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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 27-10-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE C.KUMARAPPAN

WP No. 9845 of 2023
CNR:{HCMA010557122023}
and
WP No.17012 of 2024 and
WMP No. 9918 and 9921 of 2023,
WMP Nos.18749 and 18750 of 2024

W.P.No.9845 of 2023

C.Chandrakala

..Petitioner

Vs

1. The State of Tamil Nadu
   Rep by the Principal Secretary to Government,
   Department of School Education Secretariat
   Chennai 600 009

2. The Commissioner / Director
   School Education Department,
   DPI Campus, College Road
   Nungambakkam Chennai 600 006

3. The Commissioner
   Most Backward Classes and
   Denotified Communities Welfare Department,
   Chennai 600 005

4. The Teachers Recruitment Board
   Rep by its Member Secretary
   DPI Campus, College Road,
   Nungambakkam Chennai 600 006

5. M. Balachandar

..Respondents

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WP No. 17012 of 2024

CNR:{HCMA010996572024}

R.Gnanasekaran

..Petitioner

Vs

1. The State of Tamil Nadu
   Rep By The Principal Secretary to Government,
   Department of School Education,
   Secretariat Chennai-09.

2. The Commissioner /Director
   School Education Department, DPI Campus
   College Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai- 06.

3. The Teachers Recruitment Board
   Rep By its Member Secretary
   DPI Campus College Road,
   Nungambakkam, Chennai- 06.

4. M.Balachandar

..Respondents

Prayer in W.P.No.9845 of 2023: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records of the impugned provisional selection list dated 25.10.2022 issued by the 4th respondent in respect of P G Assistants in Geography and quash the same, consequently direct the respondents 1 to 4 to restore the appointment of the petitioner as PG Assistant Geography in the 2nd Respondent School Education Department as per the 1st selection and appointment dated 13.10.2022.

Prayer in W.P.No.17012 of 2024: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, callingalling for the records of the impugned provisional selection list dated 25.10.2022

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issued by the 3rd respondent in respect of PG Assistants in Geography and quash the same, consequently direct the respondents 1 to 4 to appoint the Petitioner as PG Assistant in Geography as per the 2nd Selection dated 13.10.2022.

For Petitioners: (in both W.Ps)	Mr.K.Balu
For R1 to R3: (in both W.Ps)	Mr.J.Pradeep Government Advocate
For R4: (in both W.Ps)	Mr. C.Kathiravanan, Standing counsel for TRB

COMMON ORDER

The present writ petitions have been filed by the petitioners for the issuance of a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records of the impugned provisional selection list dated 25.10.2022 issued by the 4th respondent in respect of PG Assistants in Geography.

2. The learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the petitioners Chandrakala and Gnanasekaran belong to the MBC category. Apart from these petitioners, one Sakthivel also comes under the MBC category. According to the cut-off marks, the GT cut-off mark is 85. In respect of the cut-off marks, the District Revenue Officer has given written instructions to the standing counsel of the TRB, the scanned image of which is depicted herein below:

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TEACHERS RECRUITMENT BOARD
CHENNAI – 600 006

From

The District Revenue Officer,
Teachers Recruitment Board,
Chennai – 600 006.

To

The Standing Counsel of TRB,
Madras High Court,
Chennai - 104.

Rc.No.9845/L-54/2022, Dated 07.10.2025

Sir,

Sub: Teachers Recruitment Board - W.P.Nos.9845 of 2023 & 17012 of 2024 – Filed by C.Chandrakala and R.Gnanasekaran – P.G. Assistant for the year 2020-2021 – Furnishing of cut-off marks – Instructions Issued - Reg.

Ref:
1. Affidavit filed by C.Chandrakala in W.P.No.9845 of 2023
2. Affidavit filed by R.Gnanasekaran in W.P.No.17012 of 2024
3. Interim order passed in W.P.Nos.9845 of 2023 & 17012 of 2024 dated 05.10.2026
4. U.O.Note of CV section, dated 07.10.2026

*****

It is stated that one C.Chandrakala had filed a Writ Petition in W.P.No.9845 of 2023, praying to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records of the impugned provisional selection list dated 25.10.2022 issued by the 4th respondent in respect of PG Assistants in Geography and quash the same, consequently direct the respondents 1 to 4 to restore the appointment of the petitioner as PG Assistant Geography in the 2nd Respondent School Education Department as per the 1st selection and appointment dated 14.10.2022.

2. It is further stated that one R.Gnanasekaran had filed a Writ Petition in W.P.No.17012 of 2024, praying to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records of the impugned provisional selection list dated 25.10.2022 issued by the 3rd respondent in respect of PG Assistants in Geography and quash the same, consequently direct the respondents 1 to 4 to appoint the Petitioner as PG Assistant in Geography as per the 2nd Selection dated 13.10.2022.

3. It is stated that the above-said cases came up for hearing on 05.10.2026 and the Hon'ble Court vide interim order in W.P.No.9845 of 2023 had posted the under the caption "For orders" on 07.10.2026 and sought the Teachers Recruitment Board for the cut-off marks for the respective categories, namely,

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the General Turn and the community categories. The relevant portion is extracted hereunder:

> *"2. At this juncture, this Court asked the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the Teachers Recruitment Board with regard to the cut-off marks for the respective categories, namely, the General Turn and the community categories. In this regard, the learned Standing Counsel seeks short accommodation.*
>
> *3. Post these matters on 07.10.2026 under the caption "For Orders"."*

4. In this regard, the minimum cut-off marks for provisional selection under General Category and the Communal Categories for the subject Geography as per the Provisional Selection List, dated 25.10.2022 are shown in the below tabulation:

S. No.	Communal Turn	Cut-off marks for provisional selection		Department
		BV	CV	
1.	GT		85	DSE
2.	GT CAT 2*	89		DSE
3.	GT SGT		79	DSE
4.	GT W		87	DSE
5.	GT W T		82	DSE
6.	BC		81	DSE
7.	BC T		81	DSE
8.	BC W		81	DSE
9.	BCM T*		77	DSE
10.	MBC/DNC	87	83	DSE
11.	MBC/DNC T*		80	DSE
12.	MBC/DNC W		83	DSE
13.	SC		83	DSE
14.	SC W		85	DSE
15.	SCA W* T*		71	DSE
16.	MBC/DNC		79	MBC/DNC Dept
17.	BC CAT 4	Eligible candidate Not Available		DSE

Therefore, it is requested to appraise the above facts before the Hon'ble Court as and when the case is listed for hearing and take suitable action to dismiss the writ petition and thus render justice.

District Revenue Officer

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3. The learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the GT cut-off mark is 85, whereas Sakthivel secured 87 marks. Therefore, according to the ratio of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of ***State of Tamil Nadu and Others vs. K.Shobana and Others*** reported in ***(2021) 4 Supreme Court Cases 686***, he must have been placed under the GT category. Though the respondents had initially issued a provisional selection list on 13.10.2022, in which Sakthivel was rightly placed under GT, and the petitioners Chandrakala and Gnanasekaran were placed under the MBC category, and were declared as eligible, without any rhyme or reason, the respondents subsequently revised the list through the impugned provisional selection list dated 25.10.2022, in which Sakthivel and Chandrakala were placed under the MBC category, instead of retaining him in the GT. As a result of which, Gnanasekaran was not selected. Hence, the learned counsel for the petitioners submitted that the selection list is contrary to the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Therefore, prayed to interfere with the provisional selection list dated 25.10.2022.

4. The learned counsel for the petitioners further contended that since this being a writ petition filed in a representative capacity, the 4th respondent who is one of the selectees, was included and a paper publication was also effected to satisfy the Rule 2A of the Writ Rules and would contend that they have no grievance about the selection of the 4th respondent. Hence, he prayed to order the writ petition.

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5. Per contra, the said contention was totally objected to by the learned standing counsel appearing for the 3rd respondent, and he would contend that the impugned selection list is only a provisional list, and the final provisional list would be published later. Only because of the pendency of the instant writ petition, they are not in a position to release the final selection list. Apart from that, it is the contention of the learned standing counsel that the present selection list is based upon the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the ***Shobana case*** (cited supra). He would further contend that according to Section 27(f) of the Tamil Nadu Government Servants (Conditions of Service) Act, whenever there are any backlog vacancies, it has to be filled in first and in this case, the backlog vacancy being MBC, Sakthivel was placed under the MBC roster first. Therefore, the petitioners cannot have any grievance in respect of such selection, and furthermore, it was contended that since Sakthivel has not challenged such a placement, the petitioners can have no grievances.

6. In addition to the above-said submissions, the learned counsel appearing for the respondent Balachandran submitted that he is in no way concerned with the issue raised in the present writ petition, as he is under the SC roster, whereas the petitioners raised grievances only with respect to the MBC roster.

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7. I have given my anxious consideration to either side submissions.

8. The short point to be considered is whether the impugned provisional selection list requires any modification. The marks obtained by the petitioners and one Sakthivel are not in dispute. However, the placement of them alone is in dispute. According to the first provisional selection list dated 13.10.2022, Sakthivel, who secured 87 marks, was placed under the GT turn, and the petitioners Chandrakala and Gnanasekaran were placed under the MBC turn. However, in the subsequent impugned provisional selection list, Sakthivel was placed under the MBC roster and Chandrakala was placed in the MBC category, and on account of placing Sakthivel in MBC roster, Gnanasekaran was pushed out of the list and not selected.

9. Now, the ground urged by the learned counsel for the respondents is that since Sakthivel was selected under the backlog vacancy of MBC, he must be placed only under the relevant communal roster. But, this position was clarified and settled in the ***Shobana case*** (cited supra). Wherein it was held that simply because there is a reference “first” in Section 27(f), that does not mean that the persons who are selected under the backlog vacancy have to be fitted in the respective communal roster. It is relevant to mention that Section 27(f) only deals with the reservation of appointment and it does not speak about seniority. The Hon’ble Supreme Court has clarified that when it comes to seniority, the rank obtained in the selection list alone is the criteria, and according to that,

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anyone who secured higher marks and comes with GT Turn must be first fitted in the the General Turn.

10. In the case in hand, Chandrakala has obtained 85 marks, whereas Sakthivel has secured 87 marks. Therefore, this Court is of the indubitable opinion that Sakthivel ought to have been fitted in GT Turn instead of MBC/DNC category. Therefore, this Court find justification to interfere with the impugned revised provisional selection list dated 25.10.2022 as far as to the petitioners are concerned. Therefore, the same is set aside and quashed to the extent of these petitioners. Consequentially, the respondents are directed to select both the petitioners under the MBC Turn if they otherwise qualified. The above exercise is directed to be completed within a period of eight weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

11. Accordingly, the Writ Petitions stand allowed as indicated above. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed. No costs.

27-10-2026

Index: Yes
Speaking order
Neutral Citation: Yes
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   Rep by the Principal Secretary to Government,
   Department of School Education
   Secretariat Chennai 600 009

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