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

+ **CONT.CAS(C) 824/2024**

DR ROHIT JAIN

.....Petitioner

Through: Ms. Mrinmoi Chatterjee, Adv.
(through VC).

versus

SH APURVA CHANDRA

.....Respondent

Through: Ms. Monika Arora, CGSC, Mr.
Subhrodeep Saha, Mr. Prabhat
Kumar, Ms. Anamika Thakur, Adv.
Mr. Amit Gupta, SPC, Mrs. Perna
Dhall, Adv. for UOI.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANISH DAYAL

ORDER

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28.05.2025

[Hearing has been conducted through Video Conferencing]

1. It is informed by Ms. Monika Arora, CGSC that they will file a Status Report; however, it is an admitted fact that pursuant to the order dated 27th January 2023 passed in ***W.P.(C) 1843/2019*** and the representation made by the petitioner dated 3rd February 2023, a meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Additional Director General of Health Services, on 30th May 2023, where the petitioner was also invited to be present, based on the orders passed by the Court.
2. A decision was taken to constitute *four sub-committees* of experts of *pathology, biochemistry, haematology and microbiology*. The members of



the committee were from *Central Government Hospitals*, to define *Standards of Procedure* ('SoPs') for *sample collection*, *sample collection centres* and the *sample transport policy* and submit the report. The guidelines were to include storage standards as well. There were other actions which have been decided to be taken, in the said meeting.

3. However, there is no update provided by the respondent as to what has been the result of the meeting held on 30th May 2023 and the decision taken.

4. Even though on first blush, the Contempt Petition may not subsist, considering the decision that was taken to form the *sub-committees*.

5. However, considering that the next *Covid Pandemic* is far from over and in fact, active, amongst the community, today, as per news reports, the vacuum, if any, of steps taken post the meeting of 30th May 2023, is a serious issue.

6. Though the Court is sanguine that steps would have been taken and protocols would have been in place, it is imperative for the respondent to place the same on record.

7. This assumes certain urgency, considering that there are wide reports of *COVID-19*, being active in the community, as on date; it would, therefore, be expected from the respondent to crystallize an urgent set of measures, in order that these SoPs are in place and whatever decision was taken in the meeting, has reached its proper conclusion.

8. Ms. Monika Arora, CGSC shall personally ensure that Officers of the respondent are apprised of the directions of this Court and place Status Report within the next six weeks.

9. List on 18th July 2025.



10. Order be uploaded on the website of this Court.

ANISH DAYAL, J

MAY 28, 2025/ak/kp