



WEB COPY



W.P.(MD) No.10027 of 2026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 16.04.2026

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. SUSHRUT ARVIND DHARMADHIKARI,  
CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.ARUL MURUGAN

W.P.(MD) No.10027 of 2026

Rahul (M/20)  
S/o. Kathiravan  
No. 8B, Vallalar Street  
Kalaiyarkovil Taluk, Nattarasankottai  
Sivagangai District.

Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The Chief Election Commissioner  
Election Commission of India  
Nirvachansadan, Ashoka Road  
New Delhi.
2. The Chief Electoral Officer  
Public (Election) Department  
Secretariat, Chennai  
Tamilnadu.
3. The District Collector /  
District Election Officer  
Sivagangai District.
4. The Revenue Divisional Officer  
Sivagangai Division  
Sivagangai District.

Respondent(s)



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Prayer : Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking a writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to forthwith consider and pass appropriate orders on the petitioner's representations dated 24.02.2026 and 18.03.2026, and consequently transfer the revenue officials who have been continuously working for more than five years in their native villages and who are connected with election duties, so as to ensure the conduct of free and fair elections scheduled to be held on 23.04.2026 in the State of Tamil Nadu, in line with the directions and policy guidelines of the Election Commission of India.

For Petitioner(s): Ms.C.Geetha  
Through Video-Conferencing

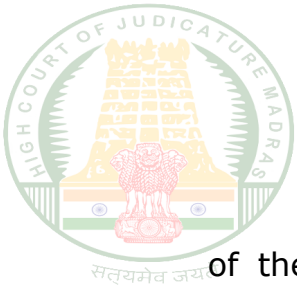
For Respondent(s): Mr.Niranjan Rajagopalan for R1 & R2  
Mrs.E.Ranganayaki  
Addl. Govt. Pleader for R3 & R4

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by  
the Hon'ble Chief Justice)

By this petition styled as a 'public interest litigation', the petitioner seeks a direction upon the respondents to take appropriate action on the petitioner's representations dated 24.02.2026 and 18.03.2026, regarding transfer of Government officials within the State of Tamil Nadu.

2. It is well settled that no public interest litigation is maintainable in service matters. This issue is covered by the judgment



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of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Ayaubkhan Noorkhan Pathan vs. State of Maharashtra*<sup>1</sup>, wherein the Apex Court has held that such a course of action is not permissible so far as service matters are concerned.

3. The petitioner's attempt seeking transfer of officials through a public interest litigation is nothing but perverse and misconceived. Accordingly, we refrain from entertaining this petition. However, the Election Commission of India would be free to deal with the representation if any submitted by the petitioner, in accordance with law.

4. The writ petition stands disposed of. There will be no order as to costs.

(SUSHRUT ARVIND DHARMADHIKARI,CJ) (G.ARUL MURUGAN,J)  
16.04.2026

Index : Yes/No  
Neutral Citation : Yes/No  
kpl

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<sup>1</sup>(2013) 4 SCC 465



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THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE  
AND  
G.ARUL MURUGAN,J.

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