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ITEM NO.10

COURT NO.3

SECTION PIL

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) NO(s). 33 OF 2012

SWASTHYA ADHIKAR MANCH, INDORE & ANR.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(With appln(s) for directions and extension of time and office report)

WITH

W.P(C) NO. 79 of 2012

(With appln.(s) for directions, impleadment and I.A. No.

5 - appln. for permission to file report and office report)

Date: 21/10/2013 These Petitions were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE R.M. LODHA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHIVA KIRTI SINGH

For Petitioner(s)

Mr. Sanjay Parikh, Adv.
Mr. Bushra Parvesh, Adv.
Mr. A.N. Singh, Adv.
Ms. Manita Saxena, Adv.
Mr. Pukhrambam Ramesh Kumar, Adv.

WP 79/2012

Mr. Colin Gonsalves, Sr. Adv
Ms. Reshma, Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Mendiratta, Adv.

For Respondent(s)

Mr. Siddharth Luthra, A.S.G.
Dr. Ashok Dhamija, Adv.
Mr. Aditya Singhla, Adv.
Ms. Sushma Suri, Adv.
Ms. Supriya Juneja, Adv.
Mr. A.K. Kaul, Adv.
Mr. D.S. Mahra, Adv.

NCT of Delhi

Ms. Asha G. Nair, Adv.
Mr. D.S.Mahra, Adv.

NHRC

Ms. Shobha, Adv.
Ms. Jyoti Rana, Adv.?

ISCR

Mr. Krikshna Sarma, Adv.
Mr. Manisha Singh, Adv.
Mr. Navnit Kumar, Adv.
Ms. Aruna Gupta, Adv.

Uttrakhand

Mr. Ashutosh Kr. Sharma, Adv.
Ms. Rachana Srivastava, Adv.

Jharkhand

Mr. Anil Kr. Jha, Adv.

Arunachal Pradesh

Mr. Anil Shrivastav, Adv.

Mr. Ritu Raj Biswas, Adv.

Assam Mr. Avijit Roy, Adv.
Ms. Vartika Sahay, Adv. for
M/s. Corporate Law Group

Goa Mr. Pratap Venogopal, Adv.
Ms. Meenakshi Chauhan, Adv.
Mr. Gaurav Nair, Adv. for
M/s. K.J. John & Co.

Himachal Pradesh Mr. Varinder K. Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Suryanarayana Singh, Adv.
Ms. Pragati Neekhra, Adv.

Ms. C.K. Sucharita, Adv.

UT-Chandigarh Mr. Gopal Singh, Adv.
Ms. Vimla Sinha, Adv.

Mr. Apoorv Kurp, Adv.
Mr. A.P. Mayee, Adv.
Mr. Charudatta Mahindrakar, Adv.

Manipur Mr. Sapam Biswajit Meitei, Adv.
Mr. Khwairakpam Nobin Singh, Adv.

MCI Mr. Amit Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Atul Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Avijit Mani Tripathi, Adv.

Punjab Mr. Kuldip Singh, Adv.
Mr. Mohit Mudgil, Adv.

Mizoram Mr. Pragyan Pradip Sharma, Adv.
Mr. Heshu Kayina, Adv.
Mr. P.V. Yogeswaran, Adv.

Tripura Mr. Gopal Singh, Adv.
Mr. Ritu Raj Biswas, Adv.

Chhattisgarh Mr. Dharmendra Kumar Sinha, Adv.

Karnataka Mr. V.N. Raghupathy, Adv.

Puducherry Mr. V.G. Pragasam, Adv.
Mr. S.J. Aristotle, Adv.
Mr. Prabu Ramasubramanian, Adv.

Meghalaya Mr. Ranjan Mukherjee, Adv.
Mr. S.C. Ghosh, Adv.
Mr. S. Bhowmick, Adv.
Mr. R.P. Yadav, Adv.

J&K Mr. Sunil Fernandes, Adv.

Haryana Mr. Manjit Singh, A.A.G.
Ms. Vivekta Singh, Adv.
Mr. Tarjit Singh, Adv.
Mr. Anil Antil, Adv.
Mr. Raktim Gogoi, Adv.
Ms. Monika Gosain, Adv.

	Ms. Anitha Shenoy, Adv.
Bihar	Mr. Abhinav Mukerji, Adv. Ms. Bihu sharma, Adv. Ms. Tanya Shree, Adv. Ms. Purnima Krishna, Adv.
Uttar Pradesh	Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Syed, Adv. Ms. Archana Singh, Adv. Mr. Abhisth Kumar, Adv. Mr. Jagjit Singh Chhabra, Adv.
Rajasthan	Dr. Manish Singhvi, A.A.G. Mr. Amit Lubhaya, Adv. Ms. Pragati Neekhara, Adv.
Tamil Nadu	Mr. R. Rakesh Sharma, Adv. Mr. B. Balaji, Adv. Mr. Anand Sathiyaseelan, Adv. Mr. M.T.George, Adv.
Nagaland	Ms. K. Enatoli Sema, Adv. Mr. Amit Kumar Singh, Adv.
Sikkim	Mr. A. Mariarputham, Adv. Gen. Mrs. Aruna Mathur, Adv. Mr. Yusuf Khan, Adv. for M/s Arputham, Aruna & Co.
West Bengal	Mr. Anip Sachthey, Adv.
Andaman & Nicobar Administration	Mr. Balasubramaniam, Adv. Mr. K.V. Jagdishvaran, Adv. Ms. G. Indira, Adv. Ms. Shalini Chandra, Adv. Ms. Swati Chandra, Adv. Mr. Sudanshu Saran, Adv.
IA 8	Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Sr. Adv. Mr. Jayant K. Mehta, Adv. Mr. Anuj Kapor, Adv. Mr. Devraj Ashok Dodamani, Adv.
IA 9	Ms. Pratibha Jain, Adv. Ms. Aparna Bhatt, Adv. Ms. Karuna Nundy, Adv. Mr. Balaji Srinivasan, Adv.

UPON hearing counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

This order is in respect of 162 cases for which approval has been granted by DCG(I). The matter was kept today as on the last date, i.e., 30.09.2013, Mr. Siddharth Luthra, learned Additional Solicitor General, prayed for time to place on record the report of Prof. Ranjit Roy Chaudhury and also the details of the existing regime which ensures the safety of the subjects of clinical trials and avoid any serious adverse event by such clinical trials.

2. In pursuance of the order dated 30.09.2013, an additional

affidavit has been tendered by Mr. Siddharth Luthra, learned Additional Solicitor General. The same is taken on record.

3. In the additional affidavit filed by Mr. Keshav Desiraju, working as Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, it is, inter alia, stated that since 2011 when the New Drug Advisory Committees (NDACs) were constituted, 78 meetings of these committees have taken place. During these 78 meetings held by NDACs so far, 1122 applications came to be evaluated by these committees. Of 1122 applications, 331 applications were related to approval of Global Clinical Trials (GCT), including clinical trials of New Chemical Entities (NCEs). Of these 331 GCT applications, NDACs have recommended approval of 285 applications and have not recommended approval for the remaining 46 applications. These 285 applications which have been recommended for approval by NDACs include clinical trials for investigational products relating to Anti-AIDS, Oncology, Cardiology, Neurology, Psychiatry, Metabolism, Endocrinology, etc. NDACs have evaluated carefully pharmacological, toxicological data, clinical data and protocol for the clinical trials including the objective of the study, eligibility criteria of the subjects, treatment, safety and efficacy assessments, etc. Of these 285 applications, DCG(I) has given approval to conduct clinical trials in 162 cases till 31.08.2013. Out of 162 approvals, 157 approvals were given by the DCG(I) before 31.12.2012 which were prior to directions of this Court on 03.01.2013. The DCG(I) has given the approval to conduct clinical trials in the remaining 5 cases from 01.01.2013 till 31.08.2013 after the approval of the Apex Committee assisted by the Technical Committee.

4. The above facts show that insofar as 5 cases out of 162 cases which were given approval by DCG(I) are concerned, these 5 cases had undergone the three-tier screening. First by NDACs, then by the Technical Committee and the Apex Committee and thereafter the approval has been given by the DCG(I).

5. However, as regards 157 approvals which were given by the DCG(I) before 03.01.2013, learned Additional Solicitor General fairly submits that these cases have not been evaluated by the Technical Committee and the Apex Committee. He submits that the Central Government is agreeable that these 157 cases may be evaluated by the Technical Committee and the Apex committee as well, as has been done for the 5 cases for which approval was given after 03.01.2013.

6. We accept the statement of the learned Additional Solicitor General. We, however, observe that the Technical committee and the Apex Committee while evaluating the above 157 cases shall keep in view all relevant aspects of safety and efficacy particularly in terms of assessment of risk versus benefit to the patients, innovation vis-a-vis existing therapeutic option and unmet medical need in the country.

7. In the light of the above, it is not possible to pass any order today with regard to 157 cases and the same will be considered after the reports of the Technical Committee and the Apex Committee in respect of 157 cases are submitted before this Court.

8. As regards 5 cases for which approval has been given by the DCG(I) after 03.01.2013, we record and accept the statement of Mr. Siddharth Luthra, learned Additional Solicitor General that before the clinical trials are conducted, appropriate provision shall be made or administrative direction shall be issued which ensures that audio-visual recording of the informed concerned process of the participants is done and the documentation preserved, adhering to the principals of confidentiality. In other words, the clinical trials in respect of five cases shall commence after proper framework is in place concerning audio-visual recording of the informed concerned process and the preservation of documents while adhering to the principals of confidentiality.

9. List these matters on the date already fixed, i.e., December 16, 2013.

Interlocutory Application No. 8 of 2013
in
WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO(s). 33 OF 2012

10. Interlocutory Application No. 8 of 2013 is allowed. Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance is permitted to intervene in the present case. They will be shown as intervenor in the cause title. Amended cause titled shall be filed within two weeks.

|(Rajesh Dham)
|Court Master

| |(Madhu Sudan)
| |Court Master

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