



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 27-11-2025

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CORAM

**THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE N. SATHISH KUMAR
AND
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.JOTHIRAMAN**

WP Nos. 22323, 23038 & 37649 of 2025

W.P.No.22323 of 2025

1. Sreenu Gorlla
- 2.Raja Kiran Prasad Y
- 3.Raghavendra K
- 4.Naresh Kumar Tailor
- 5.Vinay Krishna Singh
- 6.Lucky Singla
- 7.Pushpendra Kumar Verma
- 8.Rohit Singh



9. Amit

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10.Koyyada Ramu

11.Lal Singh

12.Yogesh Joshi

Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. J.Arulprakasam

2.Dhanasekar M M

3.Tharageswari A

4.Saravanan & Ayyakutti

5.Raja K

6.Vijaya Shekara Reddy

7.Siemon Jairaj T

8.Manikandan N



9.Sivakumar S
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10.Sundar K

11.Union Of India
Rep By Its Director General
Central Public Work Department,
Mnistry Of Urban Development, Nirman Bhavan,
Government Of India, New Delhi

12.The Controller of Exam & Chief Engineer (T&R)-II
National CPWD Academy(Exam Cell)
Kamala Nehru Nagar, Hapur Road,
Gaziabad, Uttarpradesh 201 002.

Respondent(s)

W.P.No.23038 of 2025

1. All India CPWD Engineers Association,
through President Mr. Vijender Singh,
Office at Room No.003, B-Wing,
Gound Floor, IP Bhawan, New Delhi – 110 002

2. Dheeraj Kumar

3. Ajay Kumar Yadav

4. Submit Sharma

5. Mohd Naushad Ansari

6. Sumit Kumar Maurya



7. Jitendra Singh Madhukar

8. Lavkush Verma

... Petitioners

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/vs/

1. Union of India

Through Director General ,
Central Public Work Department,
Mnistry Of Urban Development,
Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi

2.The Controller of Exam & National CPWD Academy,
Kamala Nehru Nagar,
Gaziabad, Uttarpradesh 201 002.

3. J. Arulprakasam

4. M.Dhanasekar

5. A.Tharageswari

6. S.Saravanan @ Ayyakutti

7. K. Raja

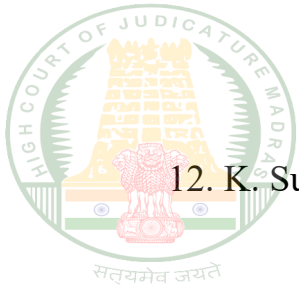
8. M. Vijaya Shekara Reddy

9. T.Siemon Jairaj

10. N. Manikandan

11. S.Sivakumar

... Respondents



12. K. Sundar

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WEB **W.P.No.37649 of 2025**

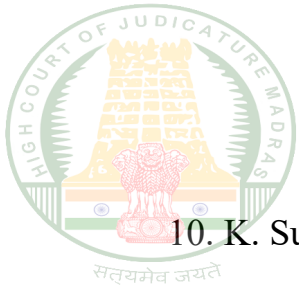
1. Union of India
rep. By its the Director General,
Central Public Works Department,
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs,
Government of India,
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.

2. The Controller of Exam & Chief Engineer(T&R)-II.
National CPWD Academy (exam cell)
Kamala Nehru Nagar, Hapur Road,
Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.

... Petitioners

/vs/

1. J. Arulprakasam
2. M.Dhanasekar
3. A.Tharageswari
4. S.Saravanan @ Ayyakutti
5. K. Raja
6. M. Vijaya Shekara Reddy
7. T.Siemon Jairaj
8. N. Manikandan
9. S.Sivakumar



10. K. Sundar

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... Respondents

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For Petitioner(s):

in W.P.22323 of 2025 Mr. Balan Haridas

in W.P.23038 of 2025 Mr. Chandrakumar

for Mr. Antony R. Julian

in W.P.37649 of 2025 Mr. A.R.L. Sundaresan,

Addl. Solicitor General of India

for Mr. K. Ramanamoorthy,

SPC

For Respondent(s): Mr. V. Ajoy Khose,

in W.P.22323 of 2025 for R1 to R4, R7 & R8

Mr. A. Kumaraguru,

SPC, for R11 & R12

For Respondent(s): Mr. A.R.L. Sundaresan,

in W.P.23038 of 2025 ASGI,

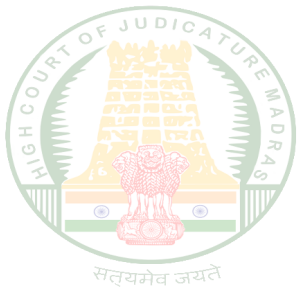
Assist. By

Mr. A. Zakir Hussain,

CGSC, for R1 & R2

Mr. V. Ajoy Khose,

for R3 to R6, R9 & R10



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For Respondent(s):
in W.P.37649 of 2025 Mr. V. Ajoy Khose,
for R1 to R4, R7 & R8

COMMON ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by N.Sathish Kumar J.)

The petitioners in W.P.No.37649 of 2025 have challenged the order of the Tribunal, setting aside the notification dated 16.02.2023 for LDCE 2022 for the post of Assistant Engineer (Civil & Electrical).

2. The respondents in the said writ petition had originally joined as Junior Engineers (Civil and Electrical Wings) in the petitioners' department and were later promoted as Assistant Engineers on *ad hoc* basis. As per the Recruitment Rules for Assistant Engineers, the method of recruitment is 80% by promotion from Junior Engineers with five years of service and 20% through a Limited



Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) for Junior Engineers with four years of service. However, due to administrative delays, the department failed

to make promotions as per the prescribed schedules and instead relied on ad hoc promotions.

3. In the year 2014, an LDCE notification was issued, but subsequently cancelled. A further LDCE notified in 2015 for 12 vacancy years is still under legal challenge. For the last seven years, despite vacancies arising annually under 20% quota, the department did not conduct the LDCE. Thereafter, a new notification dated 16.02.2023 was issued covering eight years vacancies from 2015-2022. Challenging this notification, the respondents filed O.A. before the Tribunal.

4. The Tribunal, considering the fact that the department would have to conduct exam to decide the eligibility for the vacancies in each year, found that no such examination had been conducted and accordingly quashed the notification dated 16.02.2023. Challenging the same, the present writ petition



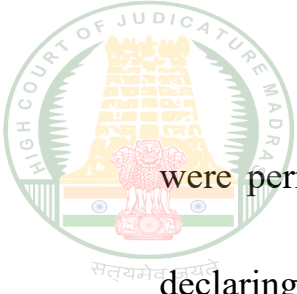
and other connected writ petitions (W.P.Nos.22323 & 23038 of 2025) have been
filed.

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5. Mr.A.R.L.Sundaresan, learned Additional Solicitor General of India, appearing for the petitioners(W.P.No.37649 of 2025) would submit that the entire process have already been completed and result alone to be declared.

6. Mr. Chandrakumar, learned counsel appearing for the association(W.P.No.23038 of 2025) would submit that since the order affects many of the engineers the impugned order has to be set aside.

7. Similarly, Mr.V.Ajoy Khose, learned counsel appearing for the respondents(W.P.37649 of 2025), who are the petitioners before the CAT, would submit that now the parties and all the engineers have arrived at a settlement and since the entire recruitment process is already over, and the respondents



were permitted to participate in the examinations, they have no objection for declaring the results on the basis of the examinations already conducted.

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8. In this regard, the joint memo filed by the parties to W.P.Nos.23038 and 22323 of 2025 is taken on record.

9. It is submitted by both sides that there is no rule mandating to conduct of the LDCE every year.

10. However, it is submitted by the learned Additional Solicitor General of India that only due to the administrative delay, the examination could not be conducted annually.

11. Be that as it may, the question as to whether the examination should



be conducted every year, or could be postponed or clubbed for multiple vacancy years, is a matter to be decided later and that issue is left open.

12. At present, since all the participants and even the persons, who had challenged the notification, have arrived at a settlement and admitted that the entire examination process is already completed and only result should be declared and since a joint memo has also been filed to that effect, we are inclined to permit the writ petitioners 37649 to declare the results and proceed with the appointments strictly in accordance with law.

13. Accordingly, the impugned order of the Tribunal in O.A.No.276 of 2023 dated 17.03.2025 setting aside the notification(16.02.2023) is set aside.

14. The issue, as to whether conducting the examination every year is mandatory or whether it can be clubbed for multiple years, shall be decided later after hearing both sides.



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All the writ petitions are directed to be posted for further hearing on
21.02.2026.

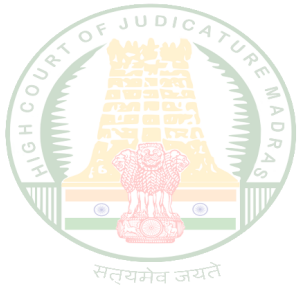
(N.SATHISH KUMAR J.) (M.JOTHIRAMAN J.)
27-11-2025

mrp

To

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Central Public Works Department,
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs,
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