



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 29.04.2021

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THE HONOURABLE MS.JUSTICE V.M.VELUMANI

W.P. (MD)No.1199 of 2020

and

W.M.P. (MD)Nos.947 and 3780 of 2020

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M.M.Subramanian

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The Principal Secretary,
Transport Department,
Chennai.

2.The Managing Director,
TNSTC (Villupuram) Limited,
Villupuram.

3.The Managing Director,
TNSTC (Madurai) Limited,
Bye-Pass Road,
Madurai - 625 010.

... Respondents

Prayer : Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, seeking a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records relating to the impugned board resolution passed by the first respondent, in his proceedings in Ref.No.215/SECY/TNSCT(VPM)/2019, dated 18.12.2019 and the impugned charge memo issued by the second respondent, in his proceedings in Ka.Ku.No.104/7104/T7/TNSTC (V)/2019-1, dated 27.12.2019, quash the same as illegal and consequently direct the respondents to disburse the retirement benefits to the petitioner within a time frame to be fixed by this Court.

[Prayer amended vide order dated 06.03.2020, made in W.M.P.(MD) No.3783 of 2020 in W.P.(MD)No.1199 of 2020]

For Petitioner	:	Mr.V.P.Rajan
For R1	:	Mr.C.Ramesh Special Government Pleader
For R2 and R3	:	Mr.J.Senthil Kumariah Standing Counsel

ORDER

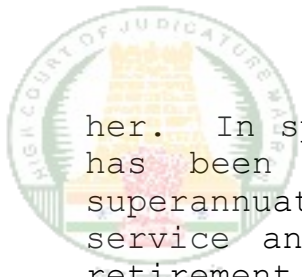
This Writ Petition has been filed seeking to quash the impugned board resolution passed by the first respondent, vide his proceedings in Ref.No.215/SECY/TNSCT(VPM)/2019, dated 18.12.2019 and the impugned charge memo issued by the second respondent, vide his proceedings in Ka.Ku.No.104/7104/T7/TNSTC (V)/2019-1, dated



27.12.2019 and consequently direct the respondents to disburse the retirement benefits to the petitioner

2. According to the petitioner, while he was working as Senior Deputy Manager on deputation in Vellore, a search was conducted by the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Wing on 03.07.2012. Despite no recovery was made from the petitioner during the search, a criminal case in Crime No.15 of 2012 was registered for the offences punishable under Sections 7 and 13(2) read with Section 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act and Section 120-B of I.P.C. against him and three others viz., Thulasi, Balakumar and Venkatesan, who were working as Superintendent, Assistant Manager and Driver, respectively. A charge sheet has also been laid before the Special Court under Prevention of Corruption Act Cases/Chief Judicial Magistrate, Vellore, in S.C.No.7 of 2014. While the criminal case was pending, the second respondent issued a charge memo, dated 21.02.2014, to the petitioner and two others viz., Vishnu, Deputy Manager, H.R.D., and M.S.Vijayakumar, Assistant Manager (Personnel), alleging that without following the procedures contemplated under the Disciplinary Rules, the petitioner and the above said two officials permitted Thulasi, one of the accused in the criminal case, to retire from service in spite of a specific instructions given by the superiors not to allow her to retire from service. Therefore, the petitioner had submitted his explanation on 01.04.2014 and thereafter, submitted another explanation on 29.04.2014, but no final order has been passed. On the other hand, insofar as the other delinquents are concerned, final orders were passed on 18.11.2014 against one Vishnu (Deputy Manager, HRD), by giving warning for his misconduct and another delinquent viz., M.S.Vijayakumar, Assistant Manager (Personnel), was imposed with a punishment of stoppage of increment for three months without cumulative effect, vide order dated 17.03.2015. After conclusion of domestic enquiry, the respondents permitted them to retire from service on the date of their superannuation, but the respondents did not pass any order permitting the petitioner to retire from service.

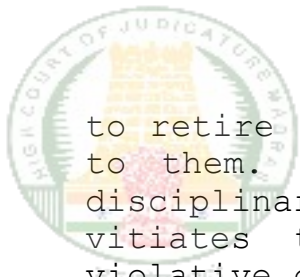
3. Further, according to the petitioner, the learned Special Judge under Prevention of Corruption Act/Chief Judicial Magistrate, Vellore, after full-fledged trial, acquitted the petitioner and three others on 18.10.2016. After his acquittal, on 02.11.2016 the petitioner requested the respondents to drop the departmental proceedings and permit him to retire from service and pay all the monetary and retirement benefits. The Board, in its 208th Meeting, passed a resolution on 18.05.2018 to drop the disciplinary proceedings against the petitioner and three others. After the said resolution, the General Manager of the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Villupuram) Limited, Vellore, has issued proceedings, dated 28.08.2018, stating that the said Thulasi, one of the co-accused, is deemed to have been retired from service on 30.09.2013 and directed the authorities to disburse the terminal benefits to



her. In spite of the said resolution and the proceedings, no order has been passed. While so, petitioner attained the age of superannuation on 30.06.2015 and he was not permitted to retire from service and was placed under suspension on the last date of his retirement. Hence, the petitioner has filed W.P.(MD)No.133 of 2018 before this Court seeking a direction to the respondents to permit him to retire from service with all service/retirement benefits. This Court, by order dated 11.06.2019, directed the third respondent herein to consider the representation of the petitioner, dated 02.11.2016 and pass orders on merits. In pursuant to the said order of this Court, the third respondent, by letter dated 09.08.2019, informed the petitioner that for taking a decision in the matter, they are seeking clarification from the first respondent. Subsequently, by another letter dated 30.11.2019, the third respondent rejected the request of the petitioner on the ground that disciplinary proceeding initiated against the petitioner, vide charge memo dated 21.02.2014, is pending. After eight years of search made in the Office of the petitioner and after four years of the acquittal in the criminal proceedings, the second respondent served the charge memo, dated 27.12.2019, to the petitioner on 08.01.2020, alleging that he misused his official position as General Manager and gave oral instructions to the Assistant Manager and Superintendent to collect a sum of Rs.12,000/- from 76 reserved Drivers and Conductors as bribe to convert them as daily wage employees and a sum of Rs.2,28,000/- was kept in the house of one Venkatesan, Driver and thus, committed dereliction of duty and violated Rule 28(g), (k), (p), (ac) and (az) of the TNSTC Conduct Rules.

4.The petitioner has come out with the present Writ Petition challenging the said charge memo. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner contended that for the alleged misconduct of the year 2012, the second respondent has served a charge memo, dated 27.12.2019, to the petitioner on 08.01.2020, after lapse of eight years. The delay of eight years in initiating the departmental proceedings vitiates the impugned charge memo. Pursuant to the alleged search made on 03.07.2012, a criminal case was registered against the petitioner and three others. By judgment dated 18.10.2016, the Presiding Officer of the Special Court under Prevention of Corruption Act [Chief Judicial Magistrate, Vellore], acquitted the petitioner and three others holding that the prosecution failed to prove the charges beyond reasonable doubt. The said judgment has become final.

5.The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner further contended that the criminal case was registered against the petitioner and three others and one of the co-accused viz., Thulasi was permitted to retire from service pending criminal case and the other two accused in the criminal case were imposed with a minor punishment in the disciplinary proceedings and they were permitted



to retire from service and all the terminal benefits were also paid to them. The petitioner alone is singled out and the present disciplinary proceeding has been initiated against him. This vitiates the entire disciplinary proceedings and the same is violative of Article 14 of the Constitution of India.

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6.The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner further submitted that there is no provision under the Service Rule to the Transport Employer for initiating disciplinary proceedings after allowing the employee to retire from service, like the provision contemplated under the Tamil Nadu Pension Rules to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the retired Government Servant. Hence, the second respondent cannot initiate disciplinary proceedings against the co-accused, who were allowed to retire from service. The Board, in its 208th Meeting, dropped the disciplinary proceedings against all the accused, including the petitioner. The impugned order is nothing, but discrimination among the delinquent officer standing in the same footing.

7.The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner further submitted that the criminal case was registered against the petitioner and three others alleging grave misconduct and the petitioner and three others were acquitted by the learned Special Judge under Prevention of Corruption Act/Chief Judicial Magistrate, Vellore. Now, the second respondent issued the present charge memo on the ground that the petitioner has given oral instruction to his subordinates to demand bribe. The charge in the present charge memo is raised for the first time after eight years. The materials for issuing the present charge memo were available when the criminal complaint was given as well as when the first charge memo was issued and therefore, the second respondent ought to have issued the present charge memo to the petitioner in respect of all the charges. The second respondent cannot take disciplinary proceedings against the petitioner in issuing the charge memo in respect of same set of alleged misconduct and subsequently, issue another charge memo, which amounts to malice in law. The petitioner, on the same set of allegations, was acquitted in the criminal case and charges framed earlier were dropped as per the resolution of the Board. The present charge memo amounts to double jeopardy. As per the Service Rules, the second respondent only has power to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the petitioner. The second respondent erred in issuing charge memo based on the direction of the first respondent.

8.In support of his submissions, the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner relied on the following judgments:-

(i) **Tata Engineering & Locomotive Co. Ltd., Vs. Jitendra PD.Singh and another** reported in **2001 (10) SCC 530**, wherein it has been held as follows:-

'2. What influenced the Court in deciding the matter is that:

<https://hcservices.ecourts.gov.in/hcservices/>



''Since as many as three workmen on almost identical charges were found guilty of misconduct in connection with the same incident, though in separate proceedings, and one was punished with only one month's suspension, and the other was ultimately reinstated in view of the findings recorded by the Labour Court and affirmed by the High Court and the Supreme Court, it would be denial of justice to the appellant if he alone is singled out for punishment by way of dismissal from service.''

3. As the judgment is rested upon this position, whatever other views may have been expressed in the course of the judgment may be of no significance. In that view of the matter, we think there is no need to interfere with the order made by the High Court, that too in a proceeding arising under Article 136 of the Constitution. Hence we decline to interfere with the order made by the High Court. The appeals are dismissed accordingly.''

(ii) ***S.Murugan Vs. The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Kum) Ltd., Kumbakonam and another [W.P. (MD) Nos.6228 of 2014, etc. batch, dated 03.09.2014]***, wherein at Paragraph No.14, it has been held as follows:-

''14.The jurisdiction of the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation to initiate disciplinary proceedings after retirement of the employees came up for consideration before this Court in W.P.Nos.46532 and 46533 of 2002, dated 16 March, 2007 [R.Balraj vs. Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Kumbakonam Div.I) Ltd. and two others]. This Court considered the service regulations framed by the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Order dated 16 March, 2007 in W.P.Nos.46532 and 46533 of 2002) and clearly held that there is no specific power to the Corporation to initiate disciplinary proceedings after the retirement of its employees. This Court held that in case the employee has committed a loss or damage, it is open to the Corporation to institute civil proceedings for recovery of the amount, irrespective of the fact as to whether the person is in service or out of service. In short, this Court has given a categorical finding that the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation has no right to initiate disciplinary proceedings after the retirement of concerned employees.''

(iii) ***A.Durairaj Vs. The Commissioner, Chinnamanur Municipality, Chinnamanur, Theni District [W.P. (MD)No.11338 of 2018, dated 01.03.2021]***, wherein this Court relying on the judgment of the Hon'ble Apex Court as well as this Court, has held that when there is an inordinate delay in the departmental action and such delay caused prejudice to the delinquent, the departmental proceedings itself cannot be sustained.



9.The learned Special Government Pleader appearing for the first respondent as well as the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondents 2 and 3 separately contended that the second respondent has power to initiate criminal proceedings as well as departmental proceedings against their employees, including the petitioner. The second respondent can proceed against the petitioner by initiating criminal proceedings as well as departmental proceedings simultaneously. The second respondent even after acquittal of their employee in the criminal case, can initiate departmental proceedings on the same set of facts. In the present case, the impugned charge memo has been issued after acquittal of the petitioner in the criminal case, which has been registered against him for instructing his subordinates to demand and receive bribe. The charge memo issued is valid and legal. The power of the Court to interfere with the charge memo is very limited. The petitioner has not made out any case for setting aside the charge memo and prayed for dismissal of the Writ Petition.

10.Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner; the learned Special Government Pleader appearing for the first respondent; and the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondents 2 and 3.

11.From the above rival submissions and perusal of the documents annexed in the typed set of papers, the following are the admitted facts:-

(1) A search was conducted in the Office of the petitioner on 03.07.2012 on the complaint that the petitioner and three others demanded bribe for giving appointment to the drivers on daily wages.

(2) After the search, a criminal case was registered in Crime No.15 of 2012 under Sections 7 and 13(2) read with Section 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act and Section 120-B of I.P.C. against the petitioner and three others and was taken on file in S.C.No.7 of 2012, on the file of the Special Court under Prevention of Corruption Act Cases/Chief Judicial Magistrate, Vellore. The petitioner and three others were acquitted by the judgment dated 18.10.2016, as the prosecution has failed to prove the charges against the petitioner and three others.

(3) The said judgment has become final, as no appeal was filed either by the State or by the second respondent.

(4) Meanwhile, pending criminal case, a charge memo dated 21.02.2014, against the petitioner and two others was issued.

(5) After conclusion of domestic enquiry, minor punishment was imposed on two other delinquent employees and they were permitted to retire from service.

(6) Even after the conclusion of the domestic enquiry, no order was passed against the petitioner based on the charge memo, dated 21.02.2014.



(7) The date of suspension of the petitioner was 30.06.2015. The petitioner was not permitted to retire from service and only on the date of retirement, he was placed under suspension.

(8) The Board, in its 208th Meeting, passed a resolution on 18.05.2018 for dropping the charges against the petitioner. In spite of such resolution, the charges framed against the petitioner were not dropped and no order imposing any punishment on the petitioner was passed. Subsequently, the second respondent issued the impugned charge memo, dated 27.12.2019.

12.From the above admitted facts, it is clear that search was made on 03.07.2012. The criminal case, which was registered in the year 2012 against the petitioner and three others, ended in acquittal in the year 2016. It is no doubt true that the second respondent has power to initiate disciplinary proceedings even after the acquittal of the petitioner in the criminal case. In the present case, after acquittal, in the year 2016, the second respondent has not initiated departmental proceedings immediately or within a reasonable time against the petitioner. Only after four years of acquittal and eight years of alleged misconduct, the impugned charge memo has been issued against the petitioner. It is pertinent to note that after acquittal, the petitioner requested the second respondent to permit him to retire from service and pay the terminal benefits. The petitioner also filed W.P.(MD)No.133 of 2018 before this Court and this Court directed the second respondent to consider the representation of the petitioner. The second respondent did not pass any order within the time limit fixed by this Court. Only when the petitioner filed Contempt Petition in the year 2019, the second respondent informed, vide letter dated 30.11.2019, that the disciplinary proceedings has already been initiated against the petitioner.

13.The Hon'ble Apex Court as well as this Court have deprecated the practice of suspending an employee on the date of retirement and also initiating disciplinary proceedings after a lapse of considerable time.

14.At this juncture, it is relevant to mention here that this Court in the case of **M.Janarthanan v. Chairman, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board** reported in **2014(2) CWC 261**, has considered the issue of suspension of an employee at the verge of his retirement and retaining him in service and by the order dated 09.06.2014, has held that disciplinary proceedings must be initiated at least three months before the date of retirement and disciplinary proceedings must be completed on war footing and concluded before the date of retirement. The relevant portion of the said judgment reads as follows:-

"10. Therefore, when the Hon'ble Apex Court, in a similar and identical issue, has held that if an order at



the initial stage is bad in law, then all further proceedings consequent thereto will be also non est in the eye of law, hence, the same has to be necessarily set aside, this Court, being bound by the same, has no other option except to interfere with the impugned orders in view of the dictum laid down by the Hon'ble Apex Court in the aforesaid judgments, inasmuch as, in the present case, the impugned order of suspension is dated 25.10.2011, which was served on the petitioner on 27.10.2011, followed by the order of retention passed in G.O.(3D) No. 33, Housing and Urban Development (UD2-3) Department dated 31.10.2011 and the subsequent charge memo dated 2.1.2012, which has been issued with an unexplained and inordinate delay of 14 years for the alleged commissions and omissions said to have been done during the month of August, 1997, after the petitioner reached the age of superannuation on 31.10.2011, are necessarily to be held as non est in the eye of law. As a matter of fact, under similar circumstances, when a challenge was made by an employee of the Tamil Nadu Housing Board against the charge memo issued with an inordinate delay of 10 years in initiating the departmental proceedings against him, without there being any explanation from the employer for such delay, the Apex Court in **P.V. Mahadevan v. Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Housing Board, 2005 (4) CTC 403**, has held that allowing the Housing Board to proceed with the departmental proceedings at the distance of ten years delay would be prejudicial to the employee. The reasons cited by the Apex Court for quashing the belated charge memo can be seen from the following passage:-

"11. Under the circumstances, we are of the opinion that allowing the respondent to proceed further with the departmental proceedings at this distance of time will be very prejudicial to the appellant. Keeping a higher Government official under charges of corruption and disputed integrity would cause unbearable mental agony and distress to the officer concerned. The protracted disciplinary enquiry against a Government employee should, therefore, be avoided not only in the interests of the Government employee but in public interest and also in the interests of inspiring confidence in the minds of the Government employees. At this stage, it is necessary to draw the curtain and to put an end to the enquiry. The appellant had already suffered enough and more on account of the disciplined proceedings. As a matter of fact, the mental agony and sufferings of the appellant due to the protracted disciplinary proceedings would be much more than the punishment. For the mistakes committed by the



department in the procedure for initiating the disciplinary proceedings, the appellant should not be made to suffer."

11. The above observation of the Apex Court deprecating the practice of initiating departmental proceedings with a huge delay of ten years, in my view, can be applied to the present case as well because, in the case on hand, the impugned charge memo was issued with a huge and unexplained delay of 14 years for the alleged commissions and omissions said to have taken place during the month of August, 1997 when the petitioner was serving as Executive Engineer, totally contrary to the G.O.Ms. No. 144, Personnel and Administrative Reforms (N) Department dated 8.6.2007 directing the disciplinary authority not to resort to last minute suspension of the Government employee, namely, on the date of retirement. In this context, the following directions issued by the Government to avoid last minute suspension order on the date of retirement of the Government servant may also be usefully referred to in the present case:-

"5. The Government direct that the following guidelines be followed to avoid suspension orders on the date of retirement of the Government servants in supersession of orders issued in the reference second read above:

(i) The disciplinary authority should not resort to last minute suspension of the Government servants (i.e.) on the date of their retirement. A decision either to allow Government servant to retire from service or suspend him from service should be taken well in advance (i.e.) three months prior to the date of retirement on superannuation and orders issued in the matter and such a decision should not be taken on the date of retirement, if final orders could not be issued in a pending disciplinary case against a Government servant retiring from service due to administrative grounds.

(ii) If an irregularity or an offence committed by the Government servant comes to notice within a period of three months prior to the date of retirement, the disciplinary authority shall process the case on war-footing and take a decision either to permit the Government servant to retire from service without prejudice to the disciplinary case pending against him or to place him under suspension, based on gravity of the irregularities committed by him.

(iii)...

(iv) Any failure on the part of the disciplinary authority to issue final orders three months before the



date of retirement of a delinquent officer will be viewed seriously and it will entail severe action to be initiated against the officials responsible for dragging on the case to the date of retirement of Government servant concerned.

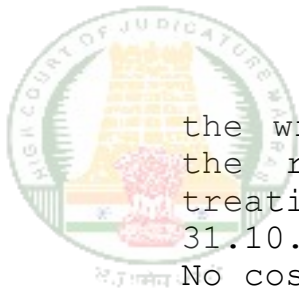
(v) Where the delinquency committed by a Government servant is very grave which warrants imposition of major penalty such as dismissal or removal from service and if it is not possible to pass final orders in such departmental proceedings, then it is necessary to suspend the Government servant from service and not to permit him to retire on attaining the age of superannuation under Fundamental Rule 56(1)(c). In such cases also, the disciplinary authorities have to ensure that the suspension orders are not issued on the date of retirement of the Government servants. However, where a Government servant is already under suspension, orders retaining the services of Government servant beyond the date of superannuation under Fundamental Rule 56(1)(c) have to be issued on the date of retirement only.

(vi)....

(vii) If the disciplinary authority comes to know of the commission of a delinquency which warrants imposition of major penalty such as dismissal or removal from service, within three months prior to the date of retirement of the Government servant and charges could not be framed before the date of retirement of the Government servant, then also it is necessary to suspend the Government servant from service and not to permit him to retire on attaining the age of superannuation under Fundamental Rule 56(1)(c). In such cases also, the disciplinary authorities may ensure that the suspension orders are not issued on the date of retirement of the Government servant.

(viii)..."

12. In spite of the above repeated directions and guidelines issued by the Government in the G.O.Ms. No. 144 dated 8.6.2007, placing the petitioner under suspension just six days before he reached the age of superannuation and further retaining him in service for the purpose of issuing the charge memo after the date of his retirement being contrary to their own G.O.Ms. No. 144, keeping in mind that there is no preliminary or discreet enquiry conducted to find out any specific loss caused to the department, this Court is of the considered opinion that the disciplinary proceedings initiated against the petitioner with an unexplained and inordinate delay of 14 years should be held as non est in the eye of law. For all these reasons, the impugned orders are set aside and both



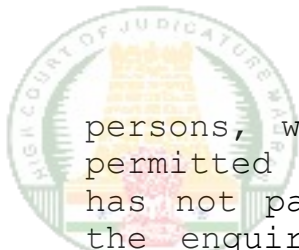
the writ petitions are allowed. Needless to mention that the respondents will settle the terminal benefits by treating the petitioner as having retired from service on 31.10.2011. Consequently, M.P. Nos. 1 of 2012 are closed. No costs."

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15. In the present case, the alleged misconduct is of the year 2012. The second respondent initiated disciplinary proceedings by issuing charge memo against the petitioner and two others in the year 2014. In the said charge memo, only one charge was framed against the petitioner and two others that they permitted one Thulasi, one of the co-accused in the criminal case, to retire from service in spite of specific instructions from the superiors. At that time itself, the second respondent was having all the materials, based on which, the impugned charge memo was issued. The second respondent ought to have levelled all the charges against the petitioner at the same time or in any event, ought to have levelled all the charges before retirement of the petitioner and concluded the domestic enquiry. By conducting piecemeal domestic enquiry, the second respondent is causing undue hardship to the petitioner.

16. In the judgments referred to above, the Hon'ble Apex Court as well as this Court held that delay in initiating and proceeding with the departmental proceedings prejudicially affects the delinquent employee. The reason for deprecating initiation of disciplinary proceedings after lapse of considerable time is that the delinquent employee will not be in position to collect all the documents relied on and produce witnesses in support of his defence. The Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of **P.V. Mahadevan vs. Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Housing Board** reported in **2005 (4) CTC 403**, in Paragraph No.11, which is extracted in Paragraph No.10 of the order of this Court in **M. Janarthanan v. Chairman, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board** reported in **2014 (2) CWC 261 [supra]**, has held that domestic enquiry at a distant point of time would cause unbearable mental agony and distress to the employee concerned and not only in the interest of employee and also in public interest. In Paragraph No.5 of the Government Order in G.O.Ms. No.144, Personnel and Administrative Reforms (N) Department, dated 8.6.2007, which is extracted in **M. Janarthanan's** case [supra], the Government has ordered initiation of domestic enquiry at least three months prior to the date of retirement and conduct domestic enquiry on war footing and conclude the same before the date of retirement of the employee.

17. In the present case, the second respondent has not explained for not initiating and proceeding the departmental proceedings at the earliest. Further, as rightly pointed out by the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner the petitioner alone is singled out and proceeded with domestic enquiry, even though three other



persons, who were also prosecuted levelling same misconduct, were permitted to retire from service. Further, the second respondent has not passed order in the earlier domestic enquiry, even though the enquiry was completed long ago and a report was also filed before him. The second respondent while passing the order and imposing the minor punishment on the other two co-delinquents, has not passed any order against the petitioner. Keeping the earlier proceedings pending from the year 2014 till date, initiating disciplinary proceedings in piecemeal only against the petitioner, vitiates the entire disciplinary proceedings now initiated and it is malice in law.

18.For the above reasons, this Court is of the view that it is a fit case to interfere with the charge memo and in view of the order of this Court in **M.Janarthanan v. Chairman, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board** reported in **2014 (2) CWC 261**, and the judgment and the orders relied on by the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner, the resolution passed by the first respondent, vide his proceedings in Ref.No.215/SECY/TNSCT(VPM)/2019, dated 18.12.2019 and the impugned charge memo issued by the second respondent, vide his proceedings in Ka.Ku.No.104/7104/T7/TNSTC(V)/2019-1, dated 27.12.2019, are set aside.

19.In the result, this Writ Petition is allowed. No costs. Consequently, connected Miscellaneous Petitions are closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (P&A)

// True Copy //

/ /2021

Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

Note :- In view of the present lock down owing to COVID-19 pandemic, a web copy of the order may be utilized for official purposes, but, ensuring that the copy of the order that is presented is the correct copy, shall be the responsibility of the advocate/litigant concerned.

To

- 1.The Principal Secretary,
Transport Department,
Chennai.
- 2.The Managing Director,
TNSTC (Villupuram) Limited,
Villupuram.



3.The Managing Director,
TNSTC (Madurai) Limited,
Bye-Pass Road,
Madurai - 625 010.

+1 CC to M/s.SPL GP (SR-18308[F] dated 30/04/2021)

W.P. (MD)No.1199 of 2020

29.04.2021

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