

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) Diary No(s). 11045/2020

SANISHA THOMAS & ORS.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

Date : 08-05-2020 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHOK BHUSHAN
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KISHAN KAUL
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B.R. GAVAIFor Petitioner(s) Ms. Indira Jaising, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Jose Abraham, AOR

For Respondent(s) Mr. Tushar Mehta, SG

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

We have heard Ms. Indira Jaising, learned senior counsel for the petitioners and Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General for the respondents.

By this writ petition, the following reliefs have been prayed for:

i) To make appropriate arrangement to rescue and bring the petitioners back to India who are pregnant and stranded in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in vulnerable conditions.

ii) To issue directions to the Embassy of India, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to take appropriate measure to ensure that the petitioners have access to proper medical facilities till they are repatriated to India as absence of same would prove fatal to both the petitioners and their fetuses.

iii) Pass any other suitable order(s) as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and necessary in light of the facts and circumstances of the case and in the interest of

justice.

The Government of India has already taken a decision on 05.05.2020 to bring back Indians stranded in overseas. The petitioners in the present case claim to be working as Doctors and Nurses in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Their case is that all the petitioners are pregnant and they need to be evacuated on priority basis.

Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General submits that in the SOP, priority is already given to the pregnant women as per clause 2(iii). He submits that appropriate steps shall be taken with regard to the petitioners as per the aforesaid clause.

Learned senior counsel for the petitioners submits that their pregnancy is at advance stage and they need a further priority in the priority given to the pregnant women.

The Government shall explore the question of further priority as per the specific cases of the petitioners and shall take appropriate steps accordingly.

In view of the aforesaid, we dispose of the writ petition.

(MEENAKSHI KOHLI)
AR-CUM-PS

(VIRENDER SINGH)
COURT MASTER