dated 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021, this Court had indicated that after the affidavit is filed by the State,

the Court would request the respective District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in both Kalahandi and Nabarangpur Districts to utilize the services of para-legal workers to report on the ground situation.

4. Enclosed as Annexure-I/2 to the affidavit is the information regarding the medical facilities available in Kalahandi and Annexure-J/2 is as regards the medical facilities available in Nabarangpur. A soft copy of this affidavit be immediately transmitted by e-mail to the Secretary of the DLSAs at Kalahandi and Nabarangpur. Each of them shall, within the next two days, will constitute a team of five persons – three para-legal workers and two young Advocates empanelled with the DLSAs to visit each of the medical facilities listed out in the respective Districts at Annexures I/2 and J/2. The said teams will submit a comprehensive report to the Secretary of the concerned DLSA on the aspect at (i) to (v) of paragraph-1 of this Court's order dated 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021, and in particular what the ground situation is in each of the Districts. They may also enclose with their reports photographs and/or video clips. The Secretary of the concerned DLSAs may fix honorarium to be paid to each of the Advocates and para-legal workers undertaking the above task. The reports be submitted by the respective teams to the Secretary of the concerned DLSAs not later than 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2021. These reports will be immediately sent by the respective Secretaries,

DLSAs to this Court. The Registry will thereafter provide forthwith copies of the said reports to the learned Additional Government Advocate as well as to Mr. Patjoshi, learned Senior Advocate appearing for the Petitioner.

5. List on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2021.

6. An urgent certified copy of this order be issued as per rules.

*S.K. Guin*

