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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 03.08.2021

CORAM :

THE HON'BLE MR.SANJIB BANERJEE, CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE P.D.AUDIKESAVALU

W.P.No.4214 of 2021
and W.M.P.No.4813 of 2021



D.Hari Krishnan

.. Petitioner

Vs.

Indian Institute of Technology (Madras),
Rep by its Director, Sardar Vallabai Patel Road,
Guindy, Chennai- 600 036.

.. Respondents

Prayer: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus calling for the records of the Respondent in Proceedings No F.RL5/RT1/ AND Legal/02- 2020/91 Dated 3.12.2020 AND Quash the same and direct the Respondent to open the Krishna Gate Located in South Western Side of the IIT (Madras) Campus (Velacherry side) immediately and make it accessible for the students, staffs, employees, retired persons and other persons residing at locality close to Krishna Gate.

For Petitioner : G.Vijayanand Associates
Mr.S.Kumar

For Respondent : Mr.Karthik Rajan
for M/s.Menon, Karthik Mukundan
Neelakantan

* * * * *

ORDER

(Made by the Hon'ble Chief Justice)

The matter pertains to a gate at the IIT campus on the Velachery side and the petitioner desires that it be opened to provide access to the petitioner whenever the petitioner desires.

2. The challenge, in effect, is to an order dated December 3, 2020. The Director of the Indian Institute of Technology has given detailed reasons which justify the closing of such gate.

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3. The petitioner says that there are schools and other places which the nearby residents should have access to and the closure of the Krishna Gate has caused great inconvenience to the students and others.

4. At the end of the day, it is for the IIT to decide as to what is in the best interest of such institution, its students, teachers and others concerned. It is true that when there is a huge campus as the IIT, certain private roads within the campus are used as access roads and such roads are convenient to use for local residents. However, the interest of the institution cannot be compromised on the ground that it may otherwise be inconvenient to the local residents or the like.

5. In view of the good grounds given while considering the petitioner's representation, the decision to close the Krishna Gate does not call for any interference whether in public interest or otherwise.

W.P.No.4214 of 2021 is dismissed without any order as to costs. Consequently, W.M.P.No.4813 of 2021 is closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar(CS-VII)

//True Copy//

Sub Assistant Registrar

sra

To:

The Director,
Indian Institute of Technology (Madras),
Sardar Vallabai Patel Road,
Guindy, Chennai- 600 036.

+lcc to Mr.Menon Karthik, Advocate, S.R.No.38219

W.P.No.4214 of 2021

VSN II(CO)
CB(06/08/2021)

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भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मद्रास
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MADRAS

चेन्नै / Chennai 600 036

दूरभाष/Telephone: [044] 2257 8105 फैक्स/FAX: [044] 2257 0509



Shri A. Babu
Deputy Registrar (Administration)

F.No. Admn./2021/ 44.7
Date: 24.09.2021

To
Shri. P T Sundaram,
District Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Officer
Chennai 600 001

Ref: i) Your letter no. WJ5/3196/2021 dated 16.08.2021
ii) High Court Order dated 03.08.2021 in W.P. No. 4214 of 2021

Sir,

With reference to the above cited letter, I am directed to inform that while disposing cited writ petition filed by Shri D Hari Krishnan with regard to opening of Krishna Gate of IIT Madras, Division Bench comprising of Hon'ble Chief Justice & Justice P.D. Audikesavalu of the High Court of Judicature at Madras - has ordered that it is for the IIT to decide as to what is in the best interest of such institution, its students, teachers and others concerned and that the interest of the Institution cannot be compromised on the ground that it may otherwise be inconvenient to the local residents or the like; and in view of the good grounds given while considering the Petitioner's representation, the decision to close the Krishna Gate does not call for any interference whether in public interest or otherwise.

I would also like to inform that there are two gates viz., Taramani and Velachery Gates located on either side of the Krishna Gate. These gates are kept open for the visitors (i.e., school students, pensioners etc.). Further, the Velachery Gate is the nearest accessible entry to schools and to avail the services viz., banks, post office, hospital etc. There are free buses plying frequently from Velachery Gate as well as Taramani Gate to reach the above places. As such, it is reiterated that the closure of Krishna Gate is purely on administrative reasons and there is no involvement of caste as mentioned in your letter.

In view of the orders of Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature at Madras and the reasons given above, your letter requesting to re-open Krishna Gate is not feasible.

Yours sincerely,

gaur 24/9/2021
Deputy Registrar (Administration)
उप कुलसचिव (प्रशासन)
Deputy Registrar (Admn.)
भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मद्रास
Indian Institute of Technology Madras
चेन्नै/Chennai - 600 036.