



W.P.No.25023 of 2025

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 22.08.2025

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE Ms. JUSTICE P.T.ASHA

W.P.No.25023 of 2025
and W.M.P.Nos.28197 and 8200 of 2025

P.Mariyappan

... Petitioner

Vs.

1. The Director of Horticulture and Plantation Crops,
O/o. The Director of Horticulture and Plantation
Crops Department, Chepauk, Chennai 600 005.

2. The Joint Director of Horticulture,
O/o. The Joint Director of Horticulture,
Villupuram, Villupuram.

3. Velmurugan

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Certiorari calling for the records relating to the impugned order passed by the 1st respondent vide his proceedings in செ.மு.ஆணை எண்.கபநி/17502/2024 dated 01/07/2025 and quash the same as illegal insofar as the petitioner and the 3rd respondent is concerned.



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For Petitioner : Mr.B.Saravanan
for M/s.Ajmal Associates
For Respondents-1 and 2 : Mr.G.Nanmaran
Special Government Pleader

ORDER

The petitioner seeks to quash the order passed by the 1st respondent in his proceedings in செ.மு.ஆணை எண்.கபநி/17502/2024 dated 01/07/2025.

2.The contention of the petitioner as set out in the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition is briefly set out herein below. The petitioner was initially appointed as an Assistant Agriculture Officer on 28.02.2011 and this post was re-designated as Assistant Horticulture Officer after the bifurcation of the department. The petitioner would submit that after serving at various blocks, he was ultimately posted as Assistant Horticulture Officer at Kanai block on 13.07.2022 in which post he continues till the passing of the impugned order.



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3. While so, by order dated 01.07.2025 the petitioner was transferred to the State Agriculture Farm at Valliyoor Block, Tirunelveli. The transfer order states that it is for administrative reasons and based on consent. The petitioner is aggrieved by the transfer on the ground that the reason given in the order is absolutely false as the transfer itself has been engineered in order to accommodate the 3rd respondent who had requested transfer to the petitioner's place. Therefore, the petitioner would seek to have the impugned order quashed.

4. The 2nd respondent has filed a counter affidavit *inter-alia* denying the allegations made by the petitioner. He would submit that the petitioner was officiating as an Assistant Horticulture Officer in the office of the Assistant Director of Horticulture, Kanai Block. Till the passing of the impugned order, the petitioner had been posted at various blocks within Villupuram District and had finally been appointed at Kanai Block. From the date of his appointment, i.e from 28.02.2011, the petitioner has been working in



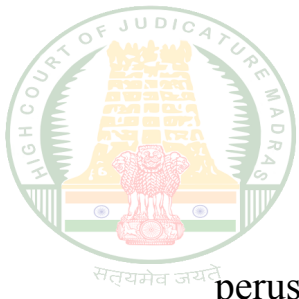
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the very same district, i.e for 15 years without any transfer outside the district. At this juncture, the 3rd respondent had requested a transfer to Villupuram District. Taking into account the experience of the petitioner, he was transferred to the State Horticulture Farm at Valliyoor Block, Tirunelveli District through the impugned order dated 01.07.2025. The 2nd respondent would submit that the transfer is an incident of service and it is well open to the employer to transfer an employee to a particular place due to administrative reasons. The petitioner cannot insist that he should be retained in the very same district in which he has been posted.

5. Heard the learned counsels on either sides and perused the materials available on record.

6. The petitioner, by filing the above writ petition, seeks to stake a claim for being retained in Villupuram District. The petitioner has been appointed to serve the Horticulture Department of the State and transfer is one of the incidents of his employment. From a



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perusal of the chart which has been submitted by the respondents, it is seen that the petitioner has been posted only within Villupuram District from 28.02.2011 till today. He served at Vikravandi from 28.02.2011 to 04.08.2013, at Mugaiyur between 05.08.2013 and 31.07.2016, at Kaanai between 01.08.2016 and 20.08.2016 and at Thiruvannainallur between 20.08.2018 and 11.07.2022 and at Kaanai from 13.07.2022 to till the date of the impugned order. The above details would clearly indicate that the petitioner had been posted at Kanai Block for over 3 years. The 3rd respondent had requested a transfer to any place in Villupuram and taking note of the fact that the petitioner was qualified to take charge of the Horticulture Farm at Valliyoor block, Tirunelveli he has been transferred. Except for stating that the transfer was a method to bring in the 3rd respondent to Kanai block, there are no other serious grounds of challenge. The fact that the petitioner was transferred at the request of the 3rd respondent has not been denied. However, the petitioner has not been able to make out any malafides in the transfer or that he has been put to any kind of inconvenience.



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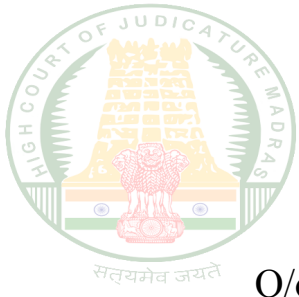
7. Therefore, considering the fact that the transfer has been made for administrative exigencies, this Court does not deem it fit to interfere with the same. Accordingly, the writ petition is dismissed. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

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Index : Yes/No
Speaking Order : Yes / No
srn

To

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O/o. The Director of Horticulture and Plantation
Crops Department, Chepauk, Chennai 600 005.
2. The Joint Director of Horticulture,



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WEB COPY O/o. The Joint Director of Horticulture,
Villupuram,
Villupuram.



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