



CrI.O.P.No.103 of 2026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

RESERVED ON : 26.02.2026
PRONOUNCED ON : 17.03.2026

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.NIRMAL KUMAR

CrI.O.P.No.103 of 2026
and
CrI.M.P.No.103 of 2026

Dr.V.R.Giridev

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.State of Tamil Nadu,
Rep. By Deputy Superintendent of Police,
Vigilance and Anti Corruption, CC-IV Unit,
Chennai – 600 016.

2.The Inspector of Police,
Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, CSU-III,
Chennai.

... Respondents

Prayer: Criminal Original Petition filed under Section 528 of BNSS/482 of Cr.P.C. to cal for the records relating to the FIR in Crime No.04/2025 on the file of the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, CC-IV Unit, Chennai and quash the same in so far as the petitioner is concerned.



CrI.O.P.No.103 of 2026

For Petitioner : Mr.G.Masilamani
Senior Counsel
for Mr.Manisundargopal
For Respondent : Mr.S.Udayakumar
Government Advocate (CrI. Side)

ORDER

The petitioner/A6 in Crime No.4 of 2025 for the offence under Sections 120(B), 167, 406, 409 of IPC and Section 13(2) r/w. 13(1)(a) of Prevention of Corruption Act (hereinafter referred to as “PC Act”), filed this quash petition.

2.The case of the prosecution is that Anna University was established in Tamil Nadu in the year 1978. In 2001 Anna University was converted to an affiliating type of University and in 2012, it was again converted to an affiliating type of University by bringing together all the Engineering Colleges in the State of Tamil Nadu under one umbrella to ensure uniform quality in Engineering education. The Centre for Affiliation of Institutions (CAI) in Anna University was established with the objective of enabling the Engineering Colleges under its jurisdiction to achieve academic excellence by guiding them to equip themselves with qualified faculty members and



state-of-the-art infrastructural facilities The main objection of CAI is to verify the fulfillment of norms for grant of affiliation to the Technical Institutions throughout Tamil Nadu under the jurisdiction of Anna University, Chennai. A factual verification was done by the Officer of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption on receipt of petition No.9031/2024/MISC/CC-HQ dated 29.07.2024 and in accordance with prior permission under Section 17(A) of PC Act vide letter No.351/PR10/2025 dated 26.05.2025. Thereafter, the above FIR came to be filed against 17 persons, out of them A1 to A10 are from Anna University and other accused are Private Engineering Colleges, Professors and others.

3.The case is that about 353 individuals are working as full-time faculty members in more than one Engineering College at the same point of time in the year 2023-2024. It is only possible for one person to work as a full time faculty member at one place at given point of time. Eleven colleges declared that one Dr.S.Marichamy is working in their College during the year 2023-2024, whereas it is only possible for one faculty to work in one college as a full time faculty at a given point of time Hence, Dr.S.Marichamy could work only in one college at a time and in the



remaining 10 other colleges, his presence and employment reported falsely.

This falsity created by Private Engineering Colleges, to gain eligibility for affiliation/accreditation process of CAI. Thus the private Engineering Colleges in connivance with private individuals and Government officials colluded with each other, with an intention to fraudulently obtain affiliation/accreditation from Anna University, thereby fabricated documents and thus, cheated the students and the University. The officials of Anna University willfully granted affiliation to ineligible colleges knowingly and also played a major role in this act of cheating. An inspection team sent by Anna University inspected some of the Colleges simultaneously on the same day and found same Professor/Lecturer working in two colleges on a given day. Reports from the Inspection team revealed the fact that private colleges were indulging in such kind of malpractices. It also revealed that Private Engineering Colleges fraudulently shown increased number of faculties to satisfy the affiliation criteria, instead of recruiting qualified full-time faculties thus involved in a massive fraudulent activity by portraying these non-existing faculties who appear only on paper and not in reality, in order to avoid salary and other expenses. The Inspection team of Anna University knowing fully that no such number of faculties existed in reality, willfully



facilitated the Private Engineering Colleges by giving false reports as if they have fulfilled the required norms. This confirms the act of conspiracy between the officials of Anna University and the Private Engineering Colleges, who fraudulently created false documents. It revealed that senior officials of Anna University, CAI have colluded with the inspection team of Engineering Colleges and approved the affiliation of ineligible colleges for the year 2023-2024. A1 to A10 being the members of Inspection Committee and Standing Committee of CAI, in pursuance of conspiracy with A11 to A13 and along with A14 to A17, Private Engineering Colleges failed to conduct proper scrutiny in the prescribed manner and thus facilitated the affiliation of ineligible Colleges. Further, A1 to A3 failed to perform periodic monitoring of the compliance to AICTE norms by the Technical Institutions and willfully committed violations. Finding prima facie materials against A1 to A10 being the members of Inspection Team and Standing Committee of CAI along with the other accused with dishonest intention, entered into a criminal conspiracy during the years 2023-2024 and committed criminal misconduct and criminal breach of trust.

4.The learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted



that the petitioner completed his graduation in B.Tech. (Textile Technology) from PSG College of Technology in the year 2000 and M.Tech. (Fiber Science and Technology) in the year 2001 from IIT, Delhi. He completed his Ph.D in Textile Technology from Anna University in the year 2007 and pursued his Post-Doctoral training at the National University of Singapore in the year 2008. The petitioner was initially appointed as a Teaching Research Associate in the Department of Textile Technology on 19.03.2002 and thereafter appointed as Lecturer in the same Department on 31.07.2004, subsequently promoted to Associate Professor on 19.04.2017 (through Career Advancement Scheme) promoted to Professor. The petitioner served as Head of the Department of Textile Technology from 10.10.2019 to 28.12.2022. He was appointed as Deputy Registrar (Personnel) on 28.12.2022 and relieved on 26.04.2023. Thereafter, the petitioner was appointed as Additional Director, Centre for International Relations with effect from 31.03.2023. He further submitted that the petitioner was appointed as Director, Centre for Affiliation of Institutions (CAI) by proceedings No.003/CAI/PR20/2024 dated 09.05.2024 and he assumed charge of his office on 10.05.2024. The petitioner had no association whatsoever with Centre for Affiliation of Institutions prior to 10.05.2024. He



would further submit Anna University is the Affiliating University to grant affiliation to Engineering Colleges under the provisions of Anna University

Act. The process of affiliation consists of following steps:

- (1) Submission of application seeking affiliation in a prescribed form;
- (2) Inspection of the College by an Inspection Committee to verify the availability and requirements for grant of affiliation and submission of a report;
- (3) Recommendation by the Standing Committee on affiliation;
- (4) Grant of affiliation by the Vice Chancellor.

5.The learned Senior Counsel further submitted that to coordinate the above process, University has established a Secretariat, named Centre for Affiliation of Institutions (CAI). The role of the Centre is to monitor the correspondence from these Institutions and help in the administration with regard to affiliation, starting of new courses and increases in intake of students in the existing courses, etc. The composition of the Centre comprises a Director, two Deputy Directors and four Deputy Directors designated for Madurai, Tirunelveli, Trichy and Chennai. For the academic year 2023-2024, the relevant schedule of details would be significant.



S.No.	DETAILS (2023-2024)	DATE
1.	Application Call Letter for the Academic Year 2023-24	11.01.2023
2.	Last date of Submission of Application (Without Penalty)	17.04.2023
3.	Last Date of Submission of Application (With Penalty of Rs.50,000/-)	24.04.2023
4.	Inspection Start Date 2023-24	11.05.2023
5.	Inspection End Date 2023-24	19.07.2023
6.	Affiliation Order Issue Date (Last date as fixed by AICTE)	31.07.2023

6.He further submitted that the orders of affiliation for all Colleges were issued on or before the last day i.e., 31.07.2023 for the academic year 2023-2024. The petitioner assumed office as Director of CAI on 10.05.2024, ten months after the issuance of the affiliation orders for the academic year. Hence, the petitioner not involved or participated in any affiliation processes for the academic year 2023-2024. He would further submit that two months after the petitioner assumed office as Director, saw several reports in media to the effect that in some Colleges, which were granted affiliation for the academic year 2023-2024, full-time teaching faculty members have been shown on the rolls for more than one affiliated College. During that time, the affiliation process for the academic year 2024-2025 reached its final stage and the Inspecting teams also inspected most of the Colleges and data



regarding the faculty members was available. In view of the media reports with regard to the previous academic year's affiliation, the petitioner as Director, at that time, deemed it fit to reanalyze the available data to ascertain whether the same issue pertaining to the faculties continued as in the previous academic year 2023-2024. Hence to find out duplication of faculty members, the petitioner brought it to the notice of the Vice Chancellor and the Registrar of the University. Based on the data furnished by the petitioner, the Registrar addressed a communication dated 24.07.2024 to the Principal Secretary to the Governor, the AICTE and the Principal Secretary to the Government, Department of Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu. Based on the above communication, the Vice Chancellor appointed a Three-member Fact Finding Committee vide G.O.RT.No.213 dated 25.07.2024. The Fact Finding Committee submitted a report dated 19.08.2024. In the meanwhile, the officials of DVAC approached the petitioner and the petitioner as Director of CAI produced all documents pertaining to the affiliation of the year 2023-2024 through the Registrar.

7.The learned Senior Counsel further submitted that after taking over as Director of CAI, implemented Aadhaar based biometric authentication of



faculty members and facial recording to eliminate the possibility of impersonation or duplication. Further, introduced mandatory videography of the entire inspection proceedings and implemented a monthly Aadhaar based biometric attendance system for all faculty members across affiliated institutions. Further, the inspection team introduced facial authentication system through mobile application for verification of the faculties employed by the affiliated colleges. Based on the above methodology, fresh applications were called for 2024-2025 for the purpose of affiliation and colleges submitted fresh application with all necessary particulars, including the list of faculty members in the prescribed software format. As Director, petitioner ensured that the alleged malpractice earlier pointed out regarding duplication of faculty members for the academic year 2023-2024 was completely obliterated for the following academic year 2024-2025. In fact, the Syndicate expressed and appreciated the office of CAI for identifying and closing loopholes in the affiliation. But on the contrary strangely without verifying the above facts, which are borne by records and documents, though the petitioner taken a role of whistle blower and ensured elimination of duplicated false faculty members, now arrayed as A6 in the above case. Further, it is pertinent to note that the petitioner is attempted to



be implicated pertaining to the inspection of affiliation of Engineering Colleges for the year 2023-2024. The time schedule prescribed by the Anna University for affiliation for the year 2023-2024 was from 11.01.2023 and ended on 31.07.2023. Thus, the entire process for affiliation for the year 2023-2024 was completed well before the petitioner assumed Office as Director for CAI on 10.05.2024. From January 2023 to 10.05.2024, petitioner was posted as Professor in the Department of Textile Technology at Anna University. Thus, without verifying even basic facts and records, the petitioner arrayed as accused. Hence, prayed for quashing of FIR.

8.In support of his contentions, the learned Senior Counsel relied upon the decision of this Court in the case of ***K.Shiva Kumar vs. State*** reported in ***2025 SCC Online Mad 30*** for the point that though general rule that Court should not look beyond the allegation in the FIR while considering the challenge to it may not be applicable to cases where Section 17(A) of PC Act applies and the Court must refer to the quality of the application of mind involved in granting approval. He further relied on the decision of the Apex Court in the case of ***Kim Wansoo vs. State of Uttar Pradesh and others*** reported in ***2025 SCC Online SC 17*** for the point that High Court could



interfere with the investigation, if non-interference would result in miscarriage of justice. Further the Court while exercising its jurisdiction under Section 482 of Cr.P.C. and Article 226 of the Constitution of India do not restrict itself only to the stage of a case but is empowered to take into account the overall circumstances leading to the initiation/registration of the case as well as the materials collected in the course of investigation.

9.The learned Government Advocate (Crl. Side) filed his counter and submitted that as per the orders of the Director, DVAC in Memorandum No.RC.345/2025/EDN., Pet.9031/2024/EDN/CC&HQ dated 29.10.2025, the case was entrusted to the second respondent on 13.11.2025, who took up investigation. The petitioner is arrayed as A6 in the FIR, petitioner holding post of Director, Centre for Affiliation of Institutions (CAI), Anna University from 10.05.2024. A1 to A10 are the officials of Anna University, in conspiracy with each other and with Private Engineering Colleges within Tamil Nadu and committed malpractice in the process of affiliation to Anna University during the year 2023-2024. The inspection team sent by Anna University for affiliation inspected some colleges simultaneously on the same day and found some Professors/Lecturers working in more than one



College. It was found that Private Engineering Colleges in connivance with private individuals and Government Officials has colluded with each other to fraudulently obtain affiliation/accreditation from Anna University and also fabricated documents, thereby cheated the students/parents of Tamil Nadu. The officials of Anna University willfully granted permission to ineligible Colleges and played a major role in the act of cheating. There is prima facie materials against A1 to A10, who are the members of the Inspection Committee and Standing Committee of CAI. The allegation leveled against the officials of Anna University including the petitioner/A6 continued even after petitioner assumed charge as Director of CAI. He further submitted that FIR registered after getting 17(A) approval of PC Act. The Syndicate vide resolution No.274.26 dated 10.03.2025 granted approval under Section 17(A) of PC Act to file a regular case and the same communicated by Anna University vide letter No.351/PR10/2025 dated 26.05.2025. Now the investigation is in progress. The actual and active role played by the petitioner can be found only during investigation.

10.Considering the submissions made and on perusal of the materials, it is seen that the petitioner was appointed as Director, Centre for Affiliation



of Institutions (CAI) vide Proceedings No.003/CAI/PR20/2024 dated 09.05.2024 and the petitioner assumed charge of his Office on 10.05.2024.

The undisputed fact is that the petitioner assumed office of Director of CAI on 10.05.2024. The present case proceeds primarily on the irregularity committed during the academic year 2023-2024. The order of affiliation for all Colleges issued lastly on 31.07.2023 for the academic year 2023-2024 and the petitioner assumed office ten months after issuance of order of affiliation. Two months after petitioner assuming office, he came across media reports in granting affiliation for the academic year 2023-2024 with allegation full-time teaching faculty members shown on rolls in more than one affiliated college at the same time. Thereafter, the petitioner took all remedial measures to check such malpractices are not committed for the academic year 2024-2025. The petitioner as Director of CAI deemed it necessary to analyze the available data to ascertain the issues pertaining to the faculties and false reporting pointed out for the academic year 2023-2024. After a detailed analysis, to avoid duplication of faculty members, the petitioner brought it to the notice of the Vice Chancellor and the Registrar of the University, who addressed a communication dated 24.07.2024 to the Principal Secretary to the Governor, AICTE and the Principal Secretary to



CrI.O.P.No.103 of 2026

the Government, Department of Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu, Three Member Fact Finding Committee was appointed vide G.O.RT.No.213 dated 25.07.2024 and the Fact Finding Committee filed a report dated 19.08.2024 which led to the filing of the above case.

11.It is to be seen that the petitioner as Director implemented Aadhaar based biometric authentication of faculty members to eliminate the possibility of impersonation or duplication. Further, the petitioner introduced mandatory videography of the entire inspection process and implemented monthly Aadhaar based biometric attendance system for faculty members across affiliated institutions. The Inspection team facilitated with facial authentication system through a mobile application for verification of the faculties employed by the affiliated colleges. Based on the above methodology, fresh applications called for 2024-2025 for the purpose of affiliation and accreditation of Colleges. The Colleges submitted fresh applications with Aadhaar based unique ID authentication. The petitioner as Director of CAI eliminated and ensured no such malpractice pointed out earlier regarding duplication of faculty members in the academic year 2023-2024 completely eliminated for the subsequent academic year 2024-2025.



The University Syndicate appreciated the office of CAI in identifying and closing the loopholes in the affiliation. The new software introduced strengthened the integrity and affiliation framework. The time schedule prescribed by Anna University for affiliation for the academic year 2023-2024 commenced on 11.01.2023 and ended on 31.07.2023. Thus, the entire affiliation process for the academic year 2023-2024 completed well before petitioner took charge as Director of CAI on 10.05.2024. The petitioner after taking charge as Director took earnest steps and initiative in introducing Aadhaar based biometric ID and facial verification and ensured software was fool proof, when the petitioner was the Director of CAI all steps taken and duplication of faculty members eradicated. The Syndicate recognized and appreciated the steps taken by the petitioner. In fact, it is the petitioner who acted as a whistle blower to bring it to the notice of the Vice Chancellor, Registrar, the Governor, AICTE and the Principal Secretary to the Government, Department of Higher Education. Thereafter, only Three Member Fact Finding Committee was appointed. The petitioner would be the right person to be a fair witness to give the details regarding the loopholes and misconduct conducted in the previous academic year and that of the academic year 2024-2025. This might have hurt and affected some



CrI.O.P.No.103 of 2026

Private Colleges causing loss and reputation. In fact, the inspection and affiliation procedure followed during the academic year 2024-2025 is the benchmark by which malpractices committed earlier now eliminated. In fact, the Anna University by letter No.351/PR10/2025 dated 26.05.2025, records Syndicate recording that complaint against the petitioner/Dr.V.R.Giridev by the complainant is not appropriate. A scanned reproduction of letter No.351/PR10/2025 dated 26.05.2025 is as follows:



Cr.O.P.No.103 of 2026

WEB COPY



Anna University
SARDAR PATEL ROAD, CHENNAI - 600 025.

Phone: 044 - 22351126
: 044 - 22352112
Fax : 91 44-22351956
Web : www.annauniv.edu

Letter.No.351/PR10/2025

Date: 26.05.2026

To

The Director,
Directorate of Vigilance and Anti Corruption,
No.293, M.K.N. Road,
Alandur, Chennai - 16

Sir,

Sub: Personnel - Anna University, Chennai - Allegations against the Suspect Officers of Anna University - Prior permission requested to register a Regular case by the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti Corruption (DVAC) - Forwarded of Syndicate Resolution No.374.26 dated 10.03.2025 - Regarding.

- Ref: 1. Letters No.3854/11/2024-2 dated 10.01.2025 & 3854/11/2024-4, dated 12.03.2025 from the Higher Education (II) Department, Secretariat, Chennai - 9.
2. From the Additional Chief Secretary / Vigilance Commissioner & Commissioner for Administrative Reforms (FAC), Tamil Nadu Vigilance Commission U.O. No.4413/VC-1/2024-1, dated 04.10.2024.
3. Petition No. 9031/2024/EDN/CO-HQ dated 13.09.2024.
4. E-mail petition dated 23.07.2024 from Mr. Radhakrishnan, Arappor Iyakkam, No. 7, 2nd Floor, Sarv Plaza, Dr. Thirumourthy Nagar Main Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 034.
5. Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Act, 1988 as amended in 2018 (Central Act 16 of 2018) notified in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, dated 26.07.2018.
6. G.O. (Ms) No. 173, P&AK (N) Department, dated 05.12.2018.
7. Letter No. 1622/J1/2024 - 4, Dated. 27.08.2024
8. G.O. (Rt) No.213, Higher Education (J1) Department, dated 25.07.2024.
9. The Report of the Fact Finding Committee, Dated 19.08.2024.

With reference to the communication received from the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti Corruption (DVAC), it is submitted that an email referred therein highlighted instances of faculty members being shown as full time staff in more than one engineering college during the academic year 2023-24, based on data submitted by affiliated colleges and published on the Anna University website. Following this & based on the direction by the Higher Education Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, a Fact Finding Committee was constituted vide G.O. (Rt) No. 213 dated 25.07.2024, to investigate the complaints on



WEB COPY

fake faculty in affiliated colleges of Anna University, Chennai, to evolve strategies to prevent such duplication of faculty members in future and to indicate the lapses and individuals responsible for such lapses. The Committee undertook comprehensive examination and submitted its report dated 19.08.2024 to the Government and the same was forwarded to the University for initiating necessary action.

In line with the directions received from the Higher Education Department and Fact Finding committee, the concerned University officials undertook extensive verification processes, which included issuing notices to colleges and faculty, conducting regional enquiries, consolidating inspection reports and presented the recommendations to the Syndicate.

Further, as part of the official verification mandate, Aadhaar-based biometric authentication was implemented, and more than 50,000 faculty members from affiliated colleges were verified and assigned unique identification numbers through this rigorous process, thereby effectively eliminating duplication from the University's records. To ensure procedural fairness, transparency, and evidentiary integrity, all inspection proceedings were videographed and duly documented. In particular, face-based authentication in collaboration with TNeGA, was integrated into the inspection process to enhance the reliability of faculty verification. These measures were executed at warfooting manner in strict accordance with the directives issued by the competent authorities, and formed a critical part of the University's institutional responsibility to uphold the credibility and integrity of the affiliation process.

Moreover, in recognition of the success of this initiative, the Higher Education Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, has directed all the Universities in the State to adopt the same verification system, and to obtain and implement the required software developed by Anna University (enclosed as annexures).

Based on the communication received from the Higher Education Department, the above matter was placed before the Syndicate as Table Agenda Item No. 274.26 during its meeting held on 10.03.2025. The agenda sought the Syndicate's approval for granting permission to the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC) to register a regular case against the suspect officers (Sl. No. 2 to 11), in reference to the vigilance report forwarded through the Tamil Nadu Vigilance Commission. As per the directions of the Syndicate, the resolved minutes under Resolution No.274.26 of the 274th Meeting held on 10.03.2025 are reproduced below verbatim:



WEB COPY

- Following information on the Agenda was presented by Prof. S. Usa



- (i) The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department, Secretariat communicated a letter dated 10/01/2025 stating that the Tamil Nadu Vigilance Commission has forwarded the vigilance report of DVAC for consideration and to take appropriate decision regarding grant of prior approval at Government level for registering a "Regular Case" at the Government level against the Suspect Officers (Sl. No. 2 to 11) mentioned below in respect of "Malpractice in the Affiliation process of private Engineering Colleges by Anna University's Centre for Affiliation of Institutions, AICTE and Hundreds of affiliated Engineering Colleges of the allegations" contained in the petition of Thiru.Radhakrishnan, Arapper Iyakkam, Chennai-84,

No.	Name and Designation of the Suspect Officers
1.	(SO-1) Dr. R. Velraj, Vice-Chancellor, Anna University
2.	(SO-2) Dr. A. Elayaperumal, Earlier working as Director of Affiliation Department, Anna University and Now working as Director, NIT, Nagaland
3.	(SO-3) Dr. M. Chitra Deputy Director, Centre for Affiliation of Institutions, Anna University
4.	(SO-4) Dr. D. Shiloh Elizabeth Deputy Director, Centre for Affiliation of Institutions, Anna University
5.	(SO-5) Dr. G. Ravindran Earlier Registrar, Anna University Now working as Professor, Civil Engineering Department, Anna University
6.	(SO-6) Dr. J. Prakash Registrar i/c., Anna University
7.	(SO-7) Dr. V. R. Giridev Director, Centre for Affiliation of Institutions, Anna University
8.	(SO-8) Dr. S. Marshal Anthony Deputy Director, Anna University, Coimbatore
9.	(SO-9) Dr. V. Malschi, Deputy Director, Anna University, Madurai
10.	(SO-10) Dr. S. Brahadeeswaran, Deputy Director, Anna University, Trichy
11.	(SO-11) Dr. S. Silas Sargunam, Deputy Director, Anna University, Tirunelveli



WEB COPY

(ii) In the above communication, The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department requested The Registrar, Anna University to obtain necessary prior approval from the Syndicate in respect of the Suspect Officers mentioned in SLNo. 2 to 11 for registering a regular case against them, since Syndicate of Anna University is the competent authority to accord permission for registering a regular case.

• Members of the Syndicate were surprised with these developments and suggested not to grant approval to DVAC to proceed on this case, as it is evident that

- (a) The Centre for Affiliation of Institutions (CAI) strictly adheres to practices established by statutory provisions. The affiliation process involves soliciting applications, conducting inspections, ensuring adherence to University norms through established procedures and ultimately granting affiliation.
- (b) The process of affiliation is determined collectively by committee members, clearly indicating that procedural lapses or errors, if any, stem from collective institutional actions rather than the actions of individual university officials.
- (c) Consequently, individual accountability, particularly concerning University officials, cannot be attributed in isolation.
- (d) All the activities related to affiliation are conducted in accordance with well-defined protocols and undergo scrutiny by the committees.

• Prof. S. Usa drew attention of the Syndicate on the following

- (a) Fact-Finding Committee (vide its report dated 19/08/2024) that was submitted to the Government, explicitly found no culpability among University officials.
- (b) Without specific and substantiated allegations of individual misconduct, there is no justification or necessity for filing a 'regular case' by DVAC against any University officials.
- (c) Moreover, Dr. V. R. Giri Dev assumed office as Director of CAI only on 09.05.2024, which is beyond the period of allegation filed by the complainant Thiru.Redhakrishnan, Areppor Iyakkam
- (d) Also Dr. J. Prakash assumed charge as Registrar i/c., Anna University only on 19.06.2023, wherein the process of affiliation for the AY 2023-24 was about to complete.
- (e) Hence, the involvement of Dr. J. Prakash and Dr. V. R. Giri Dev on the complaint filed by the complainant is not appropriate.
- (f) Granting approval to DVAC for lodging a 'regular case' shall demoralize and demotivate upright University faculty from taking any additional responsibilities



WEB COPY

(57)

- Post presentation of facts by Prof. Usa, The Secretary to Government, Dept. of Higher Education elucidated the members of Syndicate on the following:
 - (i) DVAC would have conducted investigation and arrived at these conclusions,
 - (ii) Approval is sought by DVAC towards for filing a "Regular Case" against the Suspect Officers [Sl.No. 2 to 11] in respect of the allegation as detailed in the Vigilance Commission U.O. Note No.4413/VC-V/2024-1 dated 04.10.2024
 - (iii) Government cannot deny permission/approval to DVAC towards filing a "Regular Case" against the Suspect Officers.
 - (iv) Hence, Anna University is advised to present these facts in the "Approval Letter" to be addressed to DVAC towards filing of "Regular Case" facilitating their investigation against the Suspect Officers [Sl.No. 2 to 11]
- Members of Syndicate sought information of any precedence wherein the request of DVAC was not approved by the Syndicate.
- Deputy Registrar (Personnel) and Legal coordinator, Anna University stated non-existence of above precedence.

With the above background,
Syndicate is constrained to grant approval
to the DVAC to file a Regular Case
against the Suspect Officers [Sl.No.2 to 11] and
request DVAC to take cognizance of the above mentioned facts
before filing 'regular case' against suspect officers

- As a final point of discussion, the report of fact-finding committee was to be tabled, as suggested by The Secretary to Government, Dept. of Higher Education during the deliberations pertaining to earlier Agenda # 274.6 (To consider and approve the recommendations of Fact-Finding Committee regarding duplication of faculty in Affiliated Colleges).
- Citing the above proceedings by DVAC, The Secretary to Government, Dept. of Higher Education suggested to deliberate on the reports of Fact-Finding Committee, later.



CrI.O.P.No.103 of 2026

WEB COPY

Hence, the DVAC is requested to take into account the relevant facts, institutional context, timelines and the report of the fact-finding committee before filing regular case against the suspect officers as per the above Syndicate Resolution.

//By order of the Syndicate//

Dr. K. S. Subramanian
Dr. K. S.

Dr. K. S. Subramanian
Addl. Reg. - 1/c

Dr. K. S. Subramanian
26/5/25
o/c REGISTRAR

Copy to:

1. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Higher Education (II) Department,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary / Vigilance Commissioner and
Commissioner for Administrative Reforms,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.

Dr. K. S. Subramanian
26/5/25



Cr.L.O.P.No.103 of 2026

12.Thus, it is seen though Syndicate granted approval to file a regular case against the Officers in Sl.Nos.2 to 11 as requested by DVAC, it also records to be shown restrain for action against petitioner and another Professor prior to filing regular case which is not followed in this case. In view of the above, this Court finds that no case made against the petitioner warranting any investigation and continuation of investigation would amount to abuse of process of law.

13.Accordingly, the case against the petitioner alone in Crime No.04 of 2025 investigated by the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, CC-IV Unit, Chennai is hereby quashed.

14.In the result, the Criminal Original Petition stands allowed. Consequently, the connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

17.03.2026

Index : Yes/No
Speaking Order/Non Speaking Order
Neutral Citation: Yes/No
cse



WEB COPY



CrI.O.P.No.103 of 2026

To

- 1.The Deputy Superintendent of Police,
Vigilance and Anti Corruption, CC-IV Unit,
Chennai – 600 016.
- 2.The Inspector of Police,
Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, CSU-III,
Chennai.
- 3.The Public Prosecutor,
High Court, Madras.



WEB COPY



CrI.O.P.No.103 of 2026

M.NIRMAL KUMAR, J.

cse

Pre-delivery order made in

CrI.O.P.No.103 of 2026

17.03.2026