- * IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI
- + W.P. (C) No. OF 2021 (to be numbered)

 COURT ON ITS OWN MOTION

Re: Setting up of Covid Health Centre

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIPIN SANGHI HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE REKHA PALLI

ORDER 27.04.2021

We have come across several media reports published in daily newspapers and other media channels today, which state that on the request from the Delhi High Court, the Delhi Government has ordered that 100 rooms at Ashoka Hotel - a five star facility, be set aside for Covid Health Centre (CHC) for the Judges and Judicial Officers of the Court and their family members. The said facility is to be linked to Primus Hospital, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. It appears that an order for the said purpose has been issued by the Government of NCT of Delhi (GNCTD) on 25.04.2021 by Ms. Geeta Grover, Incident Commander/SDM, Sub Division Chanakyapuri under the provisions of the Disaster Management Act.

We have made inquiry from the Ld. Registrar General of this Court as to whether a request for setting aside rooms in the Ashoka Hotel, or any other hotel had been made to the GNCTD, either for the Judges of this Court, or the judiciary subordinate to this Court, or their family members. We are informed that no such request has been made in respect of any hotel, much less Ashoka Hotel.

It appears that the GNCTD, on its own, has proceeded to issue the order dated 25.04.2021 purporting to set up and set aside 100 room at Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi for creation of a CHC for the use of the Judges of this Court and other Judicial Officers of Delhi, placing them at the disposal of Primus Hospital, Chanakyapuri.

We, therefore, are inclined to *suo motu* take cognizance of the newspaper/media reports published today, as also the order dated 25.04.2021, and to direct issuance of notice to the GNCTD through the Chief Secretary. Notice be also issued to the Ms. Geeta Grover, Incident Commander/SDM, Sub Division Chanakyapuri, who has issued the order dated 25.04.2021, aforesaid.

This be registered as a public interest litigation and be placed before the bench of Hon'ble the Chief Justice dealing with public interest litigation, for passing appropriate orders.

VIPIN SANGHI, J.

REKHA PALLI, J.

APRIL 27, 2021