

W.P.(MD)No.2297 of 2025

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 18.02.2025

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE VIVEK KUMAR SINGH

W.P.(MD)No.2297 of 2025

and WMP (MD) Nos.1641 & 1642 of 2025

V.Sasi Kumar

: Petitioner

Vs.

1. The Union of India,
Rep. by its Secretary,
Ministry of Panchayat Raj,
11th Floor, Jeevan Prakash Building,
25, Karg Marg,
New Delhi – 110 001.

2.The Government of Tamil Nadu,
Represented by its Principal Secretary,
Municipal Administration and Water
Supply Department,
Fort St. George, Chennai 600 009.

3. The Commissioner of Municipal
Administration and Water Supply Department,
Ezhilagam Annexue Building,
6th Floor, Chepauk, Chennai 600 005.



W.P.(MD)No.2297 of 2025

WEB COM

4. The District Collector / Inspector of Panchayat,
Madurai District, Madurai 625 020.

5. The Commissioner,
Madurai City Municipal Corporation,
Madurai.

6. Narasingam Village Panchayat,
Represented by its Secretary,
Achampathu, Madurai 625 107,
Madurai District.

: Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petitions filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, to call for the records pertaining to the impugned Government Order in G.O.(MS).No. 201, (Municipal and Water Supply (Election) Department, dated 31.12.2024, issued by the second respondent and quash the same in so far as Narasingam Village Panchayat in Serial No. vii for merging with the 5th Respondent Madurai Municipal Corporation is concerned and direct to hold election to the 6th respondent Municipal Corporation without any further delay.

For Petitioner : Mr.K.P.S.Palanivel Rajan

Senior Counsel
for Mr.A.Mohan

For Respondents : Mr.S.Jeyasingh

CGSC for R1
Mr.C.Venkatesh Kumar
Spl.Govt.Pleader for R2, R3, R4 & R6
Mr.S.Vinayak for R5



W.P.(MD)No.2297 of 2025

WEB COPY

ORDER

The present writ petition has been filed challenging the Government Order in G.O.(MS).No.201, Municipal and Water Supply (Election) Department, dated 31.12.2024, issued by the second respondent.

2. Learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has challenged Government Order No. 201, dated 31.12.2024, primarily on the ground that the order was not passed in accordance with the procedures mandated under Article 166 of the Constitution of India. Article 166 outlines the procedures and responsibilities regarding executive actions taken by the Governor of a State and the authority for handling matters related to the State government. By virtue of the said Government Order, the Village Panchayat could not be brought into the territorial jurisdiction of the sixth respondent without adhering to the requirements stipulated under Article 243(Q)(2) of the Constitution of India, which governs the process of upgrading rural areas to urban areas. Learned Senior Counsel, therefore, contended that the Government Order is in gross violation of



W.P.(MD)No.2297 of 2025

WEB COPY

Article 166, and as such, it cannot be acted upon. In this regard, the learned Senior Counsel also relied upon the judgment of the Apex Court in ***Champa Lal v. State of Rajasthan & Ors.***, reported in **(2018) 16 SCC 356**.

3. Per contra, the learned Special Government Pleader appearing on behalf of the respondents 2 to 4 and 6 submitted that an earlier decision by a Hon'ble Division Bench of this Court had already addressed the very same issue in W.A(MD) No.1714 of 2025 on 23.01.2025.

4. Heard the learned counsel for the parties.

5. Admittedly, the very same Government Order was challenged before the Division Bench and this Court, passed the following order:

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

2.Though the petitioner has sought for a larger relief to quash the impugned order of the first respondent dated



WEB COPY



W.P.(MD)No.2297 of 2025

31.12.2024, the learned Senior Counsel for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner has given his objections against the proposed merger of Kovilpappakudi Village with the Madurai Municipal Corporation and that he would be satisfied if his objections are directed to be considered.

3.Mr.S.Vinayak, learned Standing Counsel, who accepts notice for the Madurai Corporation submits that the notification was issued on 31.12.2024 and six [6] weeks time has been given for filing of objections and the six [6] weeks period is yet to expire.

4.In the light of the submissions made by the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner, liberty is hereby granted to the petitioner to further give his objections within a period of six [6] weeks from the date of the notification and on receipt of the same, the respondents shall consider the same and pass orders on merits and pass appropriate orders in accordance with law.

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



W.P.(MD)No.2297 of 2025

WEB COPY

6. In the aforesaid order, this Court granted liberty to the petitioner therein to raise all his objections before the respondents. In line with the order of the Division Bench, this Court directs the petitioner to submit all his objections before the respondents within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. The respondents shall consider such objections and pass appropriate orders in accordance with law.

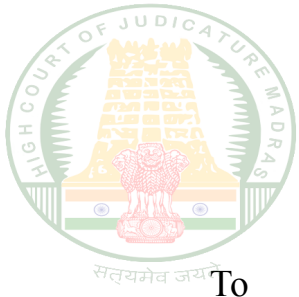
7. With the above direction, this writ petition is disposed of.
No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

18.02.2025

Index : Yes / No

Internet : Yes / No

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W.P.(MD)No.2297 of 2025

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W.P.(MD)No.2297 of 2025

VIVEK KUMAR SINGH, J.

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W.P.(MD) No.2297 of 2025

18.02.2025