



WEB COPY

WP No. 12061 of 2



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 27-03-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE M.DHANDAPANI

WP No. 12061 of 2026

M.Arivazhagan
Ex.President,
FC ST 56- Thenpennai Aattrupadugai Meenavar
Kooturavu Sangam,
Door No.80, Pillaiyar Koil Street,
Chengam Taluk, Tiruvannamalai District.

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The Assistant Director
Inland Fisheries, Vellore- 3.
2. The Executive Engineer
Water Resource Department,
Formerly PWD Department,
Middle Pannayaru Basin Division,
Thiruvannamalai- 606 603.
3. The Assistant Executive Engineer
Water Resource Department,
Middle Pannayaru Basin Division,
Thiruvannamalai- 606 701.

..Respondent(s)

Prayer: Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of writ of Mandamus directing the respondents herein to consider the representation of the petitioner society dated 03.03.2026 within a time frame fixed by this Honble court and permit the members of the petitioner society to harvest fishes in Kuppanatham Dam under the control of the petitioner Society, and pass.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.S.Gopinath

For Respondent(s): Mr.A.Selvendra, Special Government Pleader



Order

This Writ Petition is filed by the petitioner directing the respondents herein to consider the representation of the petitioner society to harvest fishes in Kuppanatham Dam under the control of the petitioner Society.

2. The petitioner Society is registered under Tamil Nadu Co-operative Societies Act. The Government of Tamil Nadu, had issued G.O.Ms.No.332, dated 17.11.1993 directing the authorities to give first priority in fishing rights to fishermen society and thereby, the petitioner Society being the successful bidder doing fishing in Kuppanatham Dam and they invested by sowing “fishing seeds (Meen Kunjujal)” in the said Dam and now the fishes are ready for harvest. Since auction was held on 21.01.2025, the original lease period (Fasli Year 1434) from 01.07.2024 to 30.06.2025 got shortened from 10.02.2025 to 30.06.2025. Therefore, the lease period got expired on 30.06.2025. If the members of the petitioner Society are not permitted to harvest the same, not only huge monetary loss, but the fishes will also die as the water in the Kuppanatham Dam, is getting reduced due to ensuing summer season. Hence, the petitioner Society made representation to the respondents on 03.03.2026 seeking permission to continue the petitioner’s society members to do harvesting of fishes. Since, there is no response on the said representation, the petitioner Society is before this Court.



3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that it would suffice, if the respondents are directed to dispose of the representation of the petitioner dated 03.03.2026 on merits and in accordance with law, within a specified period.

4. The learned counsel appearing for the respondents has no objection for such an order being passed by this Court.

5. Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and learned counsel appearing for the respondents.

6. In view of the limited request made by the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner, this Court, without going into the merits of the case, directs the respondents to consider the representation of the petitioner Society dated 03.03.2026 and pass appropriate orders on merits and in accordance with law within a period of six weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

7. With the above direction, this Writ Petition is disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

27-03-2026

Index: Yes/No
Speaking/Non-speaking order
Neutral Citation: Yes/No

SK



To

1. The Assistant Director
Inland Fisheries, Vellore- 3.
2. The Executive Engineer
Water Resource Department,
Formerly PWD Department,
Middle Pannayaru Basin Division,
Thiruvannamalai- 606 603.
3. The Assistant Executive Engineer
Water Resource Department,
Middle Pannayaru Basin Division,
Thiruvannamalai- 606 701.



WEB COPY

WP No. 12061 of 2



M.DHANDAPANI J.

sk

WP No. 12061 of 2026

27-03-2026