

07.10.2021

Suppl. 1
Ct.No. 03
Amalranjan

(Via Video Conference)

**IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
APPELLATE SIDE**

**WPA (P) 260 of 2021
With
CAN No. 1 of 2021**

**Ajay Kumar De
Vs.
The State of West Bengal & Ors.**

Mr. Sabyasachi Chatterjee
Mr. Sandipan Das
Mr. Pintu Karar
Mr. Akashdeep Mukherjee
Mr. Ankur Sharma
Ms. Debolina Sarkar
Ms. Sreejita Biswas
Mr. Sagar Dey

... for the petitioner

Mr. S.N. Mookherjee, Ld. A.G.
Mr. Anirban Ray, Ld. G.P.
Mr. Raja Saha
Mr. Nilotpall Chatterjee

...for the State

Mr. Arindam Paul
Mr. Rachit Lachmani
Mr. Indrajit Dey

...for the applicant
(CAN 1 of 2021)

Upon mentioning, this matter is treated as on the day's list and taken up just before the luncheon recess.

We have been shown the general guidelines for the ensuing Durga Puja, 2021, issued on 1st October, 2021 by the Government of West Bengal.

A little review of the directions is necessary with the improvement in the Covid situation and administration of double vaccination to a substantial number of people.

We ratify the said guidelines by modifying the orders dated 19th October, 2020 and 21st October, 2020 in WPA 8520 of 2020 (Ajay Kumar De Vs. The State of West Bengal & Ors.) and the order of this bench dated 1st October, 2021 in the following manner:

Entry into a pandal shall be limited to the maximum number of persons permitted entry into it at any point of time, by the said orders of this court. Such entry shall be unrestricted provided each visitor is double vaccinated and wears a mask.

Subject to the maximum number of persons which is allowed inside a Puja-pandal and compliance with the other conditions like double vaccination and wearing of masks, all activities and puja rituals like Anjali, Arati, Sindur Khela etc. are permitted inside the pandal.

This entry requirement compliance shall be checked by the Puja organisers at the entrance. Spot verification is to be made by the police. If any, Puja organisation is found to be in default,

the Puja and all other activities in that pandal may be forthwith cancelled by the police.

It is clarified that the above orders of the court are modified to the above extent only. All other terms of those orders shall remain in force.

(Aniruddha Roy,J.)

(I. P. Mukerji,J.)