



Contempt Petition (MD)No.1056 of 2021

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 23.07.2025

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE **MR.JUSTICE SHAMIM AHMED**

Contempt Petition (MD)No.1056 of 2021

In

W.P.(MD)No.1326 of 2014

Dr.R.Dominic Sahaya Rajan,
S/o.S.Robert Cyril,
No.482, Mudaveli,
Nagamugunthankudi Post,
Pudur Via,
Sivagangai District – 630 709.

...Petitioner/Petitioner

Vs

1.Dr.C.Poornachandran,
The Director of Collegiate Education,
Chennai – 600 006.

2.Mrs.D.Uma,
The Secretary,
Teachers Recruitment Board,
EVK Sampath Maligai,
DPI Compound,
College Road,
Chennai – 600 006.



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3. Dr. V.C. Rameswaramurugan,
The Secretary,
Teachers Recruitment Board,
EVK Sampath Maligai,
DPI Compound,
College Road,
Chennai – 600 006.

...Contemnors/Respondents

(R-3 is impleaded vide Court Order dated 22.07.2025 in Contempt Petition (MD)No.1056 of 2021)

PRAYER: Contempt Petition is filed under Section 11 of Contempt of Courts Act, to punish the Contemnors/Respondents for willfully disobeying and not complying with the order passed by this Court in W.P(MD)No.1326 of 2014, dated 05.11.2020.

For Petitioner : Ms.Rohini
For M/s.T.Lajapathi Roy Associates

For Respondents : Mr.D.Sadiq Raja
Additional Government Pleader
For R-1
Mr.M.Ajmalkhan
Additional Advocate General
Assisted by
Mr.T.Amjadkhan
Standing Counsel
For R-2 & R-3



ORDER

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Heard Ms.Rohini, learned counsel for M/s.T.Lajapathi Roy Associates, appearing for the Petitioner and Mr.D.Sadiq Raja, learned Additional Government Pleader accepts notice on behalf of the 1st Respondent and Mr.M.Ajmalkhan, learned Additional Advocate General, assisted by Mr.T.Amjadkhan, learned Standing Counsel who accepts notice on behalf of the Respondents 2 & 3. Therefore, no further notice is required to be issued to the Respondents.

2. This Court vide order dated 22.07.2025 passed the following order in the present Contempt Petition:

Heard Ms.Rohini, learned counsel for M/s.T.Lajapathi Roy Associates, appearing for the Petitioner and Mr.D.Sadiq Raja, learned Additional Government Pleader accepts notice on behalf of the 1st Respondent and Mr.T.Amjadkhan, learned Standing Counsel accepts notice on behalf of the Respondents 2 & 3. Therefore, no further notice is required to be issued to the Respondents.

2. Ms.Rohini, learned counsel for the Petitioner



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submits that Dr.V.C.Rameswaramurugan, is now presently serving as Secretary, Teachers Recruitment Board, EVK Sampath Maligai, DPI Compound, College Road, Chennai – 600 006 and she prays this Court to permit her to implead the new incumbent as 3rd Respondent in the present Contempt Petition. Accordingly, the learned counsel is permitted to implead Dr.V.C.Rameswaramurugan, as Secretary, Teachers Recruitment Board, EVK Sampath Maligai, DPI Compound, College Road, Chennai – 600 006, as the 3rd Respondent in this Contempt Petition.

3. This Contempt Petition has been filed for non compliance of the judgment and order dated 05.11.2020 passed in W.P.(MD)No.1326 of 2014 and the learned Single Judge of the Writ Court allowed the said Writ Petition in the following terms:

“11.Accordingly, the impugned order in O.Mu.No. 66385/T5/2013, dated 30.12.2013 passed by the 2nd respondent is set aside and the respondents 2 and 3 are directed to award marks for the petitioner's qualification of Doctorate in Oceanography and for the teaching experience with the qualification of doctorate in Oceanography for 3 years (2010 to 2013) as per the prospectus for direct recruitment of Assistant Professors in Tamil Nadu Collegiate Educational Service for Government Arts & Science Colleges – 2012



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and consequently appoint the petitioner in the post of Assistant Professor in Chemistry within a period of three months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

With the above direction, the writ petition is allowed. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.”

4. Today, when the matter was taken up, Mr.T.Amjadkhan, learned Standing Counsel for the Teachers Recruitment Board submits that against the judgment and order dated 05.11.2020 in W.P.(MD)No. 1326 of 2014, the Respondents have preferred Writ Appeal bearing W.A.(MD)No.1861 of 2021 and the Division Bench of this Court vide judgment and order dated 06.02.2025 partly allowed the said Writ Appeal in the following terms:

“7.The Teachers Recruitment Board has opined that Doctorate in Oceanography is not certified by the Competent Committee as equivalent to Ph.D in Chemistry. However, the certificate issued by the Registrar of Alagappa University which is the University which has conferred Ph.D and the Writ Petitioner has reiterated that Ph.D in Oceanography and the subject of research is relevant to Chemistry. The State Government in the counter admits that so far as M.Phil and Ph.D degree are concerned, it is for the concerned University has to issue Equivalency/Relevancy Certificate and not



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the Committee constituted for issuance of Relevancy Certificate. Thus the issue which centers upon is whether the Writ Petitioner is qualified to apply for the post of Assistant Professor is to be decided by examining the field of topic on which the Writ Petitioner has carried her Ph.D research. The certificate issued by the Registrar of Alagappa University reveals that the Writ Petitioner had done her research on 'EFFECT OF SEAGRASSES AND PLANT GROWTH REGULATIONS ON GROWTH AND YIELD OF WATERMELON AND CUCUMBER''. The Certificate further reveals that the Ph.D studied by the Writ Petitioner involved Analysis of Protein, Carbohydrate, Chlorophyll, Ascorbic Acid, Thiamine, and Nitrate which are related to Chemistry discipline. On the face of certificate issued by the concerned University which has conferred Ph.D degree on the Writ Petitioner, it is quite satisfactory that his research work related to Ph.D in Chemistry. However, to ensure that his research is related to the field of Chemistry, it is suffice to get certificate from the expert from the concerned University which shall be based on the opinion given by the expert in the field. Therefore, this Court dispose of the writ Appeal filed by the Teachers Recruitment Board with the following directions:

(1)the first respondent/Writ Petitioner shall obtain Relevancy Certificate based on the opinion of the field expert of the concerned University.



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(2)Expert Committee for testing relevancy shall consist of a nominee of Teachers Recruitment Board, nominee of Higher Education Department and a nominee of the concerned University.

(3)The Expert Committee to be constituted by the Teachers Recruitment Board within thirty days from the date of receipt of this order.

(4)The Expert Committee shall submit its report within thirty days from the date of its constitution.

(5)Meanwhile, the Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department/the second respondent in the appeal shall verify the vacancy position and if there is any vacancy for the post of Assistant Professor in Chemistry, the same has to be intimated to the Teachers Recruitment Board forthwith.

(6)The Chairman, Teachers Recruitment Board on receipt of the Relevancy Certificate from the Expert Committee and the vacancy position from the Government shall scrutinize the application of the Writ Petitioner, conduct viva-voce to the Writ Petitioner, if he is otherwise found eligible.

(7)if the Writ Petitioner found fit and selected for the post of Assistant Professor in Chemistry, the appointment orders shall be passed in accordance with law and such appointment will not enure any other benefit of retrospective effect whatsoever, either in respect of length of service or monetary benefit. The above said exercise shall be completed within a period of three months



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from the date of submitting Relevancy Certificate by the Writ Petitioner.

8. Accordingly, the Writ Appeal is partly allowed with above directions. Consequently, connected Miscellaneous Petitions are closed. No costs. ”

5. Ms.Rohini, learned counsel appearing for the Petitioner submits that despite the judgment and order passed by the Appellate Court dated 06.02.2025 in W.A.(MD)No.1861 of 2021, the Respondent/Teachers Recruitment Board has not complied with the directions of the Appellate Court and they have wilfully and deliberately flouting the orders passed by Appellate Court. Thus, the learned counsel submits that the Respondent Board is in contempt and they may be summoned before this Court and punished for committing contempt by exercising the powers under Sections 11 and 12 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971.

6. Mr.T.Amjadkhan, learned Standing Counsel, submits that Dr.V.C.Rameswaramurugan, is the new incumbent and the process of complying with the Appellate Court's order is currently underway. He requests this Court to grant some further time to ensure compliance with the judgment and order passed by the Appellate Court on 06.02.2025 in W.A.(MD) No. 1861



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of 2021.

7. *When the Court posed the question to the learned Standing Counsel for the Teachers Recruitment Board regarding the date on which the current incumbent, Dr.V.C.Rameswaramurugan, assumed charge, the Standing Counsel submitted that Dr.V.C.Rameswaramurugan took charge as Secretary of the Teachers Recruitment Board at EVK Sampath Maligai, DPI Compound, College Road, Chennai – 600 006, in June 2023.*

8. *Upon perusing the judgment and order passed by this Court on 05.11.2020 in W.P.(MD) No. 1326 of 2014, as well as the order of the Appellate Court dated 06.02.2025 in W.A.(MD) No. 1861 of 2021, and considering the submissions made by Mr.T.Amjadkhan, learned Standing Counsel that the present incumbent assumed charge only in June 2023, this Court is of the view that the 3rd Respondent appears to have willfully and deliberately disobeyed the order of the Appellate Court. As the incumbent, having assumed charge in June 2023, is well aware of the judgment and order passed by the Appellate Court dated 06.02.2025, and in light of the fact that the Appellate Court granted three months' time to comply with the directions issued by the*



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Division Bench of this Court, this Court deems it necessary to initiate proceedings against the Respondent for their alleged non-compliance with the said orders.

9. Accordingly, Mr.Dr.V.C.Rameswaramurugan, Secretary, Teachers Recruitment Board, EVK Sampath Maligai, DPI Compound, College Road, Chennai – 600 006, is directed to appear in person before this Court on 23.07.2025 and explain why the judgment and order passed by the Appellate Court on 06.02.2025 in W.A. (MD) No. 1861 of 2021 has not been complied with, and why this Court should not proceed with initiating contempt proceedings against the Respondent Board.

*10. Put up this case on **23.07.2025** “For Further Orders” before this Court.*

11. Let a copy of this order be given to Mr.T.Amjadkhan, learned Standing Counsel and Mr.D.Sadiq Raja, learned Additional Government Pleader, for necessary compliance and information to the Respondents.”

3. In compliance with the order dated 22.07.2025 passed by this Court in the present Contempt Petition, Dr.V.C.Rameswaramurugan,



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presently serving as the Secretary of the Teachers Recruitment Board, EVK Sampath Maligai, DPI Compound, College Road, Chennai – 600 006, is present in person before this Court today and he has submitted a status report, a copy of the interview committee constituted, and a copy of the call letter sent by the Teachers Recruitment Board to the petitioner dated 22.07.2025 before this Court, in which it has been stated that the petitioner was called for the interview scheduled to be held on 06.08.2025, in compliance with the judgment and order passed by the Hon'ble Division Bench in W.A.(MD) No.1861 of 2021 dated 06.02.2025. He has also submitted that the delay was caused due to certain paperwork. Accordingly, he has tendered an unconditional apology before this Court and has assured that such a lapse will not occur in the future.

4. Mr.M.Ajmalkhan, learned Additional Advocate General, assisted by Mr.T.Amjadkhan, learned Standing Counsel for the Teachers Recruitment Board, submits that in compliance with the order passed by this Court dated 22.07.2025 in the present contempt petition, an Interview Committee was constituted on the same day, and a call letter dated



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22.07.2025 was sent by the Teachers Recruitment Board to the Petitioner.

Thus, he submits that the judgment and order passed by the Hon'ble Division Bench in W.A.(MD) No.1861 of 2021 dated 06.02.2025 as well as the order passed by this Court dated 22.07.2025 in the present Contempt Petition has been duly complied with. A copy of the status report filed by Mr.V.C.Rameswaramurugan, Secretary of the Teachers Recruitment Board, along with the relevant orders and the call letter dated 22.07.2025, has been taken on record and furnished to the learned counsel for the petitioner. Therefore, he prays that the Respondents may be discharged from the contempt proceedings and the contempt petition may be disposed of accordingly.

5. Ms.Rohini, learned counsel for M/s.T.Lajapathi Roy Associates, appearing for the petitioner, submits that she has received a copy of the status report along with the order dated 22.07.2025, wherein the Teachers Recruitment Board has sent a call letter to the petitioner to attend the interview scheduled to be held on 06.08.2025. She further submits that Condition Nos.6 & 7 in the judgment and order passed by the Hon'ble



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Division Bench in W.A.(MD) No.1861 of 2021 dated 06.02.2025 has been complied with by the respondents. She also submits that she hopes and trusts the Petitioner will be selected for the said post, as the Petitioner possesses the requisite qualifications. Accordingly, the learned counsel states that she has no objection to the Respondents being discharged from the contempt proceedings.

6. Considering the submissions made by the learned counsel for the parties and upon perusal of the status report, along with the order dated 22.07.2025 passed by the Teachers Recruitment Board, this Court is satisfied that the respondents have fully complied with the judgment and order of the Hon'ble Division Bench dated 06.02.2025 passed in W.A. (MD) No.1861 of 2021. In particular, Condition Nos.6 & 7 of the said judgment has been duly complied with, and the petitioner has been called to appear for the interview scheduled to be held on 06.08.2025. In view of the same, this Court deems it appropriate that no useful purpose would be served by keeping the contempt proceedings pending. Accordingly, the Respondents are discharged from the contempt proceedings.



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7. In view of the above, the Contempt Petition is **disposed of**. The file shall be consigned to record. There shall be no order as to costs.

23.07.2025

NCC:yes/no
Index:yes/no
Internet:yes/no
Nsr

To:

- 1.The Director of Collegiate Education,
Chennai – 600 006.
- 2.The Secretary,
Teachers Recruitment Board,
EVK Sampath Maligai,
DPI Compound,
College Road,
Chennai – 600 006.
- 3.The Secretary,
Teachers Recruitment Board,
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SHAMIM AHMED, J.
Nsr

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