



C.R.P. (NPD) No.2677 of 2021
and CMP No.19730 of 2021

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 11.01.2024

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE R.SUBRAMANIAN

Civil Revision Petition (NPD) No.2677 of 2021
and CMP No.19730 of 2021

Shanmugaraj

.. Petitioner

Vs.

Ponnusamy

.. Respondent

PRAYER: Civil Revision Petition filed under Article 227 of the Constitution of India, to set aside the order dated 02.08.2021 made in I.A.No.998 of 2018 in O.S.No.359 of 2015 on the file of the learned Subordinate Judge, Dharapuram insofar as condition imposed to deposit 70% of the decree amount is concerned by allowing this Civil Revision Petition.

For Petitioner : Mr.N.Ponraj

For Respondent : Mr. M.R.Thangavel

ORDER

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WEB COPY The Revision is against an order made in IA No.998 of 2018 in OS No.359 of 2015 and an application filed to set aside the *exparte* decree dated 17.09.2018.

2. The respondent herein filed a suit for recovery of a sum of Rs.3,69,040/- with subsequent interest on the principal amount of Rs.2,80,000/-. The said suit was decreed *exparte* on 17.09.2018 since the defendant failed to cross-examine P.W.1. Immediately thereafter on 06.10.2018, the petitioner filed IA No.998 of 2018 seeking to set aside the *exparte* decree. That application was kept pending for almost three years and it is seen from the orders of the Trial Court that the respondent/plaintiff took adjournment for filing counter for three years, but did not file a counter.

3. After setting the respondent *exparte* in this application, the learned Trial Judge imposed onerous condition of a direction to deposit 70% of the



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decree amount for setting aside the *exparte* decree. No doubt a Court is empowered to impose condition for setting aside the *exparte* decree, but the condition cannot be onerous condition. When the rights of parties are not decided on merits, the Court cannot impose a condition directing the petitioner to deposit a major portion of the decree amount to set aside an *exparte* decree. It is clear to my mind that the above condition directing the petitioner to deposit 70% of the decree amount is highly onerous and the same cannot be sustained by this Court.

4. Hence the Revision is **allowed**, the order imposing condition to deposit 70% of the decree amount is set aside, IA No.998 of 2018 will stand allowed subject to the condition, the petitioner pays cost of Rs.5,000/- to the respondent within a period four weeks from today. Cost shall be paid to the counsel appearing in this Court. On such payment and production of receipt, the Trial Court will restore the suit in OS NO. 359 of 2015 and dispose it of in accordance with law within a period of three months there from. No costs. Consequently, the connected miscellaneous petition is closed.



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Index: No

Internet: Yes

speaking order

Neutral Citation: No

To

The Subordinate Judge,
Dharapuram

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