

W.P.(MD)No.481 of 2025

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 12.03.2025

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THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE BATTU DEVANAND

W.P.(MD)No.481 of 2025

and

W.M.P(MD)Nos.360 and 361 of 2025

J.Jasmin Suja

... Petitioner

Vs.

- 1.The State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep by its Secretary,
Department of School Education,
Fort St.George, Chennai – 600 009.
- 2.The Director of School Education,
College Road,
Chennai – 600 006.
- 3.The Chief Educational Officer,
Thoothukudi – 628 003,
Thoothukudi District.
- 4.The District Educational Officer (Elementary),
Thoothukudi, Thoothukudi District.
- 5.The Block Educational Officer,
Alwarthirunagari, Thoothukudi District.
- 6.The Correspondent,
TNDTA Primary School,
Punnaiyadi,
Thoothukudi District.

... Respondents



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PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records relating to the impugned proceedings issued by the DEO, Thoothukudi in Mu.Mu.No. 733/A2/2024, dated 16.08.2024 and quash the same in so far as it restricts the approval of the appointment of petitioner only with effect from 07.08.2023 instead of from the actual date of appointment viz.,01.11.2018 and further direct the respondents 3 and 4 to approve forthwith the appointment of the petitioner as Secondary Grade Teacher in the sixth respondent school with effect from the actual date of his appointment viz.,01.11.2018 with all attendant benefits including the arrears of salary and allowances.

For Petitioner : Mr.K.Ragatheesh Kumar
For M/s.Issac Chambers

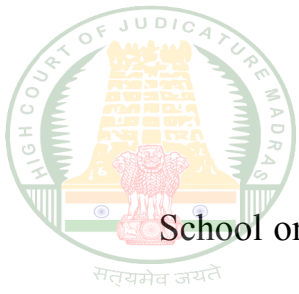
For R1 to R5 : Mr.M.Siddharthan
Additional Government Pleader

For R6 : Mr.H.Thayumanaswamy

ORDER

The instant writ petition has been filed by the Secondary Grade Teacher appointed in the sixth respondent School, challenging the order passed by the fourth respondent on 16.08.2024, wherein the approval was granted only from 07.08.2023 instead of 01.11.2018.

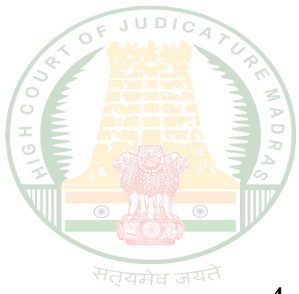
2. According to the learned counsel appearing for the writ petitioner, the petitioner was appointed as Secondary Grade Teacher in the sixth respondent



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School on 01.11.2018. The proposal to grant approval of the appointment of the petitioner was forwarded by the management to the fourth respondent. The fourth respondent, instead of granting approval from the date of appointment, (i.e) 01.11.2018, vide impugned order dated 16.08.2024 granted the approval only from 07.08.2023 on the ground that there were surplus Secondary Grade Teachers prior to 07.08.2023.

3. According to the learned counsel for the petitioner, the respondent School is an Aided Minority Institution administered by a Corporate Management. Prior to the decision of the Hon'ble Division Bench of this Court in W.A.No.76 of 2019, dated 31.03.2021, staff fixation orders were issued based on the student strength of each School and surplus Teachers were identified only based on the student strength of each School. The concept of Corporate surplus was introduced only in the orders of the Hon'ble Division Bench in W.A.No.76 of 2019 dated 31.03.2021. When the appointment of the petitioner has been made prior to the orders of the Hon'ble Division Bench dated 31.03.2021, the authorities are excepted to consider the fact that whether the appointment is within the staff fixation order for the sixth respondent School or not.



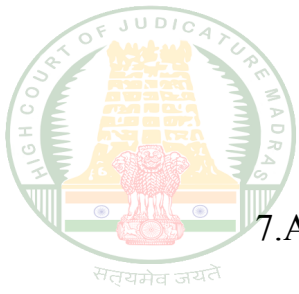
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4. Per contra, the learned Additional Government Pleader appearing for the official respondents herein had contended that the sixth respondent School having been administered by a Corporate Management, if there are surplus Secondary Grade Teachers in the other School falling within the same management, without deploying those Teachers, any fresh appointment of a Secondary Grade Teacher cannot be approved.

5. I have carefully considered the submissions made on either side and perused the materials placed on record.

6. As rightly pointed by the learned counsel for the petitioner, the concept of corporate surplus was introduced by the Hon'ble Division Bench for the first time in W.A.No.76 of 2019 dated 31.03.2021. Before that, the authorities as well as the concerned Schools were following G.O.Ms.No. 525, School Education (D1) Department, Dated 29.12.1997, wherein there is no whisper about the corporate surplus. In such circumstances, if any appointment is made prior to 31.03.2021, the authorities are expected to grant approval to the appointment of Teachers, provided the appointment is within the staff fixation order for the relevant School in the relevant academic year.



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7.As far as the present case is concerned, one Secondary Grade Teacher post has been sanctioned under the staff fixation order for the academic year 2018-2019 for the sixth respondent School. It is not in dispute that the petitioner has been appointed to the said post. In such circumstances, there are no surplus Secondary Grade Teachers as per the staff fixation year for the sixth respondent school.

8. In view of the above, the order impugned in the writ petition is set aside insofar as it denies approval from 01.11.2018 onwards is concerned and this writ petition is allowed. The fourth respondent is directed to revise the approval order granting approval to the appointment of the writ petitioner with effect from 01.11.2018 onwards. The said exercise shall be completed within a period of 4 weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

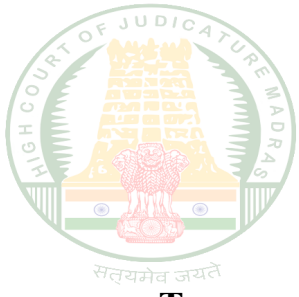
No costs.

Consequently, the connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

12.03.2025

NCC:yes/no
Index:yes/no
Internet:yes/no
Sn

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To:
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Department of School Education,
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- 2.The Director of School Education,
College Road,
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- 3.The Chief Educational Officer,
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BATTU DEVANAND, J.

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