

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 09-06-2015

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.SATHYANARAYANAN

WRIT PETITION No.16191 to 16198 of 2015

Jeevabai .. Petitioner in
WP 16191/2015

Padavattammal .. Petitioner in
WP 16192/2015

G.Saroja .. Petitioner in
WP 16193/2015

Lakshmi .. Petitioner in
WP 16194/2015

Susila .. Petitioner in
WP 16195/2015

Mangaammal .. Petitioner in
WP 16196/2015

Muthuamma .. Petitioner in
WP 16197/2015

Pachaiammal .. Petitioner in
WP 16198/2015

vs

1.Government of Tamilnadu
Rep. By its Secretary
Social Welfare and Nutritious
Meal Programme Department
Fort St. George, Chennai 9

2.The Commissioner for Social
Welfare
Chindatripet, Chennai 2.

3.The Commissioner/Director of
Integrated Child Development
Services
Pammal Nallathambi Street
Tharamani, Chennai 113

.. Respondents 1 to 3
in all writ petitions

4.The District Project Officer-
Child Development
Dharmapuri

.. 4th Respondent in
WP 16191 to 16194
& 16198/2015

5.The District Project Officer-Child
Development
Krishnagiri

.. 4th Respondent in
WP 16195 to
16197/2015

Writ petitions filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a writ of mandamus directing the respondents to consider the petitioners' representations dated 18.3.2015, 28.4.2015, 28.4.2015, 22.5.2015, 25.5.2015, 25.5.2015, 25.5.2015 and 20.5.2015, and increase and enhance the age of the petitioners' retirement from 60 years to 65 years as per the directions issued by the Government of India and allow the petitioners to continue their services till they attain the age of 65 years, with all consequential benefits.

For Petitioners : Mr.R.Krishnaswamy

For Respondents : Mr.M.Digvijaya Pandian
Additional Government Pleader

COMMON ORDER

By consent, all the writ petitions are taken up for final disposal.

2.The petitioners claim to be Anganwadi Employees in terms of the Integrated Child Development Scheme (in short, "ICDS"), which is a Central Government Sponsored Scheme, which came into being in the year 1975. The petitioners would state that as Anganwadi Workers, apart from carrying out about 24 types of Central Government work relating to the said scheme, they are also carrying out 10 types of work under the supervision of the second respondent and carrying out various important works pertaining to several other departments of Government of Tamil Nadu.

3.The petitioners would further state that there was no scale of pay for them before 1.1.2006, and only after that date, they are given non-standardized scale of pay and grade pay and it is meagre compared to the status of other employees of the Government of Tamil Nadu. The grievance expressed by the petitioners, is that the age of retirement fixed for the post of Supervisor Grade-II, which is a promotional post from the post of Main Anganwadi Worker, is 58 years; but, the age of retirement for the post of Main Anganwadi Worker is 60 years, which was raised vide order dated 3.12.1991, and it was also clarified on 6.7.2001. The Government of India has raised the age of retirement for Anganwadi Workers to 65 years vide proceedings dated 1.3.2003, and directed all the State Governments to uniformly fix the age of retirement for Anganwadi Workers as 65 years

and though the Government of Tamil Nadu has received the said communication, they continue to maintain the age of retirement only as 60 years in stead of 65 years. The petitioners, in this regard, had submitted individual representations praying for enhancement of the retirement age from 60 years to 65 years, and they have not been favoured with any response and in the interregnum, they are being retired on attainment of the age of 60 years and hence, came forward to file these writ petitions.

4.Heard the submissions of Mr.R.Krishnaswamy, learned Counsel appearing for the petitioners, and Mr.M.Digvijaya Pandian, learned Additional Government Pleader, who accepted notice for the respondents.

5.This Court, taking into consideration the limited scope of prayer sought for by the petitioners, directs the first respondent to consider and dispose of the petitioners' representations dated 18.3.2015, 28.4.2015, 28.4.2015, 22.5.2015, 25.5.2015, 25.5.2015, 25.5.2015 and 20.5.2015 respectively, praying for enhancement of age of retirement from 60 to 65 years for Main Anganwadi Workers, as expeditiously as possible and not later than ten weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order and inform the decision taken, to the petitioners. All the writ petitions are disposed of accordingly. No costs.

Sd/-
Assistant Registrar

True Copy

Sub Assistant Registrar

To:

- 1.The Secretary to Government
Social Welfare and Nutritious
Meal Programme Department
Fort St. George, Chennai 9
- 2.The Commissioner for Social
Welfare
Chindatripet, Chennai 2.
- 3.The Commissioner/Director of
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Services
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- 4.The District Project Officer-
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Dharmapuri

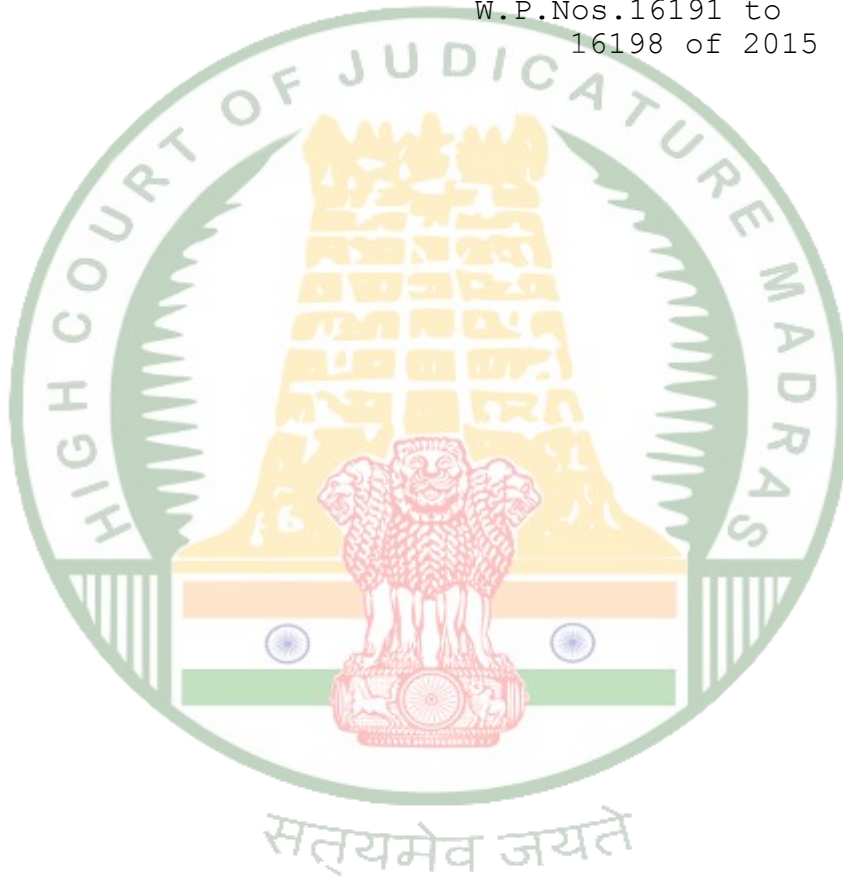
5.The District Project Officer-Child
Development
Krishnagiri

+1 cc to Government Pleader,SR.28082

+7 cc's to Mr.v.Ajoykhose , Advocate,SR.27786 to 27792.

vsn
krd 19/6

W.P.Nos.16191 to
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