



W.P.(MD)No.2174 of 2025

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 27.01.2025

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.S.RAMESH

and

THE HONOURABLE DR.JUSTICE A.D.MARIA CLETE

W.P.(MD)No.2174 of 2025

A.Devadass

: Petitioner

Vs.

1.The District Collector / Monitoring Committee,
Madurai District.

2.The District Revenue Officer,
Madurai District.

3.The Revenue Divisional Officer,
Madurai District.

4.The Tahsildar,
Madurai North Taluk,
Madurai District.

5.The Block Development Officer,
Madurai West Panchayat Union,
Madurai District.



W.P.(MD)No.2174 of 2025

6.The Alathur Panchayat,
Rep. by its President,
Alathur Panchayat,
Madurai West Panchayat Union,
Madurai District.

7.The Chettikulam Panchayat,
Rep. by its President,
Chettikulam Panchayat,
Madurai West Panchayat Union,
Madurai District.

8.P.C.Muthukumar

9.A.Pandi

10.Raja

11.Kannan : Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for a Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondents 1 to 7 to remove the encroachments made by the respondents 8 to 11 in S.Nos. 14/1 at Alathoor Panchayat and 125 at Chettikulam Panchayat, Madurai North Taluk, Madurai District which is classified as Government Lands and Common Pathway by considering the petitioner's representation dated 08.01.2025 within a time stipulated by this Court.



WEB COPY



W.P.(MD)No.2174 of 2025

For Petitioner : Mr.G.Kaleeswaran
For Respondents 1 to 4 : Mr.S.R.A.Ramachandran
Additional Government Pleader
For Respondent No.5 : Mr.S.Shaji Bino
Special Government Pleader

ORDER

[Order of the Court was made by **M.S.RAMESH, J.**]

By consent of both sides, the writ petition itself is taken up for final disposal at the stage of admission itself.

2.This writ petition has been filed for a Mandamus to direct the respondents 1 to 7 to remove the encroachments made by the respondents 8 to 11 in S.Nos.14/1 at Alathoor Panchayat and 125 at Chettikulam Panchayat, Madurai North Taluk, Madurai District which is classified as Government Lands and Common Pathway by considering the petitioner's representation dated 08.01.2025.

3.Since this Court is directing the respondents 1 to 7 to consider the petitioner's representation, after giving due opportunity to



W.P.(MD)No.2174 of 2025

the private respondents herein, notice to the private respondents is hereby dispensed with.

4.The petitioner herein had given representation to the official respondents on 08.01.2025, for removal of the alleged encroachments. Since the said representation was not considered, the present writ petition has been filed.

5.It is needless to point out that whenever a representation of this nature is made to a Statutory Authority, there is a duty cast upon him to consider the same on its own merits and pass appropriate orders in one way or other, instead of keeping the same pending indefinitely. As such, non-consideration of the representation by the Statutory Authority would amount to dereliction of duty and hence, this Court will be justified in invoking its extraordinary powers under Article 226 of the Constitution of the India and direct them to consider the same within a stipulated time.

6.In the light of the above observations, there shall be a direction to the respondents 1 to 7 to consider the petitioner's representation dated 08.01.2025, on its own merits and pass appropriate



W.P.(MD)No.2174 of 2025

orders in accordance with law, after giving due opportunity to the petitioner herein and the respondents 8 to 11, as well as all other persons, who may be interested in the subject property, within a period of three [3] months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. It is made clear that this Court has not expressed any of its views with regard to the merits of the matter and that it is open to the concerned respondents to consider the same on its own merits.

7. With the above direction, this Writ Petition stands disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

[M.S.R.,J.] & [A.D.M.C.,J.]

27.01.2025

Neutral Citation : Yes/No

Index : Yes/No

Internet : Yes/No

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WEB COPY



W.P.(MD)No.2174 of 2025

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W.P.(MD)No.2174 of 2025

WEB COPY

6.The President,
Alathur Panchayat,
Alathur Panchayat,
Madurai West Panchayat Union,
Madurai District.

7.The President,
Chettikulam Panchayat,
Chettikulam Panchayat,
Madurai West Panchayat Union,
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WEB COPY



W.P.(MD)No.2174 of 2025

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ORDER MADE IN

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