W.P.Nos.15120 of 2019
& W.M.P. No.15112 of 2019
and
W.P.No.11049 of 2023 &
W.M.P.Nos.10931& 10932/2023

N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.
and
D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.

[Order of the Court was made by D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.]

ORDER DATED: 06.07.2023:

Regarding Buy Back Scheme, today status report is filed. In and by which, it is undertaken on behalf of the State and TASMAC that buy back of empty liquor bottle scheme will be implemented throughout the State in a phased manner.

2. As a matter of fact, in Paragraph No.10 of the status report, they have also further stated that tender will be called for, for disposal of the collected empty bottles and training will be imparted for 24,000 Retail Vending Shops.

3. Even though the learned Additional Advocate General requested for 24 months time to implement the Scheme, given the prior experience already the respondents have in the Districts in which they have already implemented

the Scheme, we feel that fifteen(15) months in total will be reasonable and appropriate time.

4. In the meanwhile, every three months status report shall be filed showing the improvement in each shop in each District and indicating the quantum of collection of empty liquor bottles, sales etc.

5. The status report filed today also contained the details as to why there has been difference in the amount realized by way of sale of bottles as - different tenderers quotes different rates for empty bottles.

6. The same is recorded. However, the respondents are also directed to think of ways to improve and uniformise the returns from the sale of bottles. Recording the status report, call the matter for filing of the status report regarding implementation of the Scheme in new areas by 06.10.2023.

7. Apart from the above, the status report also indicates that there is a proposal for introducing alternative packaging for glass liquor bottles. Since it is represented that it is in a nascent stage, the proposal is not crystallized, at this

stage, we deem it appropriate only to place on record that before taking any decision, due regard to the nature of materials used and its impact on the environment, the quantum of usage in the State of Tamil Nadu, shall be considered while considering the proposal.

8. Paragraph No.6 of the status report also makes it clear that the respondents will utilise the surplus amount accumulated due to the collection of liquor bottles to meet out the additional expenditure to rent places for storing the empty liquor bottles wherever the Liquor Retail Vending shops have no storage place.

9. List the matter on 06.10.2023.

[N.S.K., J.] **[D.B.C., J.]**
06.07.2023

PM

N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.
and
D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.

pm

W.P(MD)Nos.15120 of 2019 and 11049 of 2023

06.07.2023