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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 29.10.2026

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. SUSHRUT ARVIND DHARMADHIKARI,
CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.ARUL MURUGAN

W.A.No.3208 of 2026

CNR:{HCMA012488232026}
C.M.P.No.28412 of 2026;
W.P.No.40231 of 2026
& W.M.P.Nos.45153 & 45154 of 2026

W.A.No.3208 of 2026

The State of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Secretary to Government,
Law LS Department, Fort St. George,
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

Appellant(s)

Vs

1. Prof Dr Rajeswaran
   Principal,
   Government Law College,
   Vellore,
   residing at B/67, Renga Nagar
   2nd Street, K.K.Nagar, Trichy-21

2. The Director of Legal Studies,
   Kilpauk,
   Chennai-600 010

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3. Gowri Ramesh
Director of Legal Studies,
Tamil Nadu Dr.Ambedkar Law University,
Chennai

Respondent(s)

W.P.No.40231 of 2026

Prof Dr Rajeswaran
Principal,
Government Law College,
Vellore,
residing at B/67, Renga Nagar
2nd Street, K.K.Nagar, Trichy-21

Appellant(s)

Vs

1. The State of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Secretary to Government,
Law (LS) Department,
Fort St. George, Secretariat,
Chennai-600 009.

2. The Director of Legal Studies,
Kilpauk,
Chennai-600 010.

3. Gowri Ramesh
Director of Legal Studies,
Tamil Nadu Dr.Ambedkar Law University,
Chennai.

Respondent(s)

Prayer : (i) Appeal filed under Clause 15 of the Letters Patent seeking to set aside the order dated 01.10.2026 passed by the Learned judge

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in W.M.P.No.45154 of 2026 in W.P.No.40231 of 2026.

(ii) Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking a writ of Certiorarified Mandamus calling for the records relating to G.O.(Ms.) No.246, Law (LS) Department, dated 08.09.2026 of 1st respondent herein, quash the same and direct the 1st respondent to consider the candidature of the petitioner for empanelment for promotion as Director of Legal Studies and in terms of his suitability and seniority to forthwith appoint him to the said post.

For Appellant	:	Mr.Vijay Narayan Advocate General Assisted by Mr.J.Lenin Special Government Pleader
For Petitioner	:	Mr.M.Ravi
For Respondents	:	Mr.M.Ravi for R1 [W.A.No.3208 of 2026] Mr.Vijay Narayan Advocate General Assisted by Mr.J.Lenin Special Government Pleader for R1 [W.P.No.40231 of 2026] Mr.M.Guruprasad State Government Pleader for R2 Mr.E.Om Prakash Senior Counsel For Mr.P.Ravi Shankar for R3 [in both W.A. & W.P.]

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COMMON JUDGMENT
(Judgment of the Court was delivered by
G.Arul Murugan,J)

The writ appeal has been filed assailing the interim order passed by the learned Single Judge staying G.O.Ms.No.246 dated 08.09.2026 granting temporary promotion to third respondent as Director of Legal Studies.

2. The writ petition, pending before the learned Single Judge, is also listed before this Court in Special List and is taken up for hearing along with the writ appeal.

3. The writ petition has been filed challenging G.O.Ms.No.246 dated 08.09.2026 issued by Government of Tamil Nadu.

4. Earlier, the Government issued G.O.Ms.No.49, Law (LS) Department, dated 03.03.2026, allocating the full additional charge of the post of Director of Legal Studies to the third respondent, who was then holding the post as Register of the Tamil Nadu of Dr.Ambedkar Law University. In the challenge made to the G.O. in W.P.No.25005 of

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2026, the learned Single Judge, by an interim order dated 30.06.2026, stayed G.O.Ms.No.49, dated 03.03.2026. In the writ appeal preferred by the State in W.A.No.2144 of 2026 assailing the said interim order dated 30.06.2026, this Court, by order dated 23.07.2026 allowed the appeal and set aside the interim order, by recording the statement made by the learned Advocate General that the process to fill up the post of Director of Legal Studies concerns to Rule 2(a) of the Special Rules for the Tamil Nadu Legal Educational Service would be completed within a period of two months. On the date of pronouncement, the order issued by the State in GO.Ms.No.162, dated 21.07.2026, replacing the third respondent with the Additional Joint Secretary, Law Department was recorded.

5. Subsequently, the appellant issued G.O.Ms.No.246, dated 08.09.2026, granting temporary promotion to the third respondent as Director of Legal Studies. In the challenge made to this promotion in the writ petition, the learned Senior Judge, by an order dated 01.10.2026, observed that the temporary promotion granted to the third respondent was contrary to the assurance given before the

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Division Bench of this Court in the writ appeal, and consequently granted an interim order, whereby G.O.Ms.No.246 dated 08.09.2026 was stayed. Assailing the said interim order, the present appeal has been filed.

6. When the writ appeal is taken up for hearing today, learned Advocate General, on instructions, submitted that the Government is now intending to withdraw G.O.Ms.No.246 dated 08.09.2026 and they would pursue with the promotion process in consonance with Rule 2(a) of the Special Rules for Tamil Nadu Legal Educational Service.

7. In view of the above submission, nothing further remains to be adjudicated in the writ appeal as well as in the writ petition. Thus, recording the statement of Advocate General that G.O.Ms.No.246 dated 08.09.2026 stands withdrawn, the writ appeal and the writ petition are disposed of. The State shall pursue with the promotion process in accordance with law. There shall be no order as to costs. Consequently, the interim applications are closed.

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8. The statement of Advocate General that in the meantime, the State will take steps to fill up the post temporarily, as was done when the earlier writ appeal was disposed of, is recorded.

(SUSHRUT ARVIND DHARMADHIKARI,CJ) (G.ARUL MURUGAN,J)
29.10.2026

Index : Yes/No
Neutral Citation : Yes/No

kpl

To

1. The State of Tamil Nadu
   Rep. by its Secretary to Government,
   Law (LS) Department,
   Fort St. George, Secretariat,
   Chennai-600 009.

2. The Director of Legal Studies,
   Kilpauk,
   Chennai-600 010.

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THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
G.ARUL MURUGAN,J.

(kpl)

W.A.No.3208 of 2026 &
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29.10.2026

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