



W.P.No.33004 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 31.10.2025

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THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.DHANDAPANI

W.P.Nos.33004 and 33008 of 2025

and

W.M.P Nos.32700, 32701, 32704 and 32705 of 2025

M/s.Sri Lakshmi Gas Carriers
Represented by its Managing Proprietor
M.Senthikumar, S/o.Muthusamy
1/3, Sannagam Akashya Enclave
Annamalai Nagar Annex,
Seelanaickenpatty
Salem-636n 201. .

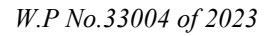
... Petitioner
in WP.33004/2025

M/s.Sri Lakshmi Transport Service
Represented by its Managing Partner
Kavitha, W/o.Kasiviswanathan
1/34, Nadu Thery, Tho. Jedarpalayam
Namagiripet Via, Rasipuram Taluk
Namakkal District.

... Petitioner
in W.P.33008/2025

Vs.

1.The General Manager (Installation)
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd
Dharmapuri Terminal
Sivadi Vilalge, Pagalahali PO
Nallampalli Taluk, Dharmapuri District



... Respondents 1 & 2
in both petitions

... Respondent
in WP.33004/2025

...Respondent in
W.P.33008 of 2025

Prayer in W.P.33008 of 2025 : The Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, to call for the records relating to the impugned proceedings of the 3rd respondent dated 28.10.2023 cancelling the Letter of Acceptance of the petitioner and consequent proceedings of the 1st respondent dated 07.11.2023 calling for fresh tender for Tank Trucks with bottom loading facilities and quash the same and



W.P No.33004 of 2023

consequently direct the respondents to induct the petitioners vehicles as per the Letter of Acceptance dated 17.11.2022.

In both the petitions

For Petitioner : Mr.D.Jeevitha
For Respondents : Mr.Mohamed Fayaz Ali
Standing Counsel

COMMON O R D E R

These two writ petitions have been filed, challenging the impugned impugned proceedings of the 3rd respondent dated 28.10.2023 cancelling the Letter of Acceptance of the petitioner and consequent proceedings of the 1st respondent dated 07.11.2023 calling for fresh tender for Tank Trucks with bottom loading facilities and consequently direct the respondents to induct the petitioners vehicles as per the Letter of Acceptance dated 17.11.2022.

2. Since the issue involved in both the writ petitions is one and the same, the writ petitions are disposed of by way of a common order.

3. The case of the petitioner is that the petitioner is expertise in the field of of Transportation of Petroleum products by road through Tank Trucks, on the basis of the license entered with the petroleum companies. Whiles, the



W.P No.33004 of 2023

respondents herein called upon a tender for transportation of bulk petroleum products like Motor Spirit/High Speed Diesel and Branded Fuels from HPCL, Dharmapuri Terminal to locations within the state and outside the state. As per the said tender, the Dharmapuri Terminal has been provided with infrastructure for bottom loading Tank Trucks. Since the bottom loading facility is a new technology and vehicles with that facility was not available in the open market, hence the respondents had allowed top loading facility vehicle also to participate in the tender, subject to a condition that the Transporters have to provide with the undertaking that such Tank Trucks shall be converted and offered with bottom loading as on date of induction. In the said tender, majority of the top loading vehicles only participated in the tender under transporter category. The petitioner had participated in the tender with the required qualifications, and the tender was accepted. A confirmation was also given on 17.11.2022. However, the petitioner was not awarded the tender. The respondents decided to award the tenders only to the transporters possessing bottom loading vehicles, excluding the ineligible top loading tanker lorries. As per the conditions, only persons possessing the bottom loading vehicles alone were entitled to participate in the tender, and for which, a letter of intent was also issued to the petitioner to produce such a vehicle on or before 17.11.2022. However, the petitioner was unable to produce the vehicle, as the same was not



W.P No.33004 of 2023

available in the market. They had given L1 status to the tanker lorry owners, who possessed the bottom loading capacity. Subsequently, the respondents passed the impugned order dated 07.11.2023 permitting only those transporters mentioned in Annexure-I to participate. Challenging the same, the present writ petitions have been filed.

4. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that, the respondents unfairly selected the persons with bottom loading vehicles, while ignoring those persons with top-loading tanker lorries. Such discrepancy is impermissible one. Accordingly, he prayed for appropriate orders.

5. The learned counsel for the respondents would submit that already L1 was selected and the selection of L1 was made only on the basis of eligibility criteria, wherein only persons who possessing bottom loading vehicles alone were entitled to participate in the tender, in view of the technology for safe loading of the petroleum products. It was an additional requirement applicable to those who had already been selected. The petitioner must challenge the selection of L1 itself, not merely the consequential orders. Accordingly, he prayed for dismissal of both the writ petitions.



W.P No.33004 of 2023

6. In view of the submissions made on either side and having regard to the fact and circumstances of the case, this Court finds no merit in the contention raised by the petitioner. The selection of LOA was made on the basis of eligibility criteria prescribed for persons possessing bottom loading vehicles, which is an additional technical requirement introduced for ensuring safety in loading of petroleum products. The petitioner, having not challenged the selection process or the L1 itself at the relevant stage, cannot now seek to quash the consequential order.

7. Accordingly, both the writ petitions stand dismissed. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

31.10.2025

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Index: Yes/ No

Speaking Order: Yes/ No

NCC: Yes/ No



W.P No.33004 of 2023

To

- 1.The General Manager (Installation)
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd
Dharmapuri Terminal
Sivadi Vilalge, Pagalahali PO
Nallampalli Taluk, Dharmapuri District
- 2.The Senior Manager-Operation and
Maintenance,
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd
Dharmapuri Terminal
Sivadi Vilalge, Pagalahali PO
Nallampalli Taluk, Dharmapuri District
- 3.The General Manager (Location Incharge)
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd
Thalamuthu Natarajan Building
Chennai.
- 4.The General Manager (Location Incharge)
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd
Dharmapuri Terminal
Sivadi Vilalge, Pagalahali PO
Nallampalli Taluk, Dharmapuri District



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W.P No.33004 of 2023

M. DHANDAPANI, J.

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31.10.2025