



WEB COPY



W.P.No.34015 of 2024

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 19.11.2024

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.SUNDAR

and

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE K.RAJASEKAR

W.P.No.34015 of 2024

G.Baskaran

S/o.Late C.Govindan

... Petitioner

Vs.

1. The District Collector
Chennai District
4th Floor, Singaravelar Maligai
Chennai – 600 001
2. The Commissioner
Madhavaram Municipality
Chennai
3. The Tahsildar
Madhavaram Taluk
Madhavaram
Chennai – 600 060
4. The Zonal Officer of Madhavaram
Zone – III, Chennai
5. Umarani

Page Nos.1/8



W.P.No.34015 of 2024

6. Ravi Kumar

... Respondents

WEB COPY Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of The Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus directing respondents 1 to 4 to remove the encroachments made by respondents 5 and 6 in imaginary Survey No.1173 situated abutting plot No.219, Swamy Ramalingam Colony, Ponniyamman Medu, Madhavaram, Chennai – 110 and to ensure the respondents for the usage of public as well as petitioner without any obstruction by 5th and 6th respondents.

For Petitioner : Mr.P.Prabhu

For Respondents : Mr.T.K.Saravanan
Government Advocate for R1 to R3

Mr.D.B.R.Prabhu
Standing Counsel for R4

ORDER

[Order of the Court was made by **M.SUNDAR, J.,**]

This order will now dispose of the captioned 'Writ Petition' ['WP' for the sake of brevity].

2. Mr.P.Prabhu, learned counsel on record for writ petitioner is before us.



W.P.No.34015 of 2024

3. Adverting to a letter from the writ petitioner dated 10.07.2024, learned counsel for writ petitioner submitted that there is alleged encroachment in 'Survey No.1173 situated abutting plot No.219, Swamy Ramalingam Colony, Ponniamman Medu, Madhavaram, Chennai – 110' [hereinafter 'said land' for the sake of convenience and clarity] by R5 and R6 before us. To be noted, R5 and R6 are private respondents and writ petitioner describe this survey number as 'imaginary survey number'.

4. Considering the obtaining position, we are of the view that the captioned WP can be disposed of by ordering notice to respondents (R1 to R4) and putting in a safety valve / adequate protection qua alleged encroachers i.e., R5 & R6.

5. Issue notice to official respondents i.e., R1 to R4.

6. Mr.T.K.Saravanan, learned Government Advocate accepts notice for R1 to R3 and Mr.D.B.R.Prabhu, learned Standing counsel accepts notice for R4.



W.P.No.34015 of 2024

7. In the light of what has been alluded to supra and considering the limited scope of the captioned WP, with the consent of both sides, main WP was taken up.

8. It was submitted by learned State counsel that G.O.(Ms)No.64, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Land Disposal Wing, dated 08.02.2022 has been put in place, wherein and whereby Divisional Monitoring committee, District Monitoring Committee and State Steering Committee have been constituted *inter alia* for a single point reporting / monitoring system qua Government lands.

9. In the light of the narrative thus far, we deem it appropriate to refer the matter to the Divisional Monitoring Committee headed by Revenue Divisional Officer, Chennai Central, in the light of G.O.(Ms)No.64, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Land Disposal Wing, dated 08.02.2022.



W.P.No.34015 of 2024

10. This Court directs the jurisdictional Divisional Monitoring Committee to examine if there is encroachment qua said land. The Divisional Monitoring Committee shall also ensure that adequate and ample opportunity is given to persons concerned, more particularly alleged encroachers (R5 & R6) before taking a call. In this regard, we are acutely conscious that the matter is being disposed of in the Admission Board without notice to alleged encroachers and therefore, this safety valve is put in place. To be noted, all the rights and contentions of alleged encroachers are preserved for being raised before the Committee concerned which shall consider the same on its own merits and in accordance with law untrammelled by this proceedings in this Court.

11. The Divisional Monitoring Committee qua G.O.(Ms)No.64, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Land Disposal Wing, dated 08.02.2022, shall (if it comes to the conclusion that there is encroachment) report the encroachment for further action (for removal of encroachment which again shall be after giving adequate and ample opportunity to alleged encroachers).



W.P.No.34015 of 2024

12. It is open to the WP petitioner and or anyone concerned with this matter to come to this Court on the same issue even with a similar / same prayer if there are any change of circumstances.

13. We make it clear that we have not expressed any view or opinion as to whether there is encroachment or not qua said land as it turns on facts and it is for the Divisional Monitoring Committee to take a call on this aspect of the matter. We also make it clear that this exercise will not apply to patta land and it will apply only to public land, if there is any encroachment in public land.

14. Captioned WP is disposed of with the aforementioned observations and directives in the aforesaid manner. There shall be no order as to costs.

(M.S.,J.)

(K.R.S.,J.)

19.11.2024

Index : Yes / No

Neutral Citation : Yes / No

Speaking order / Non-speaking order

gpa

Page Nos.6/8



W.P.No.34015 of 2024

To

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WEB COPY



W.P.No.34015 of 2024

M.SUNDAR, J.,

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gpa

W.P.No.34015 of 2024

19.11.2024

Page Nos.8/8