



WEB COPY

WP No. 10021 of 2



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 10-03-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE P.T. ASHA

**WP No. 10021 of 2024
AND
WMP NO. 11035 OF 2024**

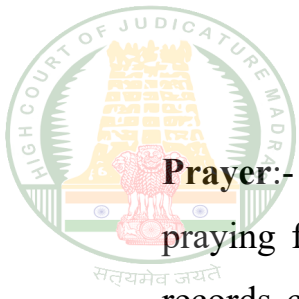
R.Lavanya
W/o. Late. A.Murugan, 6/39c, Nagiampatti,
Gangavalli Taluk, Salem District Pin 636 113

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. Tamil Nadu Generation
And Distribution Corporation Limited
(tangedco), Rep. By Its Chairman/ Managing
Director, Npkrr Maaligai (tneb Office) , No. 144
Anna Salai Chennai 02
2. Tamil Nadu Generation And Distribution
Corporation Limited (tangedco),
Rep. By Its Chief Engineer/ Personnel, Eastern
Wing, 8th Floor, Npkrr Maaligai, No. 144
Anna Salai Chennai 02
3. Tamil Nadu Generation And Distribution
Corporation Limited (tangedco),
Rep. By Its Superintending Engineer Salem,
K.N. Colony P.O., Salem 636 014

..Respondent(s)



Prayer:- Writ petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a writ of Certiorarified Mandamus call for the entire records connected with the impugned orders passed by the 3rd respondent in Ka.No. 409/ NiBi2/ Utha.2/ Ko.VaVe// 2019 dated 4.09.2021 and Ka.No. 020810/ 367/ NiBi2/ Utha.2/ Ko.VaVe// 2022 dated 26.12.2022 and quash the same and consequently direct the respondents to appoint the petitioner for any of the eligible post on compassionate grounds within the time limit stipulated by this Honble Court.

For Petitioner(s): Ms.V.Ponnappa Bharathi

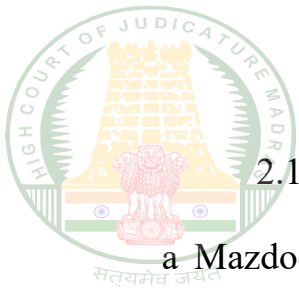
For Respondent(s): Mr.C. Rajkumar, Standing Counsel For R1
To R3

ORDER

This Writ Petition has been filed for the following reliefs:-

“call for the entire records connected with the impugned orders passed by the 3rd respondent in Ka.No. 409/ NiBi2/ Utha.2/ Ko.VaVe// 2019 dated 4.09.2021 and Ka.No. 020810/ 367/ NiBi2/ Utha.2/ Ko.VaVe// 2022 dated 26.12.2022 and quash the same and consequently direct the respondents to appoint the petitioner for any of the eligible post on compassionate grounds within the time limit stipulated by this Honble Court.”

2. Brief Facts:-



2.1. The petitioner is the wife of Late A. Murugan, who was employed as a Mazdoor under the control of the Assistant Engineer, Sentharapatti, Salem District, in the services of the respondent Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation. Due to ill health, the petitioner's husband had passed away on 24.10.2015, during the course of his employment with the respondent Corporation, leaving the family in indigent circumstances.

2.2. The petitioner has two children, namely, a son and a daughter. At the time of the demise of her husband, her son, M. Arun, had failed in the 10th Standard, and her daughter, M. Aarthi, was studying in the 7th Standard. The petitioner would submit that her son is presently engaged in coolie work and is not residing with her. The petitioner is living alone without any financial support from her children or other family members and is in dire poverty.

2.3. The petitioner would further submit that the terminal benefits due to her late husband were utilized for discharging the debts incurred by him and none of the legal heirs, including her son, daughter, or mother-in-law, are employed either in Government service or in any private establishment.



2.4. The petitioner would submit that within the prescribed period of three years from the date of death of her husband she had submitted applications dated 06.07.2017 and 26.09.2017 seeking appointment on compassionate grounds before the respondents, along with all requisite forms, declarations, and undertakings as required.

2.5. The 3rd respondent, by proceedings dated 04.09.2021, rejected the petitioner's request for compassionate appointment on the ground that she did not possess the minimum educational qualification of passing 8th Standard. The petitioner would submit that, despite severe financial hardship and adverse circumstances, including the COVID-19 pandemic, she successfully completed and passed the 8th Standard and submitted the relevant mark sheet along with a mercy petition dated 08.12.2022, requesting reconsideration of her claim for compassionate appointment.

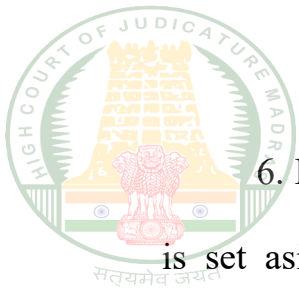
2.6. However, without considering the proceedings of the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation in Proceedings No. 11 dated 11.06.2020, which provides that even dependents of the deceased employee who do not possess the minimum educational qualification of passing 8th Standard, but have passed 4th Standard and above, may be considered for



appointment in newly created posts and the subsequent qualification acquired by the petitioner, the 3rd Respondent had passed the impugned order dated 26.12.2022, reiterating that the petitioner did not acquire the requisite qualification within three years from the date of death of the deceased employee and thereby rejected her claim for compassionate appointment. Challenging the same, the petitioner is before this Court.

3. Heard the learned counsel on either side and perused the records.

4. A perusal of the records would show that when the petitioner originally made her application for compassionate appointment, she was very much qualified to hold the post of Sweeper. However, her application was rejected on the ground that she did not possess the minimum educational qualification of passing 8th Standard, which was per se an erroneous order. Thereafter, upon passing the 8th standard, when the petitioner submitted her application, the respondents had once again rejected the same on the ground that she had not acquired the requisite qualification within three years from the date of death of her husband. By passing these orders, the respondents have turned the scheme of compassionate appointment into a mockery and defeated its very purpose.



6. In view of the above, the Writ Petition is allowed. The impugned order is set aside and the respondents are directed to appoint the petitioner as a Sweeper on compassionate grounds on or before 07.04.2026. It is needless to state that the respondents shall take note of the fact that the petitioner has passed the 8th standard and consider her for further promotion. No costs.

7. Post the matter for reporting compliance on 08.04.2026.

10-03-2026

Index: Yes/No

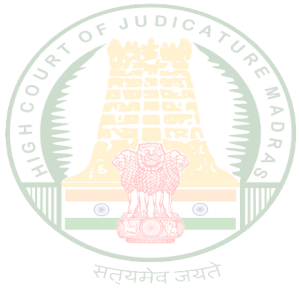
Speaking/Non-speaking order

Neutral Citation: Yes/No

SHR

To

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And Distribution Corporation Limited
(tangedco), Rep. By Its Chairman/ Managing
Director, Npkrr Maaligai (tneb Office) , No. 144
Anna Salai Chennai 02
2. Tamil Nadu Generation And Distribution
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