



WEB COPY



WA Nos. 160 and 163 of 2026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 21-01-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE R. SURESH KUMAR

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE SHAMIM AHMED

**WA Nos. 160 and 163 of 2026
and CMP Nos. 1270, 1279, 1281 and 1284 of 2026**

W.A.No.160 of 2026

E.Chandra D/o. K. R. Eswaran, Professor and HoD,
Department of Computer Science, Bharathiar
University, Coimbatore - 641 046.

..Appellant

Vs

1. The Registrar
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore - 641 046.
2. P. Porkodi, Professor,
Department of Computer Science,
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore - 641 046.

..Respondents

WA No. 163 of 2026

N. Ponpandian S/o. P. Nagamony, Professor and HOD,
Department of Nano Science and Technology,
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore - 641 046.

..Appellant

Vs

1. The Registrar
Bharathiar University, Coimbatore - 641 046.
2. R.T. Rajendra Kumar, Professor, Department of
Nano Science and Technology, Bharathiar
University, Coimbatore - 641 046.

..Respondents



WA Nos. 160 and 163 of 2026

Prayer in WA No. 160 of 2026 : Writ Appeal under Clause XV of the Letters Patent to set aside the order passed in WP No.43517 of 2025 dated 11.11.2025.

Prayer in WA No. 163 of 2026 : Writ Appeal under Clause XV of the Letters Patent to set aside the order passed in WP No.43513 of 2025 dated 11.11.2025.

In both W.As.

For Appellants :

Ms.Kavitha Nithyanandan

For Respondents :

Mr.I.Calvin Jones

for M/s.Ajmal Associates – for R1

Mr.T.Arun Kumar

for M/s.Tamizh Law Firm - for R2

Order

(Order of the Court was made by R.Suresh Kumar J.)

This is yet another writ appeal with respect to the issue as to whether the senior most professor of the Department in the University can continue to hold the post of Head of the Department (HOD) even beyond three years period or he can be replaced by the next senior most Professor of the same Department.

2. Already there are two similar cases ie., W.A.No.4005 of 2025, where we passed a detailed interim order on 19.12.2025 followed by yet another writ appeal in W.A.No.88 of 2026, where also we passed a detailed interim order on 12.01.2026. In both the orders we had indicated that, if at all the University wants to rotate the post of HOD amongst the Professors, they have to make a small amendment in the Ordinance 2001 under the heading 'Appointment and Duties of HODs of the University', which is to be made pursuant to Section 45 of the Universities Act. Despite our indication in those two orders referred to above, so far nothing has come up from the University making such amendment.



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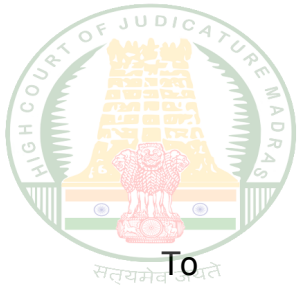
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3. However, the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the University would submit that, within 15 days from today, such an amendment would be made and reported before this Court. So long as the amendment is not made and the present Statute is available in the Statute Book, the erstwhile position as has been reiterated in our two earlier orders shall continue. Therefore, in consonance with Section 45(1) of the University Act as well as the Ordinance, 2001, the present appellants, who are the senior most Professors in their respective departments viz., Computer Science and Nano Science and Technology at the respondent University are entitled to continue to hold the post of HOD of the concerned Departments, and their position shall not be disturbed (or) if their position has already been disturbed, they shall be restored forthwith.

4. Post these matters after two weeks for the aforesaid compliance of making the amendment as stated by the learned Standing Counsel for the respondent University. A copy of this order be forwarded to the Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department, Government of Tamil Nadu for information and also to give nod, if any such amendment is proposed by the University as indicated above.

(R.S.K.,J.) (S.S.A.,J.)
21-01-2026

KST



WA Nos. 160 and 163 of 2026

To

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1. The Registrar
Bharathiar University,
Coimbatore - 641 046.
2. The Secretary to Government
Higher Education Department
Secretariat, Fort St.George
Chennai 600 009.



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**R.SURESH KUMAR J.
AND
SHAMIM AHMED J.**

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