



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 26-11-2025

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE M.DHANDAPANI

WP No. 1426 of 2024

and

WMP.No.44517 of 2025

Amali John

Petitioner(s)

Vs

1.The General Manager,
State Bank of India, VII Floor,
Local Head Office, 16, College Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai- 600 006.

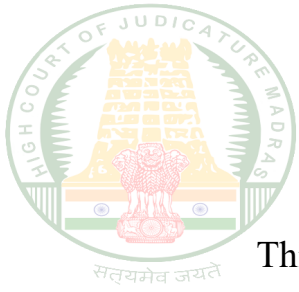
2.The Branch Manager,
State Bank of India,
Jawahar Nagar Branch (07582)
No.A46, Karthikeyan Salai,
Periyar Nagar West,
Jawahar Nagar, Perambur,
Chennai – 600 082.

Respondent(s)

Prayer:- Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, seeking issuance of Writ of Certiorarified Mnadamus, calling for the records of the 2nd respondent in respect of the letter dated 16.10.2023 in reply to the petitioner's letter dated 20.09.2023 pertaining to the locker of Mrs.Grace John and to quash the same and to direct the 2nd respondent to permit the petitioner to operate the safe deposit locker in SDV No.49662021661, No.3/8.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.S.Thiruvengadam

For Respondent(s): Mr.B.Siva Kollappan for R1 & R2



ORDER

This Writ Petition is filed challenging the letter dated 16.10.2023 sent by the respondent, refusing permission to the petitioner to operate the safe deposit locker of her deceased mother.

2. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the petitioner's mother Mrs. Grace John was having savings bank account with the 2nd respondent branch of State Bank of India and she died on 10.02.2022. After the death of her mother, the petitioner has approached the 2nd respondent Bank and requested for the return of the amount standing in her account and the 2nd respondent Bank settled the amount of Rs.3,59,992/- on 03.05.2023. Subsequently, after settlement of the amount, the petitioner also approached them for permitting to operate the safe deposit locker bearing number SDV No.49662021661, No.3/8 standing in the name of her mother Grace John by way of a letter dated 24.08.2023. However, the same was rejected vide letter dated 16.10.2023 on the ground that the deceased has not nominated any person for operating the safe deposit locker and informing the petitioner to obtain and submit Letters of Administration from the Court . Challenging the same, the present writ petition is filed.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the respondent Bank would submit that if the legal heirs who are available in India, can appear before the Bank and



issue No Objection Certificate and the legal heirs, who are in abroad can issue a letter with endorsement of Embassy. On the basis of such letter, the Bank will permit the petitioner to operate the locker, after obtaining indemnity bond.

4. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that there are 11 legal heirs including the petitioner. The persons, who are residing in India appear before the respondent Bank and execute a No Objection Certificate in favour of the petitioner for operating the bank locker and, if any of the legal heirs settled in abroad, they would submit their No Objection Certificate with an endorsement of Embassy to the petitioner.

5. On receipt of the same, the 2nd respondent is directed to allow the petitioner to operate the safety deposit locker after obtaining necessary indemnity bond from the petitioner. The said exercise shall be carried out within a period of twelve weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

6. This Writ Petition is disposed of with the above terms. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

26-11-2025

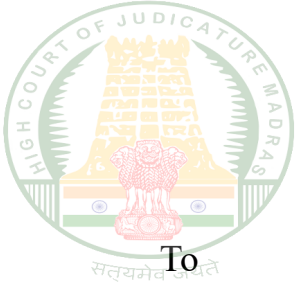
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Index: Yes/No

Speaking/Non-speaking order

Internet: Yes/No

Neutral Citation: Yes/No



To

WEB COPY

1.General Manager,
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Local Head Office, 16, College Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai- 600 006.

2.The Branch Manager,
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M.DHANDAPANI J.

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