



W.P.No.8993 of 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

Dated : 14.03.2025

Coram

The Hon'ble Mr.Justice Krishnan Ramasamy

W.P.No.8993 of 2025

and

W.M.P.Nos.10102 and 10104 of 2025

Tvl.Adyar Cool Biz
(Represented by its Proprietor
Muhammed Shereef)
75, Anna Nedunchalai, Kandanchavadi,
Chennai- 600 096.

...Petitioner

..Vs..

State Tax Officer,
Thiruvanmiyur Assessment Circle,
Room No.242, Integrated Commercial Taxes &
Registration Department Building,
Nandanam, Chennai-600 035.

... Respondent

Prayer: This Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a Writ of Certiorari to call for the records relating to the impugned 33AXLPM7693P1ZG/2019-20 dated 09.08.2024 passed by the respondent and quash the same, being arbitrary, passed in violation of principles of natural justice.



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W.P.No.8993 of 2025

For Petitioner : Mr.Gowtham P.

For Respondent : Mr.C.Harsha Raj
Special Government Pleader (T)

ORDER

The challenge in this writ petition is to the order dated 09.08.2024 passed by the Respondent and to quash the same.

2. Mr.C.Harsha Raj, learned Special Government Pleader (Taxes), takes notice on behalf of the respondent.

3. By consent of the parties, the main Writ Petition is taken up for disposal at the time of admission stage itself.

4. The learned counsel for the petitioner submits that since the show cause notice dated 23.05.2025 was uploaded in the GST portal without serving through physical mode, the petitioner was unaware of the same and hence could not file its reply. Subsequently, the respondent passed the impugned order dated 09.08.2024, demanding tax along with interest and penalty for the Assessment Year 2019-2020 and the same was also uploaded in the GST Portal.



W.P.No.8993 of 2025

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The petitioner came to know of the same belatedly.

5. Further, he would submit that impugned assessment order came to be passed without hearing the Petitioner and therefore the same is passed in violation of principles of natural justice. Hence he prays to set aside the impugned order.

6. The learned Special Government Pleader (Taxes) appearing for the Respondent submitted that though the Show Cause Notice as well as reminder notices were issued to the Petitioner, by uploading the same in the GST portal, the petitioner failed to file its reply and hence assessment order came to be passed.

7. In reply, the learned counsel for the petitioner would fairly submit that the petitioner is now ready and willing to pay 25% of the disputed tax liability made by the respondent in the event of providing an opportunity to them to file their reply along with the required documents to substantiate their claim, for which, the learned Special Government Pleader appearing for the Respondent has no serious objection.



W.P.No.8993 of 2025

WEB COPY

8. Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Special Government Pleader for the Respondent and also perused the materials available on record.

9. In the present case, since all the notices were uploaded in the GST portal, the petitioner was unaware of the same and hence could not file its reply. Under such circumstances, impugned order came to be passed.

10. It is settled law that violation of principles of natural justice is a failure of due process. If any order is passed against the petitioner with demand, that order has to be passed after giving an opportunity of personal hearing to the petitioner otherwise, it will amount to depriving the interest of the petitioner and the same amounts to violation of principles of natural justice.

11. In the case on hand, the impugned order came to be passed without hearing the petitioner. Hence, this Court is of the view that the impugned order passed is in violation of principles of natural justice and it is just and necessary to provide an opportunity to the petitioner to establish their case on merits. In such view of the matter, this Court is inclined to set aside the impugned



W.P.No.8993 of 2025

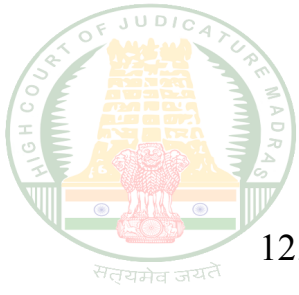
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assessment order dated 09.08.2024 passed by the Respondent. Accordingly, this Court passes the following order:-

(i) The order impugned herein is set aside and the matter is remanded to the Respondent for fresh consideration on condition that as volunteered by the Petitioner, they shall pay 25% of disputed tax to the Respondent within a period of *four weeks* from the date of receipt of a copy of this order and the setting aside of the impugned order will take effect from the date of payment of the said amount.

(ii) The Petitioner shall file their reply/objection along with the required documents, if any, within a period of two weeks thereafter.

(iii) On filing of such reply/objection by the petitioner, the respondent shall consider the same and issue a 14 days clear notice by fixing the date of personal hearing to the petitioner and thereafter, pass appropriate orders on merits and in accordance with law, after hearing the petitioner, as expeditiously as possible.



W.P.No.8993 of 2025

12. Accordingly, the writ petition is disposed of. There is no order as to costs. Consequently, the connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

14.03.2025

Speaking/Non-speaking order
Index : Yes / No
Neutral Citation : Yes / No
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W.P.No.8993 of 2025

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State Tax Officer,
Thiruvannmiyur Assessment Circle,
Room No.242, Integrated Commercial Taxes &
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W.P.No.8993 of 2025

Krishnan Ramasamy,J.,

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W.P.No.8993 of 2025

14.03.2025