



WEB COPY



W.P.No.35371 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 21.12.2023

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.S. RAMESH

W.P.No.35371 of 2023

R. Sangeetha

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The District Collector,
Villupuram District,

2.The Revenue Divisional Officer,
Villupuram,
Villupuram District.

3.The Inspector of Police,
Vigilance & Anti-Corruption Department,
Villupuram, Villupuram 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 pertaining to the order of the 2nd respondent proceedings vide Ref.No.A1/2700/2023, dated 24.07.2023 and quash the same as illegal, improper, incompetent and ultra-virus and consequentially direction to the 2nd respondent herein to consider the representation dated 16.11.2023 to reinstate the petitioner to the post of Village Administrative Officer, Ariyalur Thirukai Village, Villupuram Taluk, Villupuram District with all back wages.



W.P.No.35371 of 2023

For Petitioner : Mr.V. Janarthanan

For Respondents : Mr.P. Ganesan,
Government Advocate

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 continued beyond the period of three months on the circumstances



W.P.No.35371 of 2023

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.



W.P.No.35371 of 2023

WEB COPY

6. In the light of the above findings, there shall be a direction to the second respondent herein, to consider the petitioner's representation dated 16.11.2023, seeking for reinstatement by revoking 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 two (2) weeks from the date of receipt of a copy this order.

7. Accordingly, the Writ Petition stands disposed of. No costs.

21.12.2023

Index: Yes/No

Speaking order/Non-speaking order

Internet: Yes/No

Neutral Citation: Yes/No

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W.P.No.35371 of 2023

WEB COPY

To

- 1.The District Collector,
Villupuram District,
- 2.The Revenue Divisional Officer,
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- 3.The Inspector of Police,
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W.P.No.35371 of 2023

M.S.RAMESH,J.

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W.P.No.35371 of 2023

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