



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 13.03.2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE M.DHANDAPANI

WP Nos. 9789, 9791, 9796, 9799 & 9800 of 2026

A.Senthil (Proprietor),
M/s.S.L.Transport,
No.102, Wall Tax Road,
Chennai-600 003.

..Petitioner(s)
(In all W.P.Nos)

Vs

1.The Chairman, Railway Board,
Rail Bhawan, Raisina Road,
Rafi Marg,
Delhi-110001.

2. The divisional Railway Manager (DRM)/MAS,
Southern Railway,
Wall Tax road,
Chennai-600 003.

3.The Southern Divisional Commercial Manager
(Sr.DCM)
Southern Railway, Chennai Division,
Chennai-600 003.

..Respondent(s)
(In all W.P.Nos)

Prayer in W.P.No.9789 of 2026 : Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to consider the petitioner's representation dated 27.01.2026 in the light of the Contract Cancellation Certificate issued by the 3rd respondent and consequently refund the EMD/Security Deposit amount of Rs.3,75,950/- relating to Contract No.SLR-F1-MAS-LTT-23-3 dated 08.11.2023 within a time frame to be fixed by this Hon'ble Court.



Prayer in W.P.No.9791 of 2026 : Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to consider and dispose of the Petitioner's representation dated 27.01.2026 and consequently pass appropriate orders in respect of refund/release of the Security Deposit/EMD amount of Rs.66,385/- relating to Contract No.MAS-F1-22826-SHM dated 17.03.2023, within a time frame to be fixed by this Hon'ble Court.

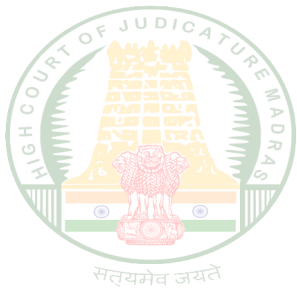
Prayer in W.P.No.9796 of 2026 : Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to consider and dispose of the Petitioner's representation dated 27.01.2026 and consequently pass appropriate orders in respect of refund/release of the forfeited EMD/Security Deposit amount of Rs.9,81,850/- relating to Contract No.12621-F1-MAS-NDLS-2024 dated 18.09.2024, within a time frame to be fixed by this Hon'ble Court.

Prayer in W.P.No.9799 of 2026 : Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to consider and dispose of the Petitioner's representation dated 27.01.2026 and consequently pass appropriate orders in respect of refund/release of the forfeited EMD/Security Deposit amount of Rs.2,24,658/- relating to Contract No.22158-F1-MS-CSMT-2025 dated 10.02.2025, within a time frame to be fixed by this Hon'ble Court.

Prayer in W.P.No.9800 of 2026 : Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to consider and dispose of the Petitioner's representation dated 27.01.2026 and consequently pass appropriate orders in respect of refund/release of the forfeited EMD amount of Rs.13,77,875/- relating to IREPS e-Auction dated 28.03.2025 (Catalogue No.SLR-PARCEL-25-Lot No.12840-SLR-R1-MAS-HWH-25-1 – Train No.12840 MAS-HWH), within a time frame to be fixed by this Hon'ble Court.

In all W.Ps

For Petitioner(s):	Mr.Manoj Kumar
For Respondent(s):	Mr.C.Samivel



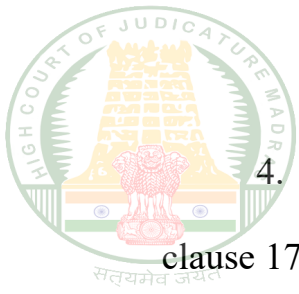
COMMON ORDER

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In view of the commonality of the issue involved, this Court is inclined to consider and decide all these Writ Petitions by way of this common order.

2. The above Writ Petitions have been filed seeking a direction respondent to consider the representations dated 27.01.2026 with regard to refund of security deposits relating to respective contracts.

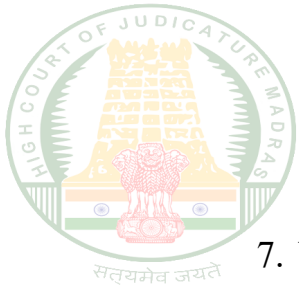
3. The petitioner has been engaged in transport operations under the lease contracts awarded by the Railway Administration. He was awarded with respective lease contracts in the IREPS e-Auction conducted by the Southern Railway during the relevant periods. As per the tender conditions, the petitioner had deposited the respective amounts. It is the grievance of the petitioner that, even after the expiry of the contract period, till date, the respondents have not refunded the security deposits made by him. Therefore, the petitioner submitted the respective representations dated 27.01.2026 seeking refund of such security deposits. However, the said representations have not been considered till date and therefore, in order to espouse the said cause, the present Writ Petitions have been filed.



4. Learned counsel appearing for the petitioners submitted that, as per clause 17 of the conditions of contract, a contractor is permitted to terminate the contract during the subsistence of the contract period by giving 30 days' notice after completion of minimum contractual period of three months. Accordingly, the petitioner, by invoking the said clause, had submitted the withdrawal notice and continued operations till the completion of the notice period and hence, there is no default on the part of the petitioner of any of the contract conditions, and therefore, he is entitled to refund of security deposits. However, the respondents have not refunded the security deposits which is not sustainable and accordingly, he prayed for appropriate orders.

5. On the above contention, this Court heard the learned counsel appearing for the respondents who has no objections to the said order being passed.

6. In view of the limited relief sought for in these Writ Petitions, this Court, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, directs the respondents to consider the petitioner's representation dated 27.01.2026 and pass appropriate orders on the same on merits and in accordance with law within a period of four (4) weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order, after affording an opportunity of hearing to the petitioner and any other interested parties.



7. With the above direction, these Writ Petitions are disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

13.03.2026

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

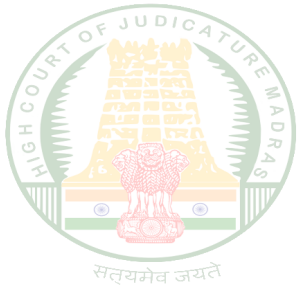
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To

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WP Nos. 9789, 9791, 9796, 9799 & 9800 of 2



M.DHANDAPANI, J.

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