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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. 45051 of 2026

CNR: {HCMA012616902026}

Case QR

D.Gopal
Advocate,
S/o.Duraisamy,
No.223, N.S.C. Bose Road,
Y.M.C.A. Building (3rd Floor)
Opp. to High Court,
Chennai-600 104

..Petitioner

Vs

1. The Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu
   Highways and Minor Ports Department,
   Fort St. George, Chennai-600 009.

2. The Joint Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu
   Highways and Minor Ports Department,
   Fort St. George, Chennai-600 009

3. The Director General
   Highways Department,
   Guindy, Chennai-600 025.

4. The Chief Engineer (H)
   Constructions and Maintenance,
   Guindy, Chennai-600 025.

..Respondents

PRAYER : Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to forthwith disburse the petitioners pending professional fee bills amounting to Rs.7,80,000/- for filing 26 LPAs based on the 2nd and 3rd respondents

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proceedings dated 26.11.2025 and 11.12.2025 via Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) within the time frame to be fixed by this Court.

For Petitioner: Mr. D.Gopal
Party in Person

For Respondents: Ms.Inthu Karunakaran
Special Government Pleader [R1 to R4]

ORDER

The writ petition is filed seeking the following relief :

" To direct the respondents to forthwith disburse the petitioners pending professional fee bills amounting to Rs.7,80,000/- for filing 26 LPAs based on the 2nd and 3rd respondents proceedings dated 26.11.2025 and 11.12.2025 via Electronic Clearing Service (ECS) within the time frame to be fixed by this Court.

2. The petitioner is an Advocate by profession. He was appointed as Government Advocate in the High Court of Madras for the period from 2021 to 2026. The case of the petitioner is that he represented the first respondent-State in 26 Letters Patent Appeals (LPAs), and the professional fee for each LPA is Rs.30,000/-, and therefore the professional fees for 26 LPAs works out to Rs.7,80,000/-. The petitioner had submitted the bill on 09.06.2025 to the first respondent and the same was forwarded to second respondent. Thereafter, the second respondent vide its letter dated 26.11.2025 had forwarded the claim of

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the petitioner to the third respondent for taking necessary action. The third respondent in turn had forwarded the bills of the petitioner to the fourth respondent on 11.12.2025, directing to remit the said amount into the account of the petitioner through Electronic Clearing Service (ECS). However, till date there is no progress in making the payment to the petitioner. Hence the petitioner is before this Court seeking a mandamus to the respondents to disburse the said amount of Rs.7,80,000/- to him.

3. A perusal of the records would show that the second respondent had addressed a communication to the third respondent on 26.11.2026, enclosing the original fee bill for Rs.7,80,000/- claimed by the petitioner, for necessary action. Subsequently, the third respondent vide his letter dated 11.12.2025 had also addressed a communication to the fourth respondent, which reads as below :

> "பார்வை –2ல் காணும் அரசு கடிதத்துடன், திரு D.கோபால், அரசு வழக்கறிஞர் அவர்கள் மேற்காணும் Cont.Petn.561/563.2012 வழக்குகளின் 11.04.2023(ம) 22.08.2024 நாளிட்ட தீர்ப்புகளை எதிர்த்து தாக்கல் செய்யப்பட்ட Letter Patent Appeal களுக்கான கட்டணப்பட்டியல் (மொத்தம் 26) இவ்வலுவலகத்தில் பெறப்பட்டுள்ளது. மேற்படி பெறப்பட்ட வழக்கறிஞரின் கட்டணப்பட்டியலை அசலாக, தக்க நடவடிக்கைக்ககாக தங்களுக்கு அனுப்பி வைக்கிறேன். மேலும் மேற்காணும் கட்டணப்பட்டியலை ஒப்பளிப்பு செய்த விவரங்களை அரசுவழக்கறிஞர் அவர்களுக்கு நேரடியாக தெரிவிக்குமாறு அன்புடன் கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

4. Despite the directions of the respondents 1 to 3 to take action on the claim of the petitioner, there appears to be a lapse on the fourth respondent for

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more than 10 months. Therefore, the fourth respondent is directed to implement the orders of the second and third respondent dated 26.11.2025 and 11.12.2025 forthwith and to effect payment to the petitioner for the said sum through ECS mode, within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

5. With the above directions, the writ petition stands allowed. No costs.

04-11-2026

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

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To:

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P.T.ASHA, J.

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