



W.P.(MD) No. 20189 of 2026

WEB COPY BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 17.07.2026

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE C.SARAVANAN

W.P.(MD) No. 20189 of 2026

M.Karupannan

... Petitioner

Vs

1. The District Forest Officer,
Sivagangai District,
Sivagangai.

2. The Forest Ranger,
Social Forests Range,
Manamadurai
Sivagangai District.

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus directing respondents to conduct enquiry in respect of granting extension time to cut the Karuvela trees in 1997 Sodhukudi Kanmai to an extent of 15.07 Hectare situated in Sodhukudi, Manamadurai Social Forests Range, Sivagangai District, based on the petitioner's representation dated 30.08.2025.



W.P.(MD) No. 20189 of 2026

WEB COPY

For petitioner : Mr. S.Anbuezhian
For Mr. M.Sankar

For respondents : Mr.R.Parthiban
Counsel for State of TN

ORDER

This Writ Petition is taken up for final hearing at the time of admission with the consent of the learned counsel for the petitioner and learned Counsel for State of TN for the respondents.

2. The petitioner had participated in the tender floated by the respondents for cutting Karuvelam trees in 1997, Sodhukudi Kanmai, to an extent of 15.07 hectares, situated in Sodhukudi, Manamadurai Social Forests Range, Sivagangai. The petitioner was communicated about the awarding of the contract for a period between 01.09.2024 and 31.08.2025 only through a communication dated 29.08.2025, which is one day before the expiry of the period of contract. The petitioner, thus, commenced the work and at the same time, sent a representation dated 30.08.2025.



W.P.(MD) No. 20189 of 2026

WEB COPY

3. The case of the petitioner is that during the interregnum, there has been heavy rain and therefore, the petitioner could not complete the work and therefore, the petitioner is being put to pecuniary loss.

4. The learned Counsel for State of TN, on the other hand, submits that the general circular has been issued by the Additional Secretary to Government, wherein the Authorities have been specified for extension of time under similar circumstances.

5. Having considered the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner and learned Counsel for State of TN for the respondents, I am of the view that the eleven month period stipulated in the order dated 29.08.2025 by the first respondent/District Forest Officer has to be given to the petitioner. The eleven month period will expire on 31.07.2025, which is end of this month.

6. The first respondent may consider the request of the petitioner based on the weather conditions during the preceding eleven months as to whether there was indeed any difficulty for the petitioner in cutting the Karuvelam trees. This



W.P.(MD) No. 20189 of 2026

WEB COPY

exercise shall be completed by the first respondent within a period of two (2) weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

7. This Writ Petition is disposed of, with the above observations. No costs.

Index : Yes / No

17.07.2026

Internet : Yes / No

apd

To

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Sivagangai District,
Sivagangai.

2. The Forest Ranger,
Social Forests Range,
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Sivagangai District.



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W.P.(MD) No. 20189 of 2026

C.SARAVANAN, J.

apd

W.P.(MD) No. 20189 of 2026

17.07.2026