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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 28-10-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE K. SURENDER

WP No. 42238 of 2026

CNR:{HCMA012433592026}

AND

WMP NO. 48572 OF 2026

Dr.M.Krishnaveni

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The Principal Secretary To The Government
   Higher Education Department,
   Government of Tamil Nadu,
   Fort St. George,
   Chennai-600 009
2. the Chief Secretary to the Government,
   Government of Tamil Nadu,
   Fort St. George,
   Chennai-600 009

3. The Commissioner of Collegiate Education
   (The convener, Vice Chancellor Committee),
   Directorate of Collegiate Education,
   Institute of Advanced Study in Education
   Campus,
   No.5777, Anha Salai, Saidapet,
   Chennai.

4. The Registrar
   Periyar University,
   Salem -636 011

..Respondent(s)

Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus to direct the Respondents 1 and 2 to consider the Petitioners representation dated 31.08.2026 seeking nomination under Section 24(b), class II-Other Members (8) of the Periyar University Act, 1997, in the light of her

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eligibility as a member of the teaching faculty belonging to the Scheduled Caste Community and the gender-neutral nature of the statutory provision, and to pass a reasoned and speaking order on merits and in accordance with law within a time period.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.J.Loggeshwaran

For Respondent(s): Ms.Mary Savni Raxi for R4

ORDER

The petitioner has filed the present writ petition seeking a direction to the respondents to consider her representation dated 31.08.2026, seeking nomination as a member under Section 24(b), Class II – Other Members (8) of the Periyar University Act, 1997, for securing representation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from among the teaching faculty, and to pass a reasoned order thereon.

2. The petitioner, who is working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Periyar University, Salem, and is a Syndicate Member of the University, belongs to the Scheduled Caste community. She contends that the statutory provision does not prescribe any gender restriction. Despite submitting a representation before the competent authorities seeking consideration of her candidature, the same has not been considered.

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3. The petitioner submits that she is not seeking a direction for her nomination, but only seeks fair consideration of her candidature in accordance with law.

4. Heard the both sides and perused the records.

5. Considering the limited nature of the relief sought for by the petitioner, this Court directs the respondents 1 and 2 to consider the petitioner's representation dated 31.08.2026, on its own merits and in accordance with law, and pass a reasoned and speaking order within a period of eight weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. It is made clear that this Court has not expressed any opinion on the merits of the petitioner's claim for nomination.

6. Accordingly, this writ petition is disposed of. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

K.SURENDER J.
28-10-2026

Index: Yes/No
Speaking/Non-speaking order
Neutral Citation: Yes/No

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K.SURENDER J.

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To

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