



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 23-06-2026

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CORAM

**THE HONOURABLE DR JUSTICE G. JAYACHANDRAN
AND
THE HONOURABLE MRS.JUSTICE N. MALA**

W.M.P.No.22947 of 2026 & W.M.P.No.23001 of 2026
in
W.P.No.19286 of 2021

WMP No. 22947 of 2026

1. V.Pandar Nathan
Son of Veeraiyan 58/K2 Sakthi Nagar
North Mangudi, Koradechery
Needamangalam Taluk,
Tiruvarur District.

... Petitioner

Vs

1. M.Raja
S/o.Ramasamy, No.16-B,Draupathy
Amman Koil street, Sothupakkam,
Cheyyur Taluk, Kanchipuram,
District-603319

2.The Secretary
Revenue Department, Secretariat,
Chennai-600 009.

3.The Director
Animal Husbandry and Veterinary
service, Nandanam, Chennai-600 035

4.The District Collector
No.62, rajaji salai,
Collectorate, Chennai-600 001.

5.The District Collector
Cheyyur-Kanchipuram Road, Gandhi
Nagar, collectorate,
Kanchipuram-631 501



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6.The District Collector
Master Plan complex, NH 205,
collectorate, Thiruvallur-602 001

7.The District Collector
TamilNadu Housing Board,
collectorate, vellore-632 012

8.The District Collector
Collectorate, GST Road, chengalpet
603 001

9.The District Collector
Collectorate Complex, Mannargudi
Road, Vilamal, Tiruvarur 610004.

10.The Revenue Divisional Officer
Pakkupettai St, Mannargudi 614001.

11.The District Revenue Officer
Collectorate, Thiruvaruru 610001.

12.The Tahsildar
Perambur-Nidamangalam Rd,
Needamangalam 614404.

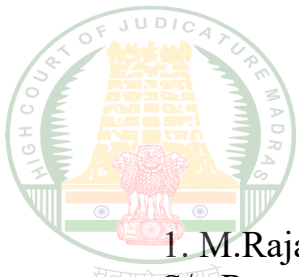
... Respondents

Prayer: Writ Miscellaneous Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, pleased to accord prior approval to the Respondents 9 to 12 to reclassify the land in Survey No.159/56, No.36, Mangudi Village, Needamangalam Taluk, Tiruvarur Distirct from Government Poromboke Manthai to Natham and to issue free Natham Patta in favour of the Petitioner under the Honble Chief Minister's.

WMP No. 23001 of 2026

1. Ravichandran
Son of Veeraiyan 58/E, Sakthi Nagar
North Mangudi, Koradechery
Needamangalam Taluk Tiruvarur
District.

... Petitioner



Vs.

1. M.Raja

S/o.Ramasamy, No.16-B,Draupathy
Amman Koil street, Sothupakkam,
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Pakkupettai St, Mannargudi 614001.



11. The District Revenue Officer
Collectorate, Thiruvavur 610001.

12. The Tahsildar
Perambur-Nidamangalam Rd,
Needamangalam 614404. ... Respondents

Prayer: Writ Miscellaneous Petition is filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India, pleased to accord prior approval to the Respondents 9 to 12 to reclassify the land in Survey No.159/57, No.36, Mangudi Village, Needamangalam Taluk, Tiruvavur District from Government Poramboke Manthai to Natham and to issue free Natham Patta in favour of the Petitioner under the Honble Chief Ministers Scheme and pass.

For Petitioner: Mr.Ramesh Kumar Chopra
in both cases

ORDER

(Order of the order made by Dr. G.Jayachandran, J.)

This Court, in W.P.No.19286 of 2021, on 02.02.2022, after observing that Meikkal Poramboke lands are converted indiscriminately to grant patta to third parties and for the purposes which is not of eminent significance, issued the following directions to the Government:

5. Admittedly, Meikaal poramboke and Mandaiveli lands are earmarked for the purpose of grazing cattles and therefore, whenever it is to be converted, equivalent land has to be allocated for the said purpose. The provision regarding conversion at times is being misused



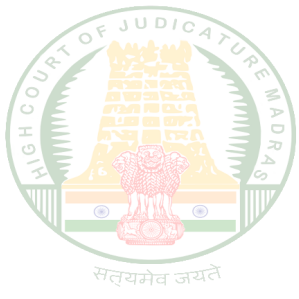
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and therefore, the Apex Court in the case of Rameshbhai Virabhai Chaudhari v. The State of Gujarat, [Civil Appeal No.5135 of 2021, dated 6.9.2021], which dealt with unauthorised encroachment on gauchar land, i.e., grazing land, held that the grazing land should be used only for the purpose for which it is permitted and no encroachment on such land is permissible. The relevant paragraphs of the said judgment are quoted hereunder:

“It is trite to say that gouchar land can be used only for purposes for which it is permitted to be used. If there is a user contrary to the permissible user, whether by the State or by any third party, the same cannot go on. Rehabilitation of persons is really not required in the present case as only three persons are entitled to an alternative site as per rules. There is of course some dispute whether the encroachers have made permanent structures or kuchha construction for keeping cattle but be that as it may, the user cannot be contrary to what is being permitted for gouchar land, which is a grazing land. In view of the aforesaid, a direction is issued to bring the land in conformity with its use by the State Government taking appropriate action within a maximum period of three months from today.”

6. Taking into consideration the aforesaid direction read with the Rules permitting conversion of Meikaal Poramboke and Mandaiveli lands in the State of Tamil Nadu, we find it to be appropriate to direct the respondents not to convert those lands for regularization



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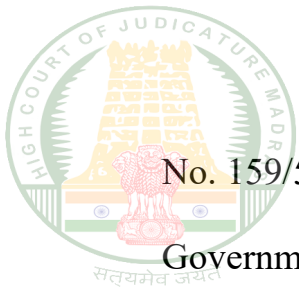


of encroachment. For other purposes also, conversion of land cannot be permitted unless equivalent area is identified and earmarked for such purpose. Any order to be passed for it shall be only after the prior approval of this Court. It would be by filing a separate application in the disposed of petition, justifying the conversion of lands and the purpose sought to be achieved, so that the judgment of the Apex Court referred to above is taken to its logical conclusion.

2. The order been passed in tune with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court to save *Meikkal Poramboke* been converted.

3. In such circumstances, the petitioner herein, Mr. V. Pandarinathan, has filed Miscellaneous Petition in W.M.P. No. 22947 of 2026 in the pending writ petition, seeking a direction to respondents 9 to 12 to reclassify the Meikkal Poramboke land in S. No. 159/56, Mangudi Village, Nedamangalam Village, Thiruvarur District, from Government Poramboke to *Manthai to Natham*, and to issue a free Natham Patta in his favour under the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Scheme.

4. Similarly, the petitioner, Mr. Ravichandran, has filed Miscellaneous Petition in W.M.P. No. 23001 of 2026 in the pending writ petition, seeking a direction to respondents 9 to 12 to reclassify the Meikkal Poramboke land in S.



No. 159/57, Mangudi Village, Nedamangalam Village, Thiruvarur District, from Government Poramboke to *Manthai to Natham*, and to issue a free Natham Patta in his favour under the Hon'ble Chief Minister's Scheme.

5. While this Court is trying to preserve Meikkal Porambke and Manthai Veli lands from being converted, the present petitions are filed seeking directions to do the exactly the contrary. Hence, we are not inclined to entertain this petition. Accordingly, these Writ Miscellaneous Petitions stand dismissed. However, the dismissal of this Miscellaneous Petitions will not stand in the way of the petitioners to seek for Patta elsewhere.

(Dr.G.J,J.) & (N.M, J.)
23-06-2026

Index :Yes/No.
Neutral Citation :Yes/No.
bsm

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