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W.P.No.30861 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 31.10.2023

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.S. RAMESH

W.P.No.30861 of 2023
and W.M.P.No.30519 of 2023

S. Baskaran

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The District Chief Educational Officer,
District Chief Educational Office,
Thiruvarur,
Thiruvarur District.

2.The District Elementary Educational Officer,
District Elementary Educational Office,
Thiruvarur,
Thiruvarur District.

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records connected to the impugned suspension order in proceeding No.Rc.No.1274/B2/2018 under Clause (2) of Sub-Rule (e) of 17 of Tamil Nadu Civil Service (Discipline and Appeal) Rules dated 31.05.2018 of the 2nd respondent and quash the same as illegal and consequently directing the respondents to reinstate the petitioner in service with continuity of service and with all other attendant benefits.



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For Petitioner : Mr.K. Saravanan

For Respondents : Mr.V. Manoharan,
Additional Government Pleader

ORDER

With the consent of both the parties, this Writ Petition is taken up for final disposal at the stage of admission itself.

2. On the ground of prolonged suspension, the petitioner seeks for interference to the suspension order through the present Writ Petition.

3. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in the case of '*Ajay Kumar Choudhary v. Union of India*', reported in '*(2015) 7 SCC 291*', had set certain guidelines with regard to prolonged suspension. On a reference made by me, the Hon'ble Full Bench of this Court, in the case of '*P.Kannan Vs. Commissioner of Municipal Administration and others*' reported in '*(2022) 2 CTC 353*', had held that the judgement of the Apex Court, in the case of *Ajay Kumar Choudhary (supra)*, does not lay down an absolute proposition of law that an order of suspension cannot be



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continued beyond the period of three months on the circumstances mentioned therein and that the order of suspension should be analysed on the facts of each case, considering the gravity of charges and the Rules applicable. It was further held that the revocation of the suspension with a direction to the employer to post the delinquent in a non-sensitive post, as held in *Ajay Kumar Choudhary's case (supra)*, also cannot be endorsed or directed as a matter of course.

4. In line with the orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, as well as the Hon'ble Full Bench of this Court, the Government, in G.O.(Ms) No.81, Human Resources Management (N) Department, dated 04.08.2022, had stipulated a compendium of instructions for review of suspension orders in matter which are pending inquiry into grave charges.

5. On consideration of these instructions in G.O.(Ms) No.81, this Court is of the view that the respondents herein could be directed to review the order of suspension, in accordance with the guidelines issued thereunder.



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6. In the light of the above findings, there shall be a direction to the respondents herein to consider the petitioner's representation dated 18.01.2023, seeking for revocation of the suspension order, in accordance with the instructions issued by the Government in G.O.(Ms).No.81, dated 04.08.2022, and pass appropriate orders, within a period of four (4) weeks from the date of receipt of a copy this order.

7. Accordingly, the Writ Petition stands disposed of. No costs.
Connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

31.10.2023

Index:Yes
Speaking order
Internet: Yes
Neutral Citation: Yes/No

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To

- 1.The District Chief Educational Officer,
District Chief Educational Office,
Thiruvarur,
Thiruvarur District.
- 2.The District Elementary Educational Officer,
District Elementary Educational Office,
Thiruvarur,
Thiruvarur District.



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M.S.RAMESH,J.

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