



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT
DATED: 04.03.2021

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.S.RAMESH

W.P. (MD) No.4439 of 2021
and
W.M.P (MD) Nos.3576 & 3577 of 2021

S.Vincent ...Petitioner
Vs.

1.The Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies,
Trichy Circle,
Trichy - 20.

2.The President,
R-530, Thiruvalarsolai Primary Agriculture Co-operative Credit
Society,
Thiruvalarsolai,
Trichy District - 620 005. ... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, to call for the records pertaining to impugned order of the 2nd respondent vide his proceeding No. Nil, dated 10.05.2019 and quash the same as illegal and consequently direct the respondents to reinstate the petitioner in his service with incidental benefit.

For Petitioner : Mr.T.Vadivelan
For Respondents : Mr.P.Mahendran R1
Additional Government Pleader
Mr.C.Ramar for R2
Additional Government Pleader

O R D E R

The petitioner, while serving as Sales Man in Uthamarseele fair price shop at Trichy District, was placed under suspension by the second respondent herein, through an order dated 10.05.2019, which are impugned in the present writ petition. The petitioner's representations, dated 27.02.2020 & 23.06.2020, seeking for revocation of his suspension were not considered by the second respondent and hence the present writ petition.

2. The guidelines governing a Government employee to be kept under prolonged suspension, has been dealt with the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Ajay Kumar Choudhary v. Union of India, (2015) 7 SCC 291** at



page 303, in the following manner:-

"21. We, therefore, direct that the currency of a suspension order should not extend beyond three months if within this period the memorandum of charges/charge-sheet is not served on the delinquent officer/employee; if the memorandum of charges/charge-sheet is served, a reasoned order must be passed for the extension of the suspension. As in the case in hand, the Government is free to transfer the person concerned to any department in any of its offices within or outside the State so as to sever any local or personal contact that he may have and which he may misuse for obstructing the investigation against him. The Government may also prohibit him from contacting any person, or handling records and documents till the stage of his having to prepare his defence. We think this will adequately safeguard the universally recognised principle of human dignity and the right to a speedy trial and shall also preserve the interest of the Government in the prosecution. We recognise that the previous Constitution Benches have been reluctant to quash proceedings on the grounds of delay, and to set time-limits to their duration. However, the imposition of a limit on the period of suspension has not been discussed in prior case law, and would not be contrary to the interests of justice. Furthermore, the direction of the Central Vigilance Commission that pending a criminal investigation, departmental proceedings are to be held in abeyance stands superseded in view of the stand adopted by us."

3. The petitioner is aggrieved against his prolonged suspension of twenty two months. Apparently, the suspension cannot unjustifiably prolonged, except in accordance with the mandated guidelines as held in the **Ajay Kumar Choudhary's case (supra)**. In this background, it would be appropriate for the second respondent to consider the petitioner's representations, seeking for revocation of his suspension.

4. Accordingly, a Writ of Mandamus is hereby issued with a direction to the second respondent herein to consider the petitioner's representations, dated 27.02.2020 & 23.06.2020, wherein the petitioner has sought for revocation of the suspension order passed by the second respondent vide his proceedings No.Nil, dated 10.05.2019, in accordance with the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of **Ajay Kumar Choudhary (supra)**, as expeditiously as possible, in any event, within a period of one week from the date of receipt of a copy this order.

5. The Writs petition stands disposed of accordingly. However,



there shall be no order as to costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (CS-I)

// True Copy //

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/ /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 Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies,
Trichy Circle,
Trichy - 20.

2.The President,
R-530, Thiruvallarsolai Primary Agriculture Co-operative Credit
Society,
Thiruvallarsolai,
Trichy District - 620 005.

+1 CC to M/s.SPL GP (SR-9189[F] dated 05/03/2021)

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W.M.P (MD) Nos.3576 & 3577 of 2021
04.03.2021

PK(CO)

KB(31.03.2021) 3P 4C