



WEB COPY



1

W.A.(MD)No.517 OF 2023

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 20.08.2025

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.R.SWAMINATHAN

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE K.RAJASEKAR

W.A.(MD)Nos.517 to 519 of 2023 AND

C.M.P.(MD)Nos.5251 & 5252 of 2023

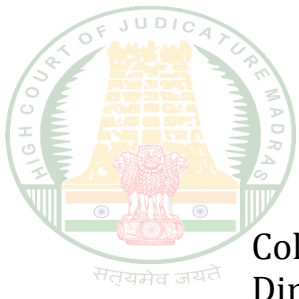
W.A.(MD)No.517 of 2023

1. P.Murugavel
2. A.Rajeswari
3. Senapathi
4. D.Karthikeyan
5. M.Ramkumar

... Appellants/ Petitioners
1, 3,6,26 & 27

Vs.

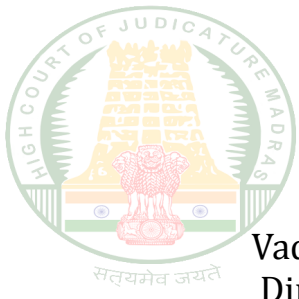
1. The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Secretary,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
Secretariat, Chennai.
2. The Secretary,
Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission,
Frazer Bridge Road, V.O.C. Nagar,
Park Town, Chennai – 600 003.
3. The Director/ Commissioner,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
Panagal Building, Saidapet,
Chennai – 600 015.
4. The District Collector,



Collectorate Building,
Dindigul District.

WEB COPY

5. R.Kamalakannan,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
6. C.Balamurugan,
Rural Welfare Officer Grade-I,
Authoor Panchayt Union,
Dindigul District.
7. A.Senthil Kumaran,
Rural Welfare Officer Grade-I,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
8. P.Ravikumar,
Rural Welfare Officer Grade-I,
Reddiarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
9. R.Maduraiveeran,
Rural Welfare Officer Grade-I,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
10. A.Manoharan,
Rural Welfare Officer Grade-I,
Ottanchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
11. S.Vasanth,
Assistant,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
12. P.Saroja,
Assistant,



WEB COPY

Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

13. R.Sridharan,
Assistant,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
14. V.Kandeepan,
Assistant,
Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
15. P.Rajasekaran,
Assistant,
Palani Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
16. P.Patchaimuthu,
Assistant,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
17. K.Arumugam,
Assistant,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
18. S.Mohammed Siddiq,
Assistant,
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
19. M.Nagendran,
Assistant,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
20. S.Kulanthai Therasa,



WEB COPY

Assistant,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

21. S.Roja,
Assistant,
Natham Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
22. K.Karmegam,
Assistant,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
23. M.Palanichamy,
Assistant,
Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
24. G.Santhidevi,
Assistant,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
25. V.Srinivasa Raghavan,
Assistant,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
26. M.Enjalin Martha,
Assistant,
Assistant Director of Panchayat,
Dindigul.
27. M.Palanichamy,
Assistant,
Batlagundi Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.



WEB COPY

28. S.Thilagam,
Assistant, Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

29. V.Mariyammal,
Assistant,
Otanchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

30. K.Balasundaram,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

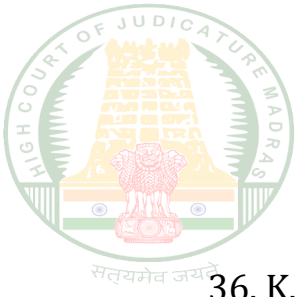
31. M.Buvaneshwari,
Assistant,
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

32. P.Vasuki,
Assistant,
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

33. K.Gurusamy,
Assistant,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

34. V.Kathiresan,
Assistant, District Collectorate,
(Development),
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

35. K.Kalaiselvi,
Assistant,
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.



WEB COPY

36. K.Tamilselvi,
Assistant,
Redidyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

37. T.Kanmani,
Assistant,
District Rural Development Camp,
Dindigul.

38. T.Mahalakshmi,
Assistant,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

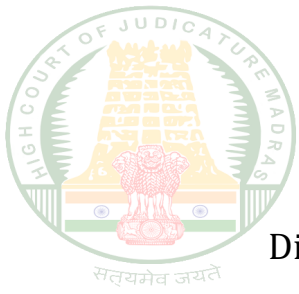
39. P.Arunkumaran,
Assistant,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

40. K.Deepalakshmi,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

41. P.Saraswathi,
Assistant,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

42. H.Ameethaselvi,
Assistant,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

43. C.Sarojini,
Assistant,
Assistant Director (Panchayat) Office,



Dindigul.

WEB COPY

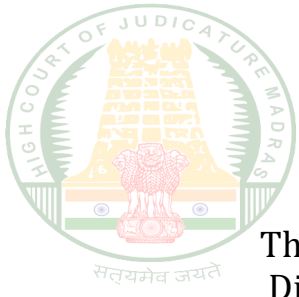
44. P.Kasthuri Thilagam,
Assistant,
Authoor Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
45. K.P.Ramanathan,
Assistant,
District Collectorate(Development),
Dindigul District.
46. R.Muthulakshmi,
Assistant,
Authoor Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
47. K.Sumathi,
Assistant,
Mahalir Scheme,
Dindigul.
48. A.Gopalakrishnan,
Assistant,
Palani Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
49. R.K.Ramachandran,
Assistant,
District Collectorate(Development)
Dindigul.
50. R.Sumathi,
Assistant,
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
51. P.Nambidevi,
Assistant,



WEB COPY

Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

52. R.P.Buvaneshwari,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
53. M.Kavitha,
Assistant,
Ottanchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
54. P.Suganthi,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
55. M.Alagumani,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
56. R.Balasubramanian,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
57. A.Ilangotharan,
Assistant, Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
58. S.Rajamohan,
Assistant,
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
59. S.Muthusamy,
Assistant,



Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

WEB COPY

60. P.Deisy Flora,
Assistant,
Assistant Director(Audit),
Dindigul District.
61. K.Perinbamani,
Assistant,
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
62. R.Ramakrishnan,
Assistant,
Ottanchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
63. Sundaravadivel,
Assistant,
Kodaikanal Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
64. Dhanapandian,
Assistant,
Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
65. Thangadurai,
Assistant,
Reddiarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
66. R.Suganthi,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
67. P.Anitha Ruby,



WEB COPY

Assistant,
(Rural Welfare Officer-1),
Panchayat Union,
Ottanchathiram,
Dindigul District.

... Respondents 1 to 67 /
Respondents 1 to 67

68. K.Carolin Mary,
D/o.Kulanthairaj,
Assistant, Panchayat Union,
Sanarpatti,
Dindigul District.

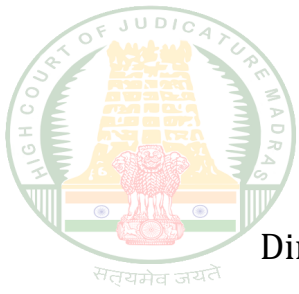
69. K.Rajasekaran,
S/o.Kalimuthu,
Assistant, Panchayat Union,
Reddiyarchathiram, Dindigul District.

70. Rathinapandi,
S/o.Samiraj,
Assistant,
District Rural Development Agency,
Dindigul District.

71. G.Hemalatha,
W/o.Chandran,
Assistant, Panchayat Union,
Nilakkottai, Dindigul District. ... Respondents 68 to 71 /
Writ petitioners 2,4,5&7

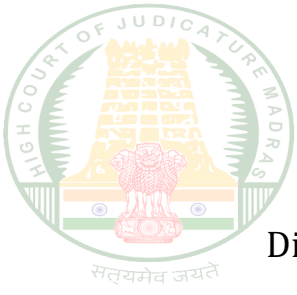
72.Vetriselvan,
S/o.Ramakrishnan,
Assistant, Panchayat Union,
Gujiliyamparai, Dindigul District.

73. A.Damodharan,
S/o.Alagarsamy,
Assistant, O/o.the Personal Assistant to Collector,
Panchayat Development,



Dindigul District.

74. S.Murugesan,
S/o.Subramani,
Assistant (Assistant Director Audit),
Dindigul District.
75. T.Suryakumar,
S/o.Thangasamy,
Assistant, Panchayat Union,
Natham, Dindigul District.
76. S.Sudharani,
W/o.Sankara Narayanan,
Assistant,
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
77. M.Ukkirapandi,
S/o.Muthusamy,
Assistant,
Natham Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
78. K.Rajasekaran,
S/o.Kalimuthu,
Assistant, Reddiarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
79. S.Amirtharaj,
S/o.S.K.Subbaiah,
Assistant,
Kodaikanal Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
80. T.Sudarson,
S/o.Thiraviyam,
Assistant,
Natham Panchayat Union,



Dindigul District.

81. M.Syed Mohamed Shameem,
S/o.S.A.B.Mohammed Salavudeen,
Assistant,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
82. R.Sasipriya,
W/o.Sathishkumar,
Assistant,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
83. D.Raghupathi,
S/o.K.Dhanaraj,
Assistant,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
84. C.Mariyappan,
S/o.Seemairaj,
Assistant,
Authoor Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
85. Sathiyamoorthi Ambedkumar,
S/o.Kanniappan,
Assistant,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
86. B.Muthulakshmi,
W/o.Bose Muthu,
Assistant, Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
87. A.Sakthivel,
S/o.Arumugam,



WEB COPY

Assistant,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

88. M.Amirtharani,
W/o.C.Kanagaraj,
Assistant, Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

89. S.Ilayaraja,
S/o.Subramani,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District ... Respondents 72 to 89/
Writ petitioners 8 to 25

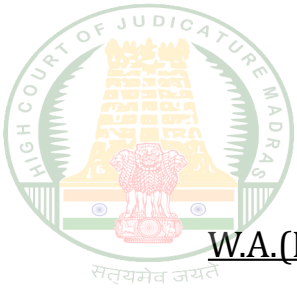
90. Eswari,
W/o.Palani,
Assistant,
Ottanchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District. ... Respondents 90 /
Writ petitioner No.28

Prayer: Writ appeal filed under Clause 15 of the Letters Patent, to allow the writ appeal and set aside the order dated 04.11.2022 passed by the learned single Judge in W.P.(MD)No.12670 of 2017 on the file of this Court.

For Appellants : Mr.Isaac Mohanlal,
Senior Counsel,
for Mr.J.Lawrance.

For R-1 to R-4 : Mr.R.Baskaran,
Additional Advocate General,
assisted by,
Mr.V.Nirmal Kumar,
Government Advocate.

* * *



W.A.(MD)No.518 of 2023

WEB COPY

P.Murugavel

... Appellant / Petitioner

Vs.

1. The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Secretary,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
Secretariat, Chennai.
2. The Secretary,
Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission,
Frazer Bridge Road, V.O.C. Nagar,
Park Town, Chennai – 600 003.
3. The Director/ Commissioner,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
Panagal Building, Saidapet,
Chennai – 600 015.
4. The District Collector,
Collectorate Building,
Dindigul District.
5. K.Gurusamy,
Assistant, Reddiyarchathiram Union,
Dindigul District.
6. M.Buvaneswari,
Assistant,
Panchayat Union,
Authoor, Dindigul District.
7. V.Kathiresan,
Assistant, Development Section,
District Collectorate,
Dindigul District.



8. K.Kalaiselvi,
Assistant, Rural Development Department,
Dindigul District.

9. Vasuki,
Assistant,
Panchayat Union,
Dindigul, Dindigul District. ... Respondents / Respondents

Prayer: Writ appeal filed under Clause 15 of the Letters Patent, to allow the writ appeal and set aside the order dated 04.11.2022 passed by the learned single Judge in W.P.(MD)No.13764 of 2017 on the file of this Court.

For Appellants : Mr.Isaac Mohanlal,
Senior Counsel,
for Mr.J.Lawrance.

For R-1 to R-4 : Mr.R.Baskaran,
Additional Advocate General,
assisted by,
Mr.V.Nirmal Kumar,
Government Advocate.

* * *

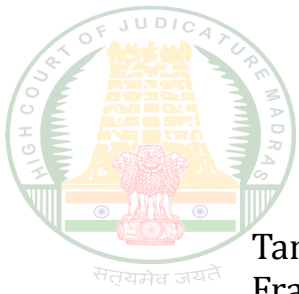
W.A.(MD)No.519 of 2023

P.Murugavel ... Appellant / Petitioner

Vs.

1. The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Secretary,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
Secretariat, Chennai.

2. The Secretary,



WEB COPY

Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission,
Frazer Bridge Road, V.O.C. Nagar,
Park Town, Chennai – 600 003.

3. The Director/ Commissioner,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
Panagal Building, Saidapet,
Chennai – 600 015.
4. The District Collector,
Collectorate Building,
Dindigul District.
5. The Personal Assistant to the Collector,
(Panchayat Development),
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.
6. C.Malliga,
Deputy Block Development Officer(Rtd.),
Authoor Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
7. P.Maruthairaj,
Deputy Block Development Officer(Rtd.),
Kodaikanal Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
8. M.K.Sundararaj,
Deputy Block Development Officer(Rtd.),
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
9. K.Sathiyamoorthi,
Assistant(Rtd.),
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
10. L.Rayappan,



Assistant (Rtd.),
Office of the Assistant Director(Audit),
Dindigul District.

11. P.Saravana Krishnan,
Deputy Block Development Officer(Rtd.),
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
12. S.Uma,
Deputy Block Development Officer(Noonmeal),
Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
13. K.Maharajan,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
14. R.Kamalakannan,
Deputy Block Development Officer(General),
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
15. R.M.Arumugam,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Palani Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
16. C.Balamurugan,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
17. M.P.Sivasubramanian,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.



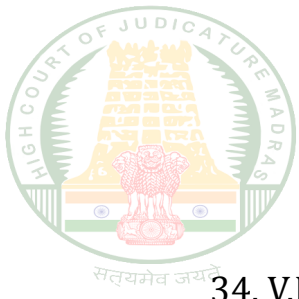
WEB COPY

18. A.Senthil Kumaran,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Palani Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
19. P.Ravikumar,
Deputy Block Development Officer(Panchayat),
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
20. I.Shanthi,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Reddiarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
21. M.Tamilarasi,
Assistant (Retd.),
Reddiarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
22. A.Dharmaraj,
Accountant(Retd.),
Kodaikanal Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
23. R.Renugadevi,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
24. R.Manoharan,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
25. R.Maduraiveeran,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.



WEB COPY

26. A.Manoharan,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
27. G.Sakthivel,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
28. K.Thanakodeeswaran,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
29. M.Vijalakshmi,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
30. R.Nagalakshmi,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
31. S.Vasanth,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Ottanchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
32. P.Saroja,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Natham Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
33. R.Sridharan,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.



WEB COPY

34. V.Kandeepan,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

35. P.Rajasekaran,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

36. P.Patchaimuthu,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

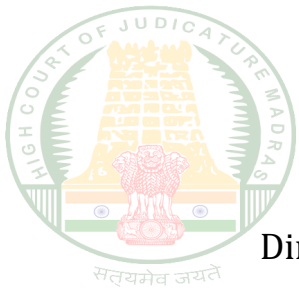
37. K.Arumugam,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

38. S.Mohammed Siddiq,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

39. M.Nagendran,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

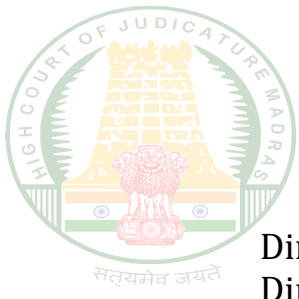
40. S.Kulanthai Therasa,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

41. S.Roja,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Natham Panchayat Union,



Dindigul District.

42. K.Karmegam,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
43. M.Palanichamy,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
44. G.Shanthidevi,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Ottanchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
45. V.Seenivasaraghavan,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
46. M.Angelin Martha,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
47. M.Palanichamy,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
48. S.Thilagam,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
49. V.Mariammal,
Deputy Block Development Officer,



Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

WEB COPY

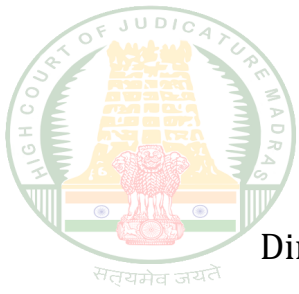
50. K.Balasundaram,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Kodaikanal Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
51. M.Buvaneshwari,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
52. P.Vasuki,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
53. K.Gurusamy,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
54. V.Kathiresan,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
55. K.Kalaiselvi,
Deputy Block Development Officer,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
56. K.Tamilselvi,
Assistant,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
57. T.Kanmani,



WEB COPY

Assistant,
District Rural Development Camp,
Dindigul,
Dindigul District.

58. T.Mahalakshmi,
Assistant,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
59. P.Arunkumaran,
Assistant,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
60. P.Saraswathi,
Assistant,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
61. H.Amithaselvi,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
62. C.Sarojini,
Assistant,
O/o.the Assistant Director(Panchayat),
Dindigul,
Dindigul District.
63. K.P.Ramanathan,
Assistant,
District Collectorate(Development),
Dindigul District.
64. R.Muthulakshmi,
Assistant,
Authoor Panchayat Union,



Dindigul District.

65. K.Sumathi,
Assistant,
Mahalir Thittam,
Dindigul District.

66. A.Gopala Krishnan,
Assistant,
Palani Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

67. R.K.Ramachandran,
Assistant,
District Collectorate(Development),
Dindigul District.

68. P.Nambidevi,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

69. R.P.Buvaneshwari,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

70. M.Kavitha,
Assistant,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

71. M.Alagumani,
Assistant,
Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

72. R.Balasubramanian,
Assistant,



WEB COPY

Batlagundu Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

73. S.Sundaravadivel,
Assistant,
Kodaikanal Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
74. A.Ilangotharan,
Assistant,
Authoor Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
75. S.Rajmohan,
Assistant,
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
76. S.Muthusamy,
Assistant,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
77. P.Deisy Flora,
Assistant,
O/o.the Assistant Director(Audit),
Dindigul District.
78. K.Perinbamani,
Assistant,
Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
79. R.Ramakrishnan,
Assistant,
Ottanchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.
80. S.Dhanapandian,



WEB COPY

Assistant,
Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

81. M.Thangadurai,
Assistant,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

82. M.Dhanalakshmi,
Assistant,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

83. Na.Balasubramanian,
Assistant,
Ottanchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

84. T.Chandrasekaran,
Assistant(Retd.),
Vadamadurai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

85. K.Usharani,
Assistant,
Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

86. T.Balakrishnan,
Assistant,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

87. M.Santhakumari,
Assistant,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.



WEB COPY

88. S.Nagarajan,
Assistant,
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

89. M.Marathamuthu,
Assistant(Retd.),
Gujiliyamparai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

90. A.Selvi,
Assistant,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

91. C.Santhanalakshmi,
Assistant,
Vedasandur Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

92. P.Balamurugan,
Assistant,
O/o.the Assistant Executive Engineer(Rural
Development), Palani, Dindigul District.

93. M.Abraham,
Assistant, Sanarpatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

94. R.Marimuthu,
Assistant,
Reddiyarchathiram Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

95. A.Arockiya George,
Assistant, Dindigul Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.



WEB COPY

96. D.Balasubramaniam,
Assistant,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

97. E.Irulayee,
Assistant,
Nilakkottai Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

98. P.Suguna,
Assistant,
Thoppampatti Panchayat Union,
Dindigul District.

... Respondents / Respondents

Prayer: Writ appeal filed under Clause 15 of the Letters Patent, to allow the writ appeal and set aside the order dated 04.11.2022 passed by the learned single Judge in W.P.(MD)No.20484 of 2017 on the file of this Court.

For Appellants : Mr.Isaac Mohanlal,
Senior Counsel,
for Mr.J.Lawrance.

For R-1 to R-4 : Mr.R.Baskaran,
Additional Advocate General,
assisted by,
Mr.V.Nirmal Kumar,
Government Advocate.

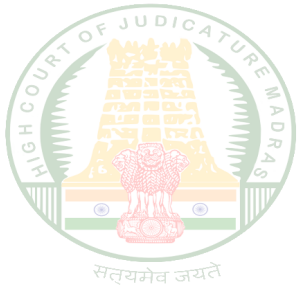
* * *

**COMMON JUDGMENT**

WEB COPY

The short ground involved in these writ appeals is whether the persons who were actually promoted subsequent to the writ petitioners and who joined the post of Assistants later in point of time could be placed above them in the seniority list. The writ petitioners are directly recruited Assistants whereas the contesting respondents were promoted to the post of Assistants from the feeder grade of Junior Assistant. The learned Senior counsel on instructions states that the appellants will not press their claim as regards those promotees who are from the feeder grade of Typists and Rural Welfare Officers Grade II.

2. The post of Assistant falls under category 7 of the Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service Rules whereas the post of Junior Assistant falls under category 14. Rule 5(b) of the Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service Rules states that promotion to the post of Assistant shall be filled up from the post of qualified Junior Assistants and Typists from the combined inter-se-seniority list.

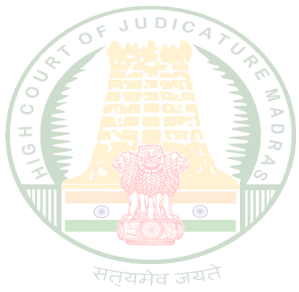


WEB COPY

3. It is not in dispute that the writ petitioners were directly recruited and appointed as Assistants in December 2012 and February 2013. It is again not in dispute that all the contesting private respondents were appointed to the said post as Assistants from the feeder grade of Junior Assistant only in June 2013. It appears that the promotee Assistants had given representations stating that they were eligible for promotion in the year 2012 itself. Acceding to their request, notional re-working was done and the contesting private respondents were placed above the writ petitioners in the combined seniority list in the post of Assistant.

4. The writ petitioners became aware of the same in the year 2016. Thereupon they lodged their objections. The objections were rejected by the authority concerned. That gave rise to the filing of W.P.(MD)Nos.12670, 13764 and 20484 of 2017.

5. The learned single Judge however dismissed all the writ petitions vide common order dated 04.11.2022. Challenging the same, these writ appeals have been filed.

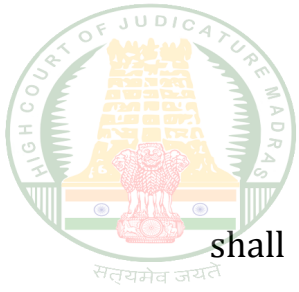


WEB COPY

6. Even though the learned Additional Advocate General made a valiant attempt to justify the order of the learned single Judge as well as the action of the Department, we are not impressed. Rule 35(aa) of the Tamil Nadu State and Subordinate Services Rules clearly states that the seniority of a person in a service, class, category or grade shall, where the normal method of recruitment to that service, class, category or grade is by more than one method of recruitment, unless the individual has been reduced to a lower rank as a punishment, be determined with reference to the date on which he is appointed to the services, class, category or grade.

7. In the case on hand, the date of appointment of all the private respondents is in June 2013. Therefore, by no stretch of imagination, they could have been placed above the appellants / writ petitioners. This fundamental aspect was not taken note of by the learned single Judge. The order passed by the learned single Judge is set aside. These writ appeals stand allowed.

8. We direct the Director (DRDA) to prepare a fresh seniority list by keeping in mind the mandate set out in Rule 35(aa). In other words, the date of joining in the promoted post of Assistant alone



shall be the actual date of appointment to fix the seniority. The

question of granting any notional or retrospective promotion does not arise at all. This shall be done within a period of eight weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

(G.R.SWAMINATHAN, J.) & (K.RAJASEKAR, J.)
20th August 2025

NCC : Yes / No
Index : Yes / No
Internet : Yes / No
PMU

To:

1. The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. by its Secretary,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
Secretariat, Chennai.
2. The Secretary,
Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission,
Frazer Bridge Road, V.O.C. Nagar,
Park Town, Chennai – 600 003.
3. The Director/ Commissioner,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015.
4. The District Collector,
Collectorate Building,
Dindigul District.



WEB COPY



33

W.A.(MD)No.517 OF 2023

G.R.SWAMINATHAN, J.

AND

K.RAJASEKAR, J.

PMU

W.A.(MD)No.517 of 2023

20.08.2025