

Mr. Mehta, learned Solicitor General, states that the State Government has issued several directions to contain the spread of Corona Virus and are taking adequate precautions at their own. He further submits that the directions issued by the High Court vide the impugned order are as rigorous as a lockdown though the High Court has observed that "they are nowhere close to a complete lockdown".

Issue notice.

Until further orders, there shall be an *ad interim* stay of the impugned order passed by the High Court.

However, the petitioner - State Government shall immediately report to the High Court about the steps it has taken and proposes to take in the immediate future within a period of one week in view of the current pandemic.

We appoint Mr. P.S. Narasimha, learned Senior Counsel, as Amicus Curiae to assist the Court in the matter.

The Registry of this Court is directed to furnish a copy of the present petition to the learned Amicus Curiae forthwith.

Put up after two weeks.

(SANJAY KUMAR-II)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PRADEEP KUMAR)
BRANCH OFFICER