

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE M.S.RAMACHANDRA RAO

WRIT PETITION No.21418 OF 2017

O R D E R :

Heard counsel for petitioner and Sri A.Ravi Babu, Standing Counsel appearing for respondents.

2. This Writ Petition is filed by the petitioner assailing the order dt.20.06.2017 suspending the petitioner pending Disciplinary Enquiry.

3. A charge memo dt.07.06.2017 had already been issued to the petitioner on the ground that he had collected an amount of Rs.24/- from four passengers at Tirumalagiri but did not issue tickets to them, even though there is less seating capacity in the bus and this was discovered in a check by the TTIS.

4. Though counsel for the petitioner contends that there is no necessity to place the petitioner under suspension, *prima facie*, having regard to the allegations in the charge sheet, I am of the opinion that the suspension appears to be warranted. Petitioner will have ample opportunity to refute the allegations in the charge sheet and prove that the said allegations are unfounded by giving explanation and by leading evidence in the Disciplinary Enquiry, which will be conducted by the respondents.

5. However, the contention of the counsel for petitioner is that petitioner is innocent of the allegations.

6. Such a plea cannot be entertained by this Court at this stage and the innocence or guilt of the petitioner will only be established in the Disciplinary Enquiry. In the circumstances, I see no reason to interfere with the impugned order.

7. The Writ Petition is accordingly dismissed. It is made clear that this Court has not expressed any opinion on the correctness or otherwise of the allegations made against the petitioner by the respondents. There shall be no order as to costs.

8. Consequently, miscellaneous petitions pending, if any, shall stand dismissed.

05th July, 2017.
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M.S. RAMACHANDRA RAO, J

