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W.P.No.2211 of 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 28.01.2025

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE **M.SUNDAR**

and

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE **K.RAJASEKAR**

W.P.No.2211 of 2025

P.Mani

S/o.Palanigounder

... Petitioner

VS

1. The District Collector
District Collector Officer
1st Floor, Main Building District Collectorate
Tiruchengode Road
Namakkal - 637 003.
2. The Revenue Divisional Officer
Revenue Divisional Office
Vellore Road, Thiruchengode
Namakkal - 637 211.
3. The Thasildhar
Thasildhar Office
Vellore Road, Thiruchengode
Namakkal - 637 211.
4. The Village Administrative Officer
Karumapuram Village
Thiruchengodu Taluk

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Namakkal District.

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5. K.S.Thambi
S/o.Sengoda Gounder

6. Palaniyappan @ Palanisamy
S/o.Nachimuthu Gounder

7. T.Rajavel
S/o.Thangavel

8. Sasikumar
S/o.Vannankadu

9. P.Mani
S/o.Palanigounder

... Respondents

Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of The Constitution of India
praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to consider
the representations dated 15.09.2022 and 10.10.2023.

For Petitioner : Mr.P.Keerthi Varman
For Respondents : Mr.T.K.Saravanan
Government Advocate,
for R1 to 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].

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2. Mr.P.Keerthi Varman, learned counsel on record for writ petitioner

is before us.

3. Adverting to representations dated 15.09.2022 and 10.10.2023, learned counsel for writ petitioner submitted that there is alleged encroachment in 'common pathway in S.Nos.3/9, 3/13 and 3/12, Kariyappanpatti, Karumapuram Village, Thiruchengode Taluk, Namakkal District' [hereinafter 'said land' for the sake of convenience and clarity] by R5 to R9 before us. To be noted, R5 to R9 are private respondents.

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 encroacher i.e., R5 to R9.

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

6. Mr.T.K.Saravanan, learned Government Advocate, accepts notice for R1 to R4.

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.

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8. It was submitted by learned Government Advocate 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 the Revenue Divisional Officer, Vellore Road, Thiruchengode, Namakkal District, qua G.O.(Ms)No.64, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Land Disposal Wing, dated 08.02.2022.

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 to R9) before taking a call. In this regard, we are acutely conscious that the matter is being disposed of in Admission Board without notice to alleged encroachers and therefore, this safety valve is put in place.

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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). The entire exercise shall be completed within a period of twelve weeks from today i.e., by 22.04.2025.

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



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patta land and it will apply only to public land, if there is any encroachment

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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.)

28.01.2025

Index : Yes / No

Neutral Citation : Yes / No

Speaking / Non-speaking order

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**M.SUNDAR, J.,
and
K.RAJASEKAR, J.,**

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