



WEB COPY

WA No. 2433 of 2026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 19-08-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE S. M. SUBRAMANIAM

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE KRISHNASWAMY GOVINDARAJAN

WA No. 2433 of 2026 AND

CMP NO. 21847 OF 2026,CMP NO. 21498 OF 2026

N.Mahesh Desai
Son of Late Mr.Nanjam,
No.192, Jail Hill,
Nilgiris District,
Tamil Nadu 643 221.

..Appellant(s)

Vs

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
State Forest Head quarters,
Guindy-Velachery Main Road,
Guindy, Chennai 600 032.
2. The District Forest Officer
Office of the District Forest Officer,
Nilgiris District, Udhagamandalam,
Tamil Nadu.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests,
Vellore Circle, Vellore,
Tamil Nadu.

..Respondents

Prayer : Writ Appeal under Clause XV of the Letters Patent To allow this WA
by set aside the order dated 02.06.2026 passed in WP No.18078/2026



WEB COPY

WA No. 2433 of 2026

For Appellant : S.Arokia Mani Raj
For Respondents : Mr.K.Rajesh
Government Advocate

Judgment

(Judgment of the Court was delivered by S.M.Subramaniam J.)

The present intra court appeal has been instituted challenging the writ order dated 02.06.2026 passed in W.P.No.18078 of 2026.

2. The writ petitioner is the appellant. He filed the writ petition challenging the administrative transfer order dated 09.01.2026, transferring the appellant from Nilgiris to Vellore circle. The Writ Court considered the scope of the guidelines issued by the Government on transfers in G.O.Ms.No.10, Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department dated 07.01.1994 and dismissed the writ petition. Learned counsel for the appellant would contend that, based on a complaint preferred by the appellant against some officials, he was transferred from Nilgiris to Vellore.

3. Be that as it may. Transfer is an incidence of service. Administrative transfer *per se* would not provide a cause of action for instituting writ proceedings. The High Court is not expected to interfere with the day-to-day administration of the Government departments. Place and



post can never be the choice of an employee. The competent authority is empowered to place an employee in a post for effective and efficient administration. Unnecessary interference by the High Court would cause prejudice to the cause of public administration. An order of transfer can be challenged only on the grounds of jurisdiction and malafides. Even if malafides is alleged by an employee, such authority on whom such allegation is made, should be impleaded in his personal capacity and such malafides should be proven beyond any pale of doubt.

4. Learned counsel for the appellant would further contend that the Government issued G.O.Ms.No.10, Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department dated 07.01.1994.

5. Such transfer guidelines issued by the Government are only to maintain consistency and transparency in administrative transfers and would not have any force of law. When transfer is a condition of service, guidelines cannot be a ground to assail the order of administrative transfers. Guidelines are issued by the Government only for the authorities to follow, but such guidelines would not confer any right on the employee to claim a post or place of his / her choice.



WA No. 2433 of 2026

WEB COPY

6. In the present case, the writ court has considered the scope of transfer guidelines as well as the grounds raised by the appellant in the writ petition. The appellant has not raised any semblance of legal right to interfere with the order of administrative transfer. For the aforesaid reasons, the writ appeal stands dismissed. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

(S.M.S.,J.) (K.G.R.,J.)
19-08-2026

Index: Yes
Speaking order
Neutral Citation: Yes

KST



WA No. 2433 of 2026



To

1. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(Head of Forest Force)
State Forest Head quarters,
Guindy-Velachery Main Road,
Guindy, Chennai 600 032.
2. The District Forest Officer
Office of the District Forest Officer,
Nilgiris District, Udhagamandalam,
Tamil Nadu.
3. The Chief Conservator of Forests,
Vellore Circle, Vellore,
Tamil Nadu.



WEB COPY

WA No. 2433 of 2026

**S.M.SUBRAMANIAM J.
AND
KRISHNASWAMY GOVINDARAJAN J.**

KST

WA No. 2433 of 2026

19-08-2026