ITEM NO.43 COURT NO.7 SECTION XII

## SUPREME COURT OF INDIA RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s).1711/2018

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 11-12-2017 in WPMD No.8122/2017 passed by the High Court Of Judicature At Madras At Madurai)

JULIA JACOB & ORS.

Petitioner(s)

## **VERSUS**

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT & ORS. Respondent(s)

(FOR ADMISSION)

Date: 16-02-2018 This petition was called on for hearing today.

## CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.A. BOBDE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE L. NAGESWARA RAO

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Colin Gonsalves, Sr. Adv.
Mr. M.P. Parthiban, Adv.
Mr. S. Pathasarathi, Adv.
Mr. A.S. Vairawan, Adv.
For Mr. Ankur Prakash, AOR

For Respondent(s) Mr. M. Yogesh Kanna, AOR Mrs. Sujatha Bagadhi, Adv.

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

Mr. Colin Gonsavles, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioners, submits that the petitioners-girls are capable of looking after themselves and therefore, they may be released from the custody of the District Social Welfare Department.

However, by way of abundant caution, we consider it appropriate to have the girls interviewed by an independent competent person and a report in that regard be placed before us.

We accordingly appoint Mr. Justice K.N. Basha, former Judge of Madras High Court and learned Senior Counsel, who is present in the Court today and has given his consent for the above purpose. Mr. Justice Basha may interview the girls at Madras High Court Mediation Centre at Madurai Bench, Madurai, and accordingly, will submit a detailed report to this Court within a period of six weeks from today. We direct that the Madras High Court shall provide such accommodation and necessary facilities at Madurai for the aforesaid purpose.

The petitioners are directed to furnish a copy of the SLP paper-book to Mr. Justice Basha forthwith for his kind perusal.

We also appoint Mr. Karthikeyi Balan, learned Advocate, as Secretary to assist Mr. Justice Basha in the said task. Mr. Balan will maintain the necessary record.

It is made clear that all the expenses including travel and stay of the petitioners-girls shall be borne by the State of Tamil Nadu.

Needless to mention that the State of Tamil Nadu shall ensure proper safety, food, accommodation and other facilities are adequately provided to the petitioners-girls during their stay at Madurai.

List the matter along with the report after six weeks.

In the meantime, the petitioners are directed to take fresh steps to serve the unserved respondents.

(SANJAY KUMAR-II)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(INDU KUMARI POKHRIYAL) ASST.REGISTRAR