



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 10-02-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE P.T. ASHA

WP No. 4635 of 2026

AND

WMP NO. 5157 OF 2026

1. Ramakrishnan
2. Chinnavan
3. Chinnamari
4. Thangaraj
5. Marappan

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The State of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by the Secretary to Government,
Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department,
Secretariat, Chennai 09
2. The Director of Fisheries
Fisheries and Fishermen welfare,
Animal Husbandry and fisheries Campus,
Nandanam, Chennai 600 035
3. The District Collector,
Dharmapuri District, Dharmapuri



4. The Regional Level Redressal committee
Rep by its Deputy Director of Fisheries,
Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare,
Dharmapuri Region, Opp. Collectorate,
Dharmapuri
5. The Deputy District
Fisheries and Fishermen welfare,
Inland Fisheries,
Dharmapuri Region, Opp. Collectorate,
Dharmapuri
6. The Assistant Director of Fisheries,
Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare board,
Inland Fisheries, Dharmapuri
7. KK 199 Palacode Paruvatha Rajakula
Fishermen
Cooperative society,
Chinnaru Dam
Palacode Taluk,
Dharmapuri District,
Rep. by its
Administrative officer

..Respondent(s)



PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to issue a writ of mandamus directing the respondents to consider the petitioners' representation dated 03.01.2026 to extend the lease period for further two years for fishing in the Kesarkuly Allah Dam situated at Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District which was granted as per the allotment orders of the 6th respondent dated 03.03.2021 in Se Mu. No 2558 / 2018-1.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.S.Doraiswamy

For Respondent(s): Mr.V.Jeeva Giridharan,
Additional Government Pleader

ORDER

The petitioner has filed the above writ petition seeking a direction to the respondents to consider the petitioners' representation dated 03.01.2026 to extend the lease period by two years for fishing in the Kesarkuly Allah Dam, situated at Palacode Taluk, Dharmapuri District, as per the allotment orders of the 6th respondent dated 03.03.2021 in Se Mu. No 2558 / 2018-1.

2. It is the case of the petitioners that they are all members of the 7th respondent Cooperative Society and are poor inland fishermen. Their sole occupation is fishing in the reservoirs and tanks under the jurisdiction of the 7th



respondent. The society also includes women members. The “Kesarkuli Aidiu Dam” was under the control of the 7th respondent and was leased out to the society for a period of five years (03.03.2021 to 02.03.2026), as per G.O.Ms.No.165, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department.

3. From the time of handing over the Dam on 03.03.2021, fishing could not commence for nine months due to low water levels. Fish farming only commenced on 11.12.2021 when the water level rose to 20 feet. This was communicated to the 6th respondent through a representation dated 04.01.2022, requesting exemption from the lease amount for the year 2022-23. No action was taken on this request.

4. From 2025 to the present, the water level again fell significantly, and the petitioners could not carry out fishing activities, resulting in almost two years of inactivity out of the five-year lease period. In order to compensate for the loss and damages, the petitioners requested the respondents by representation dated 03.01.2026 to extend the lease period by two years as per G.O.Ms.No.05, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department. However, the respondents have not taken any action on this representation.



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5. In similar circumstances, this Court in W.P.No.22999 of 2025, had passed an order extending the lease period due to the damage caused by the Fengal Cyclone. Based on the above order, the lease period was extended to the petitioners therein. According to the petitioners herein, they are also entitled to the extension of the lease period for two years, which is set to expire on 02.03.2026. Unless the lease period is extended, the petitioners will be put to great loss and hardship. Hence, the petitioner has filed this writ petition.

6. Heard the learned counsels on both sides and perused the materials available on record.

7. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, and considering the order passed in W.P.No.22999 of 2025 without going into the merits of the case, this Court directs the 5th respondent to consider and pass appropriate orders on the petitioner's representation dated 03.01.2026 after affording an opportunity of personal hearing to the petitioner as well as other interested parties, on merits and in accordance with law, within a period of three weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. The dictum laid down in the above referred writ petition may



be extended to the case on hand. Accordingly, this writ petition is disposed of.

costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

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Index: Yes/No

Speaking/Non-speaking order

Neutral Citation: Yes/No

SRN

To

1. The Secretary to Government,
State of Tamil Nadu, Rep. by
Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department,
Secretariat, Chennai 09
2. The Director of Fisheries
Fisheries and Fishermen welfare,
Animal Husbandry and fisheries Campus,
Nandanam, Chennai 600 035
3. The District Collector,
Dharmapuri District, Dharmapuri
4. The Deputy Director of Fisheries,
Regional Level Redressal committee,
Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare,
Dharmapuri Region, Opp. Collectorate,
Dharmapuri
5. The Deputy district
Fisheries and Fishermen welfare,
Inland Fisheries, Dharmapuri Region, Opp. Collectorate,
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6. The Assistant director of Fisheries,
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Inland Fisheries, Dharmapuri



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P.T.ASHA J.

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