

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

W.P.(C) 2187/1996 and WP(C) No.12896/2005

**1. W.P.(C) 2187/1996
LT.COL Y.K. WAHI(RETD) Petitioner
Through Mr.Rajiv Bansal, convener of the
committee.
Ms.Meera Bhatia, Advocate /
Committee Member**

versus

**BURNS DEPTT.OF SAFDARJANG HOSPITAL Respondent
Through Mr.Sanjeev Sabharwal, Advocate for
MCD.
Ms.Zubeda Begum, Advocate for GTB Hospital and Lok Nayak Hospital.
Mr.Rajeeve Mehra for UOI.
Ms.Avnish Ahlawat, Adv. for GTBH**

AND

**2. W.P.(C) 12896/2005
VARUN GOSWAMI Petitioner
Through Mr.Varun Goswami, in person with**

Mr.Rajiv Bansal, Advocate

versus

**GURU TEG BAHADUR HOSPITAL and ORS Respondents
Through Mr.Sanjeev Sabharwal, Advocate for
MCD.
Ms.Zubeda Begum, Advocate for GTB Hospital and Lok Nayak Hospital.
Mr.Rajeeve Mehra for UOI.
Ms.Avnish Ahlawat, Adv. for GRBH**

CORAM:

**HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE REVA KHETRAPAL**

**ORDER
06.02.2008**

These petitions were filed bringing to the notice of the Court the deplorable conditions of the Burns Ward of the Safdarjang Hospital. Several orders were passed for improvement of the conditions in the said Burns Ward of Safdarjang Hospital. Subsequently, we find that the scope of the writ petitions was extended to other hospitals as well, particularly with relation to the conditions in the Burns Wards in different hospitals in Delhi. Several orders have been passed from time to time. Pursuant to our orders passed on the last date, status reports have been filed in respect of the Lok Nayak Hospital, the GTB Hospital and also the Burns Wards of the Safdarjang Hospital and the RML Hospital. A status note regarding the Delhi State Health Mission has also been filed by the State Government.

We have perused the said compliance reports filed. So far Lok Nayak Hospital is concerned, it is stated in the compliance affidavit filed that the authority has created additional posts for various categories for strengthening the Burns and Plastic Surgery Department of Lok Nayak Hospital under the Plans Scheme. Particulars of the posts, which are created, are also given in the said compliance report. It is also stated that two posts each of Nursing Orders and Dressers were also recommended to be outsourced. Different steps taken for the improvement of the different departments / units connected with the Burns Ward have also been given in the report submitted.

Similarly, in respect of GTB Hospital also information has been given in the action taken report. In the said action taken report renovation work done in the Burns Wards has been set out. Status of the staff position and female dressing room has also been set out.

The status note regarding the Delhi State Health Mission deals with existing health infrastructure of the State and also sets out the action plan for optimizing Health Care Delivery (Primary) with the help of the Government of India.

We find that attention is being given to improve the conditions of different Burns Wards in Delhi. The Committee has also inspected the conditions of the hospitals and has informed us that there is definitely an improvement in the conditions of the hospitals. However, the Committee has some reservation with regard to Out Born Nursery in GTB Hospital. They shall bring the same to the notice of Ms. Zubeda Begum, Advocate by giving her a status report, which, when received, shall be handed over by her to the Principal Secretary (Health) of the State Government so that necessary attention and focus could be given to the aforesaid aspect as well. We desire that there should be improvement in that regard also, which shall be done preferably within a period of three months from today.

A number of policy decisions have been taken by the State Government with

regard to improving the health infrastructure of the State. Those are also set out in the status report submitted to us. A copy of the same is also given to the Committee. They may study the same and if they have any suggestions, the same can be given to the Principal Secretary (Health) of the State Government within a period of a month from today. The suggestions received from the Committee members would be studied and whatever short term suggestions could be implemented should be implemented and those suggestions which require long term solution shall also be attended to in due course.

Mr.Rajeeve Mehra and Ms.Zubeda Begum, counsel for the respondents, give an undertaking on behalf of their respective clients that conditions of the Burns Ward and all other departments / units of all the hospitals which are managed by the Central Government and also by the State Government would be improved and that they will over see the same and ensure that there is no scope for any complaint. We accept their undertakings and take the same on record. We also order that the State Government and the Central Government will monitor the conditions and functioning of the hospital and they will put a scanner over the functioning of the aforesaid hospitals.

We also feel that there should be a Grievance Redressal Committee in each of the hospitals. We accordingly direct that the Medical Superintendent of each of the hospitals shall constitute a Grievance Redressal Committee within a period of four weeks from today and any complaint with regard to the functioning and maintenance of the hospitals could be furnished to the said Grievance Redressal Committee, which shall look into the grievance expeditiously and suggest ways and means to remedy the same. The action taken by the Grievance Redressal Committee concerned shall be furnished to the complainant within eight weeks of the receipt of the complaint. The factum of the setting up of the Grievance Redressal Committee should be advertised by each hospital by putting up information in that regard on the notice board and through such other medium as may be possible for the hospital.

The overall responsibility to supervise the functioning and to improve overall conditions of the hospitals would remain with the Principal Secretary (Health) of the State Government and additionally with the Additional Secretary (Health) of the Government of India.

In terms of the aforesaid order, the writ petitions stand closed with liberty to the Committee Members to get it reopened only if warranted. Copy of the order be given dasti to the counsel appearing for the parties.

CHIEF JUSTICE

REVA KHETRAPAL, J

FEBRUARY 06, 2008

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