



WEB COPY



W.P. No. 1739 of 2024

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 24.01.2024

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE P.D. AUDIKESAVALU

W.P. No. 1739 of 2024

and

W.M.P. No. 1782 and 1784 of 2024

Viswanathan

... Petitioner

-VS-

1. The District Collector,
Coimbatore District,
Collector Office,
State Bank Road,
Gopalapuram,
Coimbatore - 641 301.

2. The Regional Directorate of Municipal Administration,
Marudhasalapuram Main Road,
Kumarnathapuram,
Chettipalayam - 641 603.
Tiruppur,

3. The Commissioner,
Office of the Commissioner,
Mettupalayam Municipality,
Mettupalayam - 641 301.

...

Respondents

Prayer:- Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, 1950, praying to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records relating to Notice bearing No. 2682/2006/A1 dated 18.12.2023 issued by the Third Respondent and to quash the same and further to direct the Respondents not to disturb the peaceful occupation of the Petitioner with



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respect to Shop No. 55 till the expiry of the lease period.

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For Petitioner : Ms. Y.Kavitha
For Respondents : Mr. G.Nanmaran,
Special Government Pleader

ORDER

Heard Ms. Y.Kavitha, Learned Counsel for the Petitioner and Mr. G.Nanmaran, Learned Special Government Pleader, who takes notice for the Respondents, and perused the materials placed on record, apart from the pleadings of the parties.

2. The Third Respondent by Proceedings in Na.Ka. No. 211/2022/A1 dated 25.01.2022 informed the Petitioner that Shop No. 55 in Mettupalayam Bus Stand belonging to it has been allotted to him for the period of lease from 25.01.2022 to 24.01.2025.

3. Since permission had been granted to demolish the dilapidated structures and re-construct the Shopping Complex to modernize the Bus Stand at Mettupalayam by the Government of Tamil Nadu in G.O. (Ms.) No. 174, Municipal Administration and Water Supply [NaNi5(1)] Department dated



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14.12.2022, the Third Respondent by Notice in Na. Ka. No. 2682/2006/A1

dated 18.12.2023 required the Petitioner to vacate from the shop in his occupation within 15 days from the date of receipt of its copy, which is assailed in this Writ Petition raising the plea that there has been a pre-mature termination of the lease before the lapse of its tenure.

4. In response, Learned Special Government Pleader appearing for the Respondents, on instructions, states that the Bus Stand would be demolished in a phased manner and the Petitioner would be given an alternate shop within the premises of the Bus Stand for the remaining period of the existing lease, and he would be entitled to preference in the new building after construction in terms of Rule 316(11) of the Tamil Nadu Urban Local Bodies Rules, 2023, which reads as follows:-

316. Licencing or leasing of Immovable Properties -

(11) (a) In case of auction for licence of rental shops belonging to the municipality, the Council may, on application by the concerned person, give preference to,—

- (i) In case of demolition and reconstruction, existing licensees of the demolished shopping complex;



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- (ii) Licensees of another shopping complex belonging to the municipality which was demolished or diverted to some other use by the municipality;
 - (iii) Commercial shop owners in lands acquired by the municipality;
- (b) (i) Any person claiming such preference shall be required to match the highest bid price and submit necessary documents proving eligibility for preference;
- (ii) The order of preference shall be in the same order as in clause (a) and within each category, the preference shall be in order of seniority within that category with respect to the month and year of demolition or acquisition;
- (iii) Preference in allotment shall not be applicable to legal heirs of such persons if the said person is deceased;
- (c) Five per cent of the shops may be allotted to persons with disability, willing to match the highest bid.

He has also filed a memo dated 24.01.2024 to that effect, which is placed on



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5. Having regard to the aforesaid submissions made, the following order is passed:-

- (i) the Third Respondent shall allot an alternate shop within the premises of the Bus Stand for the remaining lease period till 31.05.2025;
- (ii) after the expiry of the lease period, the Petitioner shall vacate from the shop in his occupation and on completion of the construction of new Shopping Complex in the Bus Stand, the Third Respondent shall extend the benefit of preference in the allotment to the Petitioner as provided in Rule 316 of the Rules; and
- (iii) in the event of any failure of any of the parties to carry out their respective obligations, the aggrieved party is not precluded from working out his rights before the proper forum in the manner recognized by law.

In the result, the Writ Petition is disposed on the aforesaid terms. Consequently, the connected Miscellaneous Petitions are closed. No costs.

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Index: Yes/No

NCC: Yes/No

Note: Issue order copy by 05.06.2024.



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To

1. The District Collector,
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2. The Regional Directorate of Municipal Administration,
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Chettipalayam - 641 603.
Tiruppur,
3. The Commissioner,
Office of the Commissioner,
Mettupalayam Municipality,
Mettupalayam - 641 301.

Copy to

Viswanathan,
S/o. Sivasamy,
Door No. 4/618, Annur Road,
Jeevanaandhapuram,
Mettupalayam,
Coimbatore – 641 301.



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P.D. AUDIKESAVALU, J.

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