



W.P(MD)No.13733 of 2023

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 08.04.2026

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE HEMANT CHANDANGOUDAR

Writ Petition(MD)No.13733 of 2023

Minor Sakthivel.V
rep. by Father and Natural Guardian
B.Vijay Karthikeyan
No.9A, J.N.Nagar 2nd Street,
Valluvar Colony,
Madurai - 625 017.

.. Petitioner

Vs

- 1.All India Council for Technical Education,
rep. by its Secretary,
Shastri Bhavan, 26, Haddows Road,
Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 600 006.
- 2.The Commissioner of Technical Education,
Directorate of Technical Education,
Chennai - 25.
- 3.The Ombudsperson/Director,
Centre for Student Affairs,
Anna University,
Chennai - 600 025.
- 4.The Principal,
Thiagarajan College of Engineering,
Thiruparankundram,
Madurai - 625 015.

..Respondents



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Prayer: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this Court to issue a Writ of Mandamus to direct the respondents 1 to 3 to take action against the fourth respondent and consequently direct the fourth respondent to refund the fees amount of Rs.1,97,000/- to the petitioner.

For Petitioner : Mr.S.Sankar

For Respondents : Mr.N.Dilipkumar
Standing Counsel for R1

Mr.N.Ramesh Arumugam
Govt. Advocate for R2

Mr.J.John Rajadurai for R3

Mr.V.R.Shanmuganathan for R4

ORDER

The petitioner is before this Court seeking a direction to the fourth respondent to refund a sum of Rs.1,97,000/- paid towards admission.

2.The petitioner was admitted to the B.E. Mechanical Engineering course in the fourth respondent college for the academic year 2020–2023 under the management quota. Subsequently, upon securing admission in a Government Agricultural College, the



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petitioner withdrew from the said course and requested the fourth respondent to refund the fees paid at the time of admission.

3.Learned counsel for the petitioner placed reliance on the public notice issued by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), contending that where a student withdraws and the resultant vacancy is filled before the last date of admission, the institution is bound to refund the fees collected. It was further contended that the fourth respondent had admitted students in excess of the sanctioned intake under the management quota and, therefore, had not suffered any financial loss.

4.Per contra, learned counsel for the fourth respondent submitted that, as per the AICTE public notice, refund of fees (after permissible deductions) is contingent upon the vacancy being filled before the last date of admission. In the present case, the petitioner withdrew after joining the course and the seat was not filled. Hence, the petitioner is not entitled to any refund.

5.This Court has considered the submissions made on either side and perused the materials available on record.



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6.It is not in dispute that the petitioner was admitted under the management quota and had joined the course. The records produced by the fourth respondent disclose that admissions were approved and the admission process stood concluded on 30.11.2022. The petitioner, however, withdrew from the course only on 14.12.2022, i.e., after closure of admissions.

7.The AICTE public notice stipulates that where a student withdraws after joining the course, refund of fees arises only if the resultant vacancy is filled by another candidate on or before the last date of admission. In the present case, the vacancy caused by the petitioner's withdrawal was not filled, as the admission process had already concluded.

8.In such circumstances, the petitioner cannot claim refund of the fees paid, as the conditions prescribed in the AICTE public notice are not satisfied.

9.The contention of the petitioner that the fourth respondent admitted students in excess of the sanctioned management quota and therefore suffered no financial loss cannot be accepted. The



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entitlement to refund is governed strictly by the terms of the AICTE guidelines, which do not provide for refund on such a ground.

10.In view of the above, this Court finds no merit in the writ petition.

11.Accordingly, the writ petition is dismissed. No costs.

08.04.2026

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

To

The Commissioner of Technical Education,
Directorate of Technical Education,
Chennai - 25.



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HEMANT CHANDANGOUDAR, J.

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