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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 04-11-2026

CORAM

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

WP No. 43202 of 2026
and
WMP.No.48527 of 226
CNR:{HCMA012507422026}

Case QR

N.Jaganathan
S/o Late natesan
R/o No 5/2, Nathan Rice Mill, Kattukottai,
Sitheri post, Attur Taluk,
Salem District 636 101

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
   Rep. by its Chief Vigilance officer
   bharat Bhavan, 4 and 6, Currimbhoy Road,
   Ballard Estate, Mumbai 400 001
   Maharashtra
2. The Deputy General Manager
   Southern Regional office (Retail / Marketing / compliance)
   Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited,
   Southern Regional office,
   No 1 Ranganathan Garden
   Off 11th Main Road, P.B. No 1212 and 1213,
   Anna Nagar, Chennai 600 040
3. The Territory Manager (Retail) Karur
   Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.,
   Athur and Kadaparai Village,
   Erode Road, Athur Post,
   Karur 639 002

4. Shri Midan Petroleum Agencies
   Through its proprietor shri Midan Chakkravarthi
   Sitheri village and Post,
   Aragalur Via, Attur Taluk
   Salem district 616 101

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..Respondent(s)

Prayer:- directing Respondent Nos 1 to 3 to dispose the petitioners representation dated 24.03.2026 within a stipulated time.

For Petitioner(s): M/S.A.RENGANATH

For Respondent(s): Mr.M.Vijayan, for M/S.KING & PARTRIDGE FOR R1 to R 4.

ORDER

This Writ Petition has been filed for the following reliefs:-

"directing Respondent Nos 1 to 3 to dispose the petitioners representation dated 24.03.2026 within a stipulated time."

2. The petitioner would submit that he, along with his mother, had leased out a land measuring 10,000 sq. ft., situated at Sitheri Village, Salem District, to Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), under a lease deed dated 16.09.2009, for a period of 29 years and 11 months.

3. The petitioner would submit that BPCL subsequently allotted the said site to the 4th respondent, namely, Shri Midan Chakkravarthi, proprietor of M/s.Shri Midan Petroleum Agencies, under the Scheduled Caste (SC) reserved category for operating a retail petroleum outlet.

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4. The petitioner would submit that, in August 2025, he came to know through the records in S.T.C. No.122 of 2021 that the 4th respondent had allegedly transferred the operational rights of the retail outlet to a third party, namely, Sengottaiyan, by entering into an unregistered profit-sharing agreement dated 05.10.2017, on a 60:40 basis, in violation of the dealership conditions of BPCL and the applicable reservation guidelines.

5. The petitioner would further submit that, upon obtaining information under the Right to Information Act, he came to know that BPCL strictly prohibits subletting or transfer of dealership rights. Hence, he submitted a detailed representation dated 24.03.2026 to the officials of BPCL, seeking appropriate action against the 4th respondent.

6 The petitioner would submit that, in response to his representation, BPCL, by communication dated 29.04.2026, informed him that an investigation was underway. However, no further action was taken, nor were the findings of the investigation communicated to him.

7. The petitioner would further submit that the 4th respondent had commenced permanent structural alterations on the leased property, pursuant to which he submitted another representation dated 10.08.2026 to the authorities concerned. However, no action was taken on the said representation.

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8. The petitioner would submit that, despite repeated representations and the alleged violations of the dealership conditions, BPCL has failed to take appropriate action or communicate the outcome of its investigation. Hence, the petitioner is before this Court seeking the reliefs stated supra.

9. Heard the learned counsel on either and perused the records.

10. Considering the facts and circumstances of the case and the relief sought for by the petitioner, this Court without going into the merits of the case, directs the respondents 1 to 3 to consider and pass appropriate orders on the petitioners' representations dated 24.03.2026, after affording an opportunity of personal hearing to all the interested parties, on merits and in accordance with law within a period of 4 weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

11. Accordingly, this writ petition is disposed of. No costs. Consequently, the connected Miscellaneous Petition is closed.

04-11-2026

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

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P.T.ASHA J.

SHR

To

1. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
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   bharat Bhavan, 4 and 6, Currimbhoy Road,
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(2/2)

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