



Cont.P.(MD)No.197 of 2026

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 06.04.2026

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY

Cont.P.(MD)No.197 of 2026

N.Prabukumar

... Petitioner

Vs.

A.K.Mehbub Alikhan,
Chairman,
District Legal Services Authority,
Ramanathapuram.

... Respondent

Prayer:- Contempt Petition is filed under Section 11 of Contempt of Courts Act, praying to punish the contemnor / respondent herein for committing grave contempt and gross disobedience of the order passed by this Court in W.P. (MD)No.24910 of 2022, dated 03.01.2025.

For Petitioner : Mr.M.Boopathipandiyan

For Respondent : Mr.M.Mahaboob Athiff
Standing Counsel

ORDER

The Contempt Petition has been filed alleging wilful disobedience of the order passed in W.P.(MD)No.24910 of 2022, dated 03.01.2025.



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2. The grievance of the petitioner is that he had pledged his jewels with M/s.Selvi Gold Finance Private Limited, Ramanathapuram District, which was arrayed as the fourth respondent in the Writ Petition. The said Company was subsequently closed. By order dated 29.10.2018 in W.P.(MD)No.12654 of 2018, a Committee consisting of the respondents 1 to 3 in W.P.(MD)No.24910 of 2022, namely, the Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Ramanathapuram, the Superintendent of Police, Ramanathapuram District, and the Inspector of Police, District Crime Branch, Ramanathapuram, was constituted to conduct an enquiry and facilitate redemption of the jewels. The tenure of the said Committee has also expired.

3. It was the contention of the petitioner that the fourth respondent had, in turn, pledged the jewels with Karur Vysya Bank. Taking note of the fact that the Bank was not a party to the Writ Petition, this Court, while disposing of the said Writ Petition, directed the District Legal Services Authority, Ramanathapuram, to consider the petitioner's representation.



5. In a similar circumstance, this Court, by order dated 18.02.2026 in Contempt Petition (MD) No.221 of 2026 [U.Suresh vs. A.K.Mehbub Alikhan, The Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, Ramanathapuram and another], has held that such directions cannot be enforced through the Legal Services Authority and accordingly, closed the contempt petition. This Court is of the same view in the present case.



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6. When the petitioner had pledged the jewels with the fourth respondent, who in turn pledged them with Karur Vysya Bank and has since absconded, little can be done by the District Legal Services Authority in the matter.

7. Therefore, liberty is granted to the petitioner to work out his remedy in the manner known to law, by arraying both M/s.Selvi Gold Finance Private Limited and Karur Vysya Bank as parties, if so advised.

8. With the above liberty, the Contempt Petition stands closed.

06.04.2026

NCC : No
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To:-

A.K.Mehbub Alikhan,
Chairman,
District Legal Services Authority,
Ramanathapuram.



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