



W.P(MD)No.5962 of 2026

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 26.03.2026

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE HEMANT CHANDANGOUDAR

Writ Petition(MD)No.5962 of 2026

N.Vijayakumar

.. Petitioner

Vs

1.The District Collector,
Collector Office,
Dindigul,
Dindigul District.

2.Natham Town Panchayat,
rep. by its Executive Officer,
Natham Town Panchayat Office,
Natham Taluk,
Dindigul District.

..Respondents

Prayer: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this Court to issue a Writ of Mandamus to direct the second respondent to allot one shop in the newly constructed 18 shops at Natham Bus Stand, Natham, Dindigul District to the petitioner on the basis of the petitioner's representation dated 08.12.2025 within a stipulated time frame as fixed by this court.



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For Petitioner : Mr.B.Rajesh Saravanan

For Respondent : Mr.P.Subbaraj
Spl. Govt. Pleader for R1

Mr.T.S.Mohamed Mohideen for R2

ORDER

The petitioner is before this Court seeking a direction to the second respondent to allot one shop in the newly constructed complex of 18 shops at Natham Bus Stand, Natham, Dindigul District, based on his representation dated 08.12.2025.

2.The petitioner states that he was earlier running his business in a shop at the said location. The old shops were demolished for constructing a new complex, and therefore, he has requested that one shop be allotted to him in the newly constructed building.

3.The learned counsel for the second respondent submitted that the petitioner does not have any legal right to claim direct allotment of a shop. It is also stated that the shops in the new complex will be allotted only through a public auction process.



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4.It is settled that when public property such as shops belonging to a local body is to be allotted, it must be done through a fair and transparent method like public auction. This ensures equal opportunity to all and avoids any unfair advantage to a particular person. Therefore, the petitioner cannot claim allotment of a shop as a matter of right merely because he was previously occupying a shop. However, the fact that the petitioner was earlier carrying on business in the same place can be taken into consideration. He should be given an opportunity to participate in the auction and compete with others.

5.In view of the above, this writ petition is disposed of by granting liberty to the petitioner to participate in the auction to be conducted by the second respondent. If the petitioner participates, his bid shall be considered in accordance with law, and if any preference is permissible under the rules, the same may also be considered. No costs.

26.03.2026

NCC : Yes/No
Index : Yes/No
Internet:Yes
skn



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To

- 1.The District Collector,
Collector Office,
Dindigul,
Dindigul District.
- 2.The Executive Officer,
Natham Town Panchayat Office,
Natham Taluk,
Dindigul District.



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HEMANT CHANDANGOUDAR, J.

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