

Learned counsel for the petitioner has drawn the attention of this Court towards the compliance report submitted by the State Government and the report reflects that the survey as required under the provisions of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 (for short 'the Act of 2013') has not been done and the State Government has appointed Project Directors of District Urban Development as Nodal Officers only on 30.08.2021 and the survey will be completed shortly. The respondent-State is therefore directed to conclude the survey positively within a period of two months from today. In respect of Ramanagara incident, the family of three workers who expired have not been provided employment and therefore, 30 days' time is granted to provide employment keeping in view the Act of 2013. In respect of Kalaburagi incident, it has been stated that legal heirs of two workers have been granted casual appointment. The grant of casual appointment can come to an end at any point of time. Section 13 of the Act of 2013 is very clear. It provides that atleast one adult member of the family shall be given training for some alternative profession/job. The same has not been done in the present case. Let the same be done positively within 30 days. Ms. Shilpa, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner has drawn the attention of this Court towards page No.4 of the report submitted by the State Government vide memo dated 01.10.2021 and her contention is that Rs.1,000/- has been paid towards scholarship. This Court really fails to understand "Rs.1,000/- lumpsum" for a child who is studying and it does not fall within the meaning of 'scholarship'. If this is grant of "lumpsum of Rs.1,000/-", then it means that the order passed by the State Government is nothing but an eyewash. Learned counsel for the petitioner has also pointed out that in some of the cases Rs.10,000/- has been given towards education and scholarship. Page No.7 of the report submitted by the State Government reflects the same. Again in the report that Rs.10,000/- is per year, per month or one time measure is not clear. The 'scholarship' in terms of the Act of 2013 certainly means that the State Government is under an obligation to pay scholarship to the children of the deceased as it is being paid by the Central Government and State Government in respect of other schemes. The disparity of paying scholarship has to come to an end and uniform policy has to be made in respect of grant of scholarship in all such cases. Therefore, the State Government is granted 30 days' time to formulate the scheme in terms of the Act of 2013 in the matter of grant of scholarship as well as grant of alternative profession/job. On the last date of hearing, this Court has directed the State Government to file a detailed chart in respect of the equipments which are required to be provided under the Rules of 2013 and the equipments which have been provided so far. However, the same has not been done. Therefore, 30 days' time is granted to file a detailed chart in respect of the equipments provided to workers keeping in view the Act of 2013 as well as the Rules of 2013. Learned counsel for the petitioner shall also be free to file objections in respect of the report submitted by the State Government. List the matter for compliance of the order passed today on 26.11.2021 and the earlier orders.