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**HIGH COURT OF TRIPURA  
AGARTALA**

**WP(C)(PIL) No.09/2020**

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For Court on own motion : Mr. Somik Deb, Amicus curiae.  
For Respondent(s) : Mr. S.S. Dey, Advocate General,  
Mr. Debalay Bhattacharjee, G.A.,  
Ms. Ayantika Chakraborty, Advocate.

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**Along with**

**WP(C)(PIL) No.07/2021**

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For Petitioner(s) : Ms. R. Guha, Advocate,  
Mr. D.J. Saha, Advocate,  
Ms. N. Sharma, Advocate.  
For Respondent(s) : Mr. S.S. Dey, Advocate General,  
Mr. Bidyut Majumder, Asstt. S.G.,  
Mr. P.K. Dhar, Sr. G.A.,  
Ms. Ayantika Chakraborty, Advocate.

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**WP(C)(PIL) No.08/2021**

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For Petitioner(s) : Mr. P. Roy Barman, Sr. Advocate,  
Mr. Kawsik Nath, Advocate.  
For Respondent(s) : Mr. S.S. Dey, Advocate General,  
Mr. Debalay Bhattacharjee, G.A.,  
Ms. Ayantika Chakraborty, Advocate.

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**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. AKIL KURESHI  
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S. TALAPATRA**

**Order**

**31/05/2021**  
**(Akil Kureshi, C.J.)**

In suo-motu public interest petition the High Court is examining the issues regarding the handling of coronavirus in the State.

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WP(C)(PIL) No.08 of 2021 has been filed by an advocate of the High Court in which he has also raised concerns regarding this very issue. We have heard learned senior counsel Mr. P. Roy Barman for the petitioner. Let this petition be tagged along with WP(C)(PIL) No.09 of 2020.

Having heard advocates appearing for the parties and the learned Advocate General for the State, following issues emerge:

(i) The State should consider whether it is feasible to publish vaccination bulletin on daily basis which would include besides other details as may be found relevant, the following:

(a) The total number of persons vaccinated in the State with a breakup of those who are below the age of 45 years and those above the age of 45 years;

(b) Total number of persons vaccinated on that particular day;

(c) Total vaccine doses available with the State administration at the end of the day; and

(d) If additional vaccine doses are likely to be received in near future, information about the same may also be provided.

(ii) One of the prime modes if not the sole means of receiving vaccine is through online registration. In the State of Tripura, there

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may be sizable population who may not have easy access to online registration. The State may consider providing fullest assistance to such populace so that there is no class divide for access to vaccination.

(iii) If the State Government has any road map for securing vaccination to majority of the eligible population of the State, the same may also be made public and be stated before the Court on affidavit.

(iv) Some of the advocates had shared their concerns about the major Covid centers in the city of Agartala and the situation prevailing in Covid wards. According to them (a) relatives of admitted Covid patients being allowed freely to enter Covid wards without even taking basic precautions of wearing PPE kits etc.; (b) there is heavy congestion of Covid beds in certain halls; and (c) the State Control Room which was previously providing information of the status of the Covid patients to the relatives from a centralized place, has become dysfunctional. The learned Advocate General assured that he will take instructions on these aspects and the administration shall take measures as found necessary.

While we post these petitions for further hearing on **4<sup>th</sup> June, 2021**, we would like to highlight one aspect which has come to our notice. The State Government is publishing daily Covid bulletin which *inter alia* provides details of the number of persons tested with the breakup of those tested through RT-PCR and Rapid Antigen Test, the number of persons who

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are found Covid positive and the positivity rate of the day. Analysis of this data would show that the total number of Covid positive cases on a given date fluctuates substantially in proportion to the number of persons tested on that day. In other words, the positivity rate has remained largely constant hovering around 7%. This aspect we have highlighted in order to demonstrate that even if on a given day or for a few days at a stretch there is a visible dip in the number of Covid positive patients, it does not imply that the spread of the virus in the State is on the decline. We are sure the State administration is acutely conscious about this, nevertheless through the State agencies we would also impress upon the people of the State to take note of this phenomena.

**(S. TALAPATRA), J**

**(AKIL KURESHI), CJ**



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