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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 29-10-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE G.R.SWAMINATHAN

AND

THE HON'BLE MRS.JUSTICE M.D.SUMATHI

WP(MD) No. 4548 of 2026

CNR:{HCMD010188072026}

T.S.R.Venkat Ramana
Senior Advocate and Ex-MLA,
Sornam Illam,
No.109/3 Elathur Sengottai Road,
Eenavilaku, Elathur - 627 803

..Petitioner

Vs

1. The Registrar General
   Madras High Court,
   Chennai - 600 104

2. The Member Secretary,
   Tamilnadu State Legal Services Authority,
   Chennai - 600 104

..Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition, filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this court to issue a Writ of Mandamus directing the 2nd Respondent to return the corpus amount of Rs.5 Lakhs standing to the credit of T.S.Ramanatha Iyer Award for Devoted services to Legal Aid together with all accrued interests till payment to the Petitioner as petitioner himself has decided to organize the Award function through his newly registered T.S.R. Law Forum Trust and pass such further or other orders as this Honble Court may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

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For Petitioner :Ms.V.Janaki Devi,
For Mr.T.S.R.Venkat Ramana
(PARTY-IN-PERSON)

For Respondents :Mr.K.Samidurai,
Standing Counsel For R1
Mr.K.Senthil Kumar,
Standing Counsel For R2

ORDER
(Order of the Court was made by G.R. SWAMINATHAN J.)

Heard both sides.

2.The writ petitioner is a designated Senior Counsel and a former Member of the Legislative Assembly. He created an endowment in the name of his late father Shri.T.S.Ramanatha Iyer. A scheme known as "T.S.Ramanatha Iyer Award for Devoted Services to Legal Aid" was framed and the second respondent was tasked with carrying out the scheme. Awards were to be conferred every year. The second respondent conducted functions from 2007 to 2014. For the last 12 years, the second respondent has not conducted any function. In other words, the scheme has remained unimplemented since 2014. In these circumstances, this writ petition has been filed for directing the second respondent to return the corpus amount with accrued interest.

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3.It is seen that the petitioner has founded T.S.R.Law Forum Trust and is conducting events under its auspices. The petitioner does not want the said amount for himself. He only wants this Court to direct the second respondent to credit the corpus amount with accrued interest to the credit of the newly formed trust.

4.The second respondent has filed status report as well as additional status report. It is seen therefrom that the corpus amount of Rs.5,00,000/- has earned interest and the amount has accrued to Rs.6,28,500/-. The second respondent also made it clear that the scheme framed in the year 2007 can no longer be operated and that modification is warranted. In fact, the second respondent is willing to abide by any order that may be passed by this Court.

5.Taking into account the fact that for the last 12 years, the second respondent has not implemented the scheme, we direct the second respondent to forthwith credit the corpus amount of Rs.6,28,500/- to the bank account of T.S.R.Law Forum Trust. This shall be done immediately.

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6.This writ petition is allowed accordingly. No costs.

(G.R.S.,J.) (M.D.S.,J.)
29-10-2026

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

IAS

To

1. The Registrar General
   Madras High Court
   Chennai - 600 104

2. The Member Secretary
   Tamilnadu State Legal Services Authority
   Chennai - 600 104

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G.R.SWAMINATHAN, J.
AND
M.D.SUMATHI, J.
IAS

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