

**O.A. No. 551 of 2024****K.KUMARESH BABU, J.**

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Orders were reserved in this application on 11.09.2024 and when proceeding to dictate the order, I have found the memo filed by the respondent indicating that they had invoked the provisions of Section 21-A of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act. Hence, the applications were directed to be listed under the caption 'for being spoken to' on 14.10.2024.

2. When clarification about the memo had been raised by this Court, the learned counsel for the applicants had submitted that they would get instructions from the applicant. Thereafter, the matter was adjourned to 19.10.2024 and thereafter today, i.e., 24.10.2024.

3. Today when the matter was taken up for hearing, the applicant consented for appointment of sole Arbitrator, being a retired Judge of this Court in reponse to the notice under Section 21 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.



4. Considering the submissions made by the learned counsel on either side, this Court appoints **Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Parthiban, Former Judge, Madras High Court** residing at No.5069, 12th Street, Z Block, Anna Nagar, Chennai - 600040 as Sole Arbitrator to enter upon the dispute between the petitioner and the respondents.

5. The applicant herein is at liberty to take out an appropriate application, which is the subject matter of this original application before the Sole Arbitrator. Such application shall be made before the Sole Arbitrator, within a period of two weeks from the date of him entering reference. The interim order shall continue till the application taken up for leaving by the learned Arbitrator and he is at liberty to vary, modify pending its disposal.

6. The present application is disposed of on the above terms. No order as to costs.

24.10.2024

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Dated : 24.10.2024