



W.P.(MD) No.4029 of 2026

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 13.02.2026

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THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE KRISHNAN RAMASAMY

W.P.(MD)No.4029 of 2026

and

W.M.P.(MD).No.3377 of 2026

Tvl. Spice N Oil,
represented by its Proprietor,
Shivaraj Sreeraja

... Petitioner

Vs

The State Tax Officer,
Virudhunagar-1 Assessment Circle,
Virudhunagar.

... Respondent

Prayer: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Certiorari, calling for records pertaining to the impugned order passed by the respondent vide his order in GSTIN 33FOUPS0734E1ZP/2021-22 dated 01.09.2025 and quash the same as it is illegal and in gross violation of Principles of natural justice.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.D.Ganesan

For Respondent : Mr.R.Suresh Kumar,
Additional Government Pleader



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ORDER

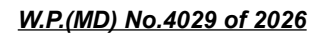
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This writ petition has been filed challenging the impugned order dated 01.09.2025 passed by the respondent.

2. Mr.R.Suresh Kumar, learned Additional Government Pleader takes notice on behalf of the respondent. By consent of the parties, the main writ petition is taken up for disposal at the admission stage itself.

3. The learned counsel for the petitioner would submit that in this case, all notices/communications were uploaded by the respondent in the GST common portal. Since the petitioner was not aware of the said notices, they failed to file their reply within the time. Under these circumstances, the impugned order came to be passed by the respondent without providing any opportunity of personal hearing to the petitioner. Therefore, this petition has been filed.

4. Further, he would submit that the petitioner is willing to pay 25% of the disputed tax amount, to the respondent. Hence, he requests this Court to grant an opportunity to the petitioner to present their case before the respondent by setting aside the impugned order.



7. In the case on hand, it is evident that the show cause notice was uploaded on the GST Portal Tab. According to the petitioner, he was not aware of the issuance of the said show cause notice issued through the GST Portal and the original of the said show cause notice was not furnished to them. In such circumstances, this Court is of the view that the impugned assessment order came to be passed without affording any

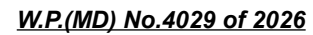


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opportunity of personal hearing to the petitioner, confirming the proposals contained in the show cause notice.

8. No doubt, sending notice by uploading in portal is a sufficient service, but, the Officer who is sending the repeated reminders, inspite of the fact that no response from the petitioner to the show cause notices etc., the Officer should have applied his/her mind and explored the possibility of sending notices by way of other modes prescribed in Section 169 of the GST Act, which are also the valid mode of service under the Act, otherwise it will not be an effective service, rather, it would only fulfilling the empty formalities. Merely passing an *ex parte* order by fulfilling the empty formalities will not serve any useful purpose and the same will only pave way for multiplicity of litigations, not only wasting the time of the Officer concerned, but also the precious time of the Appellate Authority/Tribunal and this Court as well.

9. Thus, when there is no response from the tax payer to the notice sent through a particular mode, the Officer who is issuing notices should strictly explore the possibilities of sending notices through some other mode as prescribed in Section 169(1) of the Act, preferably by way of RPAD, which would ultimately achieve the object of the GST Act.



10. Further, it was submitted by the learned counsel for the petitioner that the petitioner is willing to pay 25% of the disputed tax amount to the respondent. In such view of the matter, this Court is inclined to set aside the impugned order dated 01.09.2025 passed by the respondent. Accordingly, this Court passes the following order:-

(ii) The petitioner shall file their reply/objection along with the required documents, if any, within a period of three weeks from the date of payment of amount as stated above.

(iii) On filing of such reply/objection by the petitioner, the respondent shall consider the same and issue a 14 days clear notice, by fixing the date of personal hearing, to the petitioner and thereafter, pass



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appropriate orders on merits and in accordance with law, after hearing the petitioner, as expeditiously as possible.

11. With the above directions, this writ petition is disposed of. No costs. Consequently, the connected miscellaneous petition is also closed.

13.02.2026

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

To

The State Tax Officer,
Virudhunagar-1 Assessment Circle,
Virudhunagar.



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KRISHNAN RAMASAMY, J.

TSG

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