



W.A(MD)No.1517 of 2024

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 04.09.2024

CORAM :

**THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE R.SUBRAMANIAN
and
THE HONOURABLE MRS.JUSTICE L.VICTORIA GOWRI**

**W.A(MD)No.1517 of 2024
and
CMP(MD)No.11773 of 2024**

G.Arumugam

... Appellant

vs.

1. The District Collector,
Thoothukudi District,
Thoothukudi.

2. The Tahsildar,
Sri Vaigundam Taluk,
Thoothukudi District.

... Respondents

Prayer : Appeal filed under Clause 15 of the Letters Patent, against the order dated 21.06.2024 in W.P(MD)No.661 of 2019.

For Appellant : Mr.M.Jegadeesh Pandian
For Respondents : Mr.P.T.Thiraviam, Government Advocate



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JUDGMENT

(Judgement of the Court was made by **R.SUBRAMANIAN, J.**)

Aggrieved by the order directing the petitioner to deposit Rs.5,00,000/- as a condition for preferring appeal against the order of the Revenue Divisional Officer dated 20.05.2022 imposing a penalty of Rs. 3,42,382.90/-, the petitioner in the writ petition is on appeal.

2. Heard Mr.M.Jegadeesh Pandian, learned counsel appearing for the appellant and Mr.P.T.Thiraviam, learned Government Advocate appearing for the respondents.

3. Admittedly, the fine imposed was Rs.3,42,382.90/- by order of the Revenue Divisional Officer dated 20.05.2002. Recovery proceedings were launched after 17 years on 02.01.2019. By that time, the fine amount with interest had swelled to Rs.18,89,947.88/-. The swelling is due to the inaction on the part of the officials concerned. We are, therefore, of the opinion that the appellant/petitioner shall not be burdened because of the inaction of the officials. We, therefore, modify the order of the learned Single Judge and permit the appellant/petitioner to file an appeal on deposit of the original fine amount of Rs.3,42,382.90/- within a period of four weeks from today. The



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appellant/petitioner will have 30 days time to file appeal from the date of such deposit.

4. The Writ Appeal is ordered on the above terms. No costs.
Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

(R.S.M, J.) (L.V.G, J.)
04.09.2024

Index : Yes / No
Neutral Citation : Yes / No
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To

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2. The Tahsildar,
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R.SUBRAMANIAN, J.
and
L.VICTORIA GOWRI, J.

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JUDGMENT MADE IN
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