Order QR

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

**DATED: 28-10-2026**

CORAM

**THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE MUMMINENI SUDHEER KUMAR**

**WP No. 43996 of 2026**
**and**
**WMP Nos.49357 & 49360 of 2026**

*CNR: {HCMA012576162026}*

Soundharya B

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The State of Tamilnadu,
   Represented by its Secretary to Government,
   Human Resources Management Department,
   Secretariat, Chennai – 600009.

2. The Tamilnadu Public Service Commission,
   Represented by its Secretary, TNPSC Road,
   V.O.C.Nagar, Park Town, Chennai - 600003.

..Respondent(s)

Writ petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus calling for the records of the 2nd respondent relating to the impugned email dated 16.10.2026 rejecting my claim under the persons studied in Tamil Medium (PSTM) category pursuant to Notification No.10/2025 dated 13.06.2025 for the post of Technical Assistant (Civil), Post Code 3549, quash the same as illegal, arbitrary and contrary to law and consequently direct the respondents to reconsider my candidature under the PSTM Category and grant me the appointment for the post of Technical Assistant (Civil), Post Code 3549.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.V.K.Thiruvengadam

For Respondent(s): Mr.R.Nandha Kumar,
Additional Government Pleader for R1
Mr.Bharanidharan, for R2



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**ORDER**

The petitioner herein participated in the recruitment process pursuant to the notification issued by the respondent TNPSC vide Notification No.10/2025 dated 13.06.2025 for the post of Technical Assistant (Civil) with Post Code No.3459 and after undergoing the recruitment process, the name of the petitioner herein was shortlisted for certificate verification and at that stage, the candidature of the petitioner was rejected through impugned email communication dated 16.10.2026, wherein it is stated as under:

> *"Since you have possessed the PSTM eligibility in prescribed/equivalent qualification which you have been studied through lateral entry, your PSTM claim has been rejected and you are not considered for the post for which you have been shortlisted to Phase VII PCV/Counselling as per Notification No.10/2025, dated 13.06.2025.*
>
> *Hence, you are not required to attend the Phase-VII Physical Certificate Verification/Counselling on the Scheduled date (22.10.2026/23.10.2026)"*

It is aggrieved by the above said email communication, the petitioner has approached this Court by filing the present writ petition.

2. When the matter is taken up for consideration, Mr.Bharanidaran, learned counsel appearing for TNPSC has submitted that the B.E. (Civil) qualification acquired by the petitioner is by way of lateral entry which presupposes that the petitioner had studied Diploma and, in order to claim the priority under PSTM category, the petitioner is under an obligation to produce



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the PSTM certificate in the prescribed format from Class- I till the prescribed qualification i.e., Diploma course.

3. In the instant case, the petitioner has not produced the PSTM certificate in respect of the Diploma course which he has studied during the years 2017-2019. On having taken note of the same, this Court required the learned counsel for the petitioner to show as to whether the petitioner is having PSTM certificate in respect of the Diploma course which he has studied during the years 2017 to 2019.

4. The learned counsel for the petitioner, after seeking short accommodation, on instructions, submits that though the petitioner studied the Diploma course in Tamil language, he could not obtain the PSTM certificate from the institution where he has studied the Diploma course, i.e., Ayyappa Polytechnic College, Aivadhugudi, Cuddalore District.

5. In view of the above admitted fact situation that the petitioner is not in a possession of PSTM certificate in respect of the Diploma course pursued by him during the years 2017 to 2019, the question of considering the petitioner's candidature under the PSTM category under the notification dated 13.06.2025 does not arise.



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6. Though the learned counsel for the petitioner raised several other contentions, contending that the Diploma being the prescribed qualification for the post in question and the Diploma course is not being offered in the Tamil language in the State of Tamil Nadu, there is no purpose in providing reservation in favour PSTM candidates under the impugned notification, etc, this Court is not inclined to go into those aspects, as this Court is fully satisfied that the petitioner is not satisfying the requirement so as to consider her case under the PSTM category.

7. In the circumstances, this Court does not find any merit in the writ petition and the same is accordingly dismissed. No costs. Connected miscellaneous petitions, if any, shall stand closed.

**28-10-2026**

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

dpa

To

1. The Secretary to Government
   State of Tamilnadu,
   Human Resources Management Department,
   Secretariat, Chennai – 600009.

2. The Secretary,
   Tamilnadu Public Service Commission,
   TNPSC Road, V.O.C.Nagar,
   Park Town, Chennai - 600003.



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**MUMMINENI SUDHEER KUMAR, J.**

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**28-10-2026**



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