



WEB COPY

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: **09.06.2026**

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE **MR.JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR**

AND

THE HONOURABLE **MR.JUSTICE M.JOTHIRAMAN**

W.P.(MD)No.14692 of 2026

Thangavel

... Petitioner

Vs.

- 1.The Registrar General,
Madras High Court,
Chennai-600 104.
- 2.The Registrar (Judicial),
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai-625 023.
- 3.The Commissioner of Labour,
Officer of the Commissioner of Labour,
Labour Officer's Quarters,
B-Block, 6th Avenue,
Anna Nagar,
Chennai-600 040.
- 4.The Director of Prosecution,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
No.5, Kamaraj Salai,
Chennai-600 005.

...Respondents



WEB COPY

PRAYER:- Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondents 1 and 2 to issue a circular to all trial Courts mandating day-to-day trial and ensuring the speedy disposal of all bonded labour cases presently pending trial in light of directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Central Bureau of Investigation vs. Mir Usman @ Ara @ Mir Usman Ali (reported in 2025 INSC 1155) dated 22.09.2025 and consequently direct the respondents 3 and 4 to take appropriate steps to complete the trials of bonded labour cases within a prescribed timeline, considering that timely conclusion of trials is essential for the rehabilitation of victims.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Karunanidhi
For Respondents : Mr.N.Mohideen Basha (R1 & R2)
Standing Counsel
Mr.S.Venkatesh (R3 & R4)
Counsel for the State

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by **N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.**)

This Writ Petition has been filed in the nature of a Public Interest Litigation seeking issuance of a writ of mandamus directing respondents 1 and 2 to issue appropriate circulars/instructions to all Trial Courts to conduct day-to-day trials in cases relating to bonded labour and to ensure expeditious disposal within a reasonable time frame.



2.The main grievance of the writ petitioner is that despite the Government of Tamil Nadu in G.O.Ms.No.138, dated 28.09.2021 has issued Standard Operating Procedure to release and rescue of bonded labours, the criminal cases registered against the accused are still pending. According to the learned counsel for the petitioner, 28 cases are still pending for more than ten years.

3.For better appreciation, the list of cases as set out by the petitioner, pending before the District Judiciary is re-produced hereunder:

<i>Sl. No</i>	<i>Court Name</i>	<i>Case Number</i>	<i>Year of FIR</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>Years From FIR</i>
1.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 10/2017	2016	Trial	10 years
2.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 107/2017	2016	Case disposed-acquittal	10 years
3.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 113/17	2016	Trial	10 years
4.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 139/15	2010	Trial	16 years
5.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 26/16	2013	Trial	13 years
6.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 283/17	2016	Part Heard	10 years



WEB COPY

7.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 42/2016	2014	Trial	12 years
8.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 55/15	2012	Part Heard	14 years
9.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 56/18	2013	Trial	13 years
10.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 60/10	2010	Disposed-Conviction 16.04.2026	16 years
11.	PDJ, Chengalpet	S.C.No. 88/17	2016	Trial	10 years
12.	District and Sessions Court	S.C.No. 49/2022	2012	Trial	14 years
13.	PDJ Court, Kancheepuram	S.C.No. 153/2024	2016	Trial	10 years
14.	DM cum JM Pallipattu	CC/19/2016	2011	Service Pending warrant	15 years
15.	JM, Tiruvottiyur	CC/203/2015	2015	Evidence	11 years
16.	JM, Ambattur	CC/303/2015	2015	Disposed 23.01.2026	11 years
17.	JM, Ambattur	CC/360/2016	2016	Disposed 16.04.2026	10 years
18.	JM, Tirutani	CC/52/2015	2015	Issue of service	11 years
19.	JM, Ponneri	CC/150/2015	2015	Disposed 24.11.2025	11 years
20.	JM, Ponneri	PRC/10/2018	2011	For committed	15 years
21.	PDJ and Session Judge Court	SC/174/2018	2015	Disposed 06.10.2025	11 years
22.	PDJ and Session Judge Court	SC/209/2018	2015	Disposed 06.10.2025	11 years
23.	PDJ, Tirupattur	SC/22/2025	2015	CMP Pending	11 years
24.	JM, Vandavasi	CC/11/2017	2013	Trial	13 years
25.	JM, Cheyyar	CC/307/2016	2014	Evidence	12 years



WEB COPY

26.	JM, Vandavasi	CC/12 / 2016	2018	Trial	10 years
27.	PDJ, Ranipet	Spl.SC/ 119 /2025	2014	Issue of Service	12 years
28.	Fast Track Mahila Court	SC No. 169/2024	2015	Evidence	11 years

4.The learned Counsel for the petitioner further submits that the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of ***Central Bureau of Investigation vs. Mir Usman @ Ara @ Mir Usman Ali [2025 INSC 1155 dated 22.09.2025]***, directed every High Courts to expedite the matter and indicated that the High Courts shall direct the administrative side to issue necessary circular to the District Judiciary. It was also indicated that all the High Courts need to constitute a Committee to discuss the issue very seriously for the benefit of their respective District Judiciary.

5.In view of the above, if the Committee is not constituted to monitor these type of cases, the Registry may bring to the notice of the Hon'ble Chief Justice for appropriate orders in light of the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Central Bureau of Investigation vs. Mir Usman @ Ara @ Mir Usman Ali [2025 INSC 1155 dated 22.09.2025]*** to deal with the pending criminal cases.



WEB COPY

6. With the above direction, this writ petition is disposed of.

There shall be no order as to costs.

[N.S.K., J.] & [M.J.R., J.]
09.06.2026

Index : Yes/No

Internet : Yes

ta

To

1. The Registrar General,
Madras High Court,
Chennai-600 104.
2. The Registrar (Judicial),
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court,
Madurai-625 023.
3. The Commissioner of Labour,
Officer of the Commissioner of Labour,
Labour Officer's Quarters,
B-Block, 6th Avenue,
Anna Nagar,
Chennai-600 040.
4. The Director of Prosecution,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
No.5, Kamaraj Salai,
Chennai-600 005.



WEB COPY



**N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.
AND
M.JOTHIRAMAN, J.**

ta

W.P.(MD)No.14692 of 2026

09.06.2026