



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

Dated: 26.11.2025

Coram:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.DHANDAPANI

W.P.Nos.39827, 39828, 39829 and 39830 of 2024

and

W.M.P.Nos.43161, 43162 and 43163 of 2024

Mr.Saravanan Pachaiyappan

Mrs.Asainam Beevi

Mrs.A.Rasia Begum

Mrs.Aysha Siddiga

.. Petitioner in W.P.No.39827 of 2024

.. Petitioner in W.P.No.39828 of 2024

.. Petitioner in W.P.No.39829 of 2024

.. Petitioner in W.P.No.39830 of 2024

Vs.

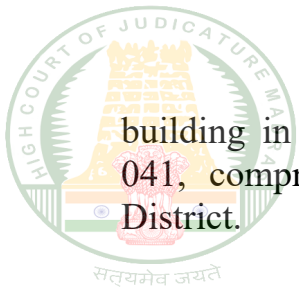
1. The Tahsildar,
Solinganallur Taluk Office,
No.1, 1st Cross Street,
New Kumaran Nagar,
Solinganallur,
Chennai-600 119.

2. The Assistant Engineer,
Pallavakkam Electricity Board Office,
No.4/11B, Muthukadu Road,
Pallavakkam,
Chennai-600 041.

.. Respondents in all the Writ Petitions

W.P.No.39827 of 2024 filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus to direct the second respondent to restore the Electricity supply, vide Service Connection, vide No.2060201136, for the residential building, in Door No.3/240, 1st Street, Govindan Nagar, Palavakkam, Chennai-600 041, comprised in S.No.44/2, Palavakkam Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chennai District.

W.P.No.39828 of 2024 filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus to direct the second respondent to restore the Electricity supply, vide Service Connection, vide No.2060201138, for the residential



building in Door No.3/240-A, 1st Street, Govindan Nagar, Palavakkam, Chennai-600 041, comprised in S.No.44/2, Palavakkam Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chennai District.

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W.P.No.39829 of 2024 filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus to direct the second respondent to restore the Electricity supply, vide Service Connection, vide No.2060201137, for the residential building, in Door No.3/204-C, 1st Street, Govindan Nagar, Palavakkam, Chennai-600 041, comprised in S.No.44/2, Palavakkam Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chennai District.

W.P.No.39830 of 2024 filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus to direct the second respondent to restore the Electricity supply, vide Service Connection, vide No.206019650 for the residential building in Door No.3/240-B, 1st Street, Govindan Nagar, Palavakkam, Chennai-600 041, comprised in S.No.44/2, Palavakkam Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chennai District.

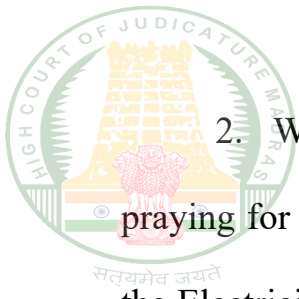
For petitioners in all the Writ Petitions : Mr.Abdul Mubeen for M/s.N.Madumathi

For respondents in all the Writ Petitions : Mr.A.M.Ayyadurai, Govt. Advocate for R-1

Ms.Sinduja for Mr.L.Jaivenkatesh for R-2

COMMON ORDER

W.P.No.39827 of 2024 filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus to direct the second respondent to restore the Electricity supply, vide Service Connection, vide No.2060201136, for the residential building, in Door No.3/240, 1st Street, Govindan Nagar, Palavakkam, Chennai-600 041, comprised in S.No.44/2, Palavakkam Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chennai District.

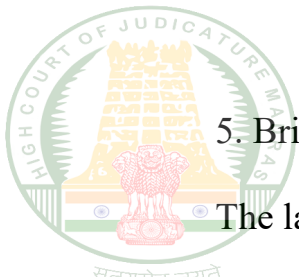


2. W.P.No.39828 of 2024 filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India,

praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus to direct the second respondent to restore the Electricity supply, vide Service Connection, vide No.2060201138, for the residential building in Door No.3/240-A, 1st Street, Govindan Nagar, Palavakkam, Chennai-600 041, comprised in S.No.44/2, Palavakkam Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chennai District.

3. W.P.No.39829 of 2024 filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus to direct the second respondent to restore the Electricity supply, vide Service Connection, vide No.2060201137, for the residential building, in Door No.3/204-C, 1st Street, Govindan Nagar, Palavakkam, Chennai-600 041, comprised in S.No.44/2, Palavakkam Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chennai District.

4. W.P.No.39830 of 2024 filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus to direct the second respondent to restore the Electricity supply, vide Service Connection, vide No.206019650 for the residential building in Door No.3/240-B, 1st Street, Govindan Nagar, Palavakkam, Chennai-600 041, comprised in S.No.44/2, Palavakkam Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chennai District.



5. Brief facts are as follows:

The land and building comprised in S.No.44/2, measuring an extent of 0.16.0 ares, Pallavakkam Village, Sholinganallur Taluk, Chengalpattu District, owned by the petitioners, having purchased the said property from Mr.Sankara Narayanan and Mr.Vasudevan, through their POA Shaik Amir. The petitioners are being in possession and enjoyment of the said property. The petitioners have constructed residential houses in the said property and availed the E.B. service connection. The petitioners, along with their family, are residing in the said property for more than ten years and also obtained residential certificate, and also paying the service connection charges till date without any default. The second respondent had directed the petitioners to obtain NOC from the first respondent for providing and continuing the service connection. In furtherance of the same, the petitioners have made representations to the Village Administrative Officer (VAO) and the VAO, after due enquiry, had stated the land description is Government poramboke lands and also stated that the petitioners are residing in the said properties for the past 10 years. The VAO had forwarded his recommendations, dated 01.07.2024 to the Revenue Inspector for his consideration. The Revenue Inspector, after due enquiries, had submitted a report, dated 11.07.2024, whereby the Revenue Inspector had stated that the petitioners, along with their neighbours, are residing in the properties for the past 10 years and also forwarded his report to the first respondent for consideration and the same is pending till date. The second respondent, without any notice, all of a sudden, had disconnected the petitioner's Service Connection on 21.12.2024, which is in

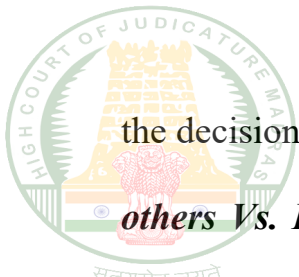


violation of the principles of natural justice and also affecting the petitioners' livelihood.

The petitioners had visited the office of the second respondent, regarding restoration of the Service Connections, but the second respondent failed to respond and had not given any opportunity of being heard. Thereafter, after advise of the second respondent, the petitioners have approached the first respondent to obtain NOC and submitted all necessary documents along with report of the VAO and the Revenue Inspector to the first respondent and the same are pending. The second respondent, to the best reasons known to him, had disconnected the service connections to the petitioners' premises during the pendency of the representations of the petitioners, which is in violation of Article 21 of the Constitution of India. The petitioners have been in constant touch and follow-up action with the respondents seeking NOC, and it was of no fault on the part of the petitioners and the petitioners also seek for restoration of electricity connection in the said Service Connections. Hence, these Writ Petitions are filed, as the first respondent, till date, had not considered the representations of the petitioner.

6. Heard both sides and perused the materials available on record.

7. Admittedly, the petitioner is in possession of Government Poromboke land. Earlier recognizing the petitioner's possession, the Government issued electricity connection in his favour. However, for non production of NOC, the electricity connection was disconnected on 21.12.2024. In this background, it is relevant to refer



the decision of this Court reported in **2013 (6) SCC 849 in the case of T.M.Prakash and**

others Vs. District Collector, Thiruvannamalai and another. The relevant paragraphs

are extracted hereunder:

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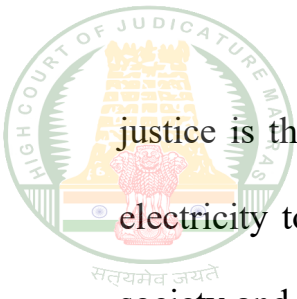
"69. Right to electricity to a person in occupation of Government poramboke lands is recognized in the Distribution Code and it is integral to the achievement of socio-economic rights. It is extricable related to ameliorate poverty. Electricity is an implicit component and facet of human right. In the light of the above discussion, the respondents ought to have come forward to provide electricity supply to the petitioners, instead of opposing the relief sought for.

70. Access to electricity should be construed as a human right, of course, to the requirements to be satisfied under the electricity laws. Denial of the same, upon even satisfying the requirements, would amount to violation of human rights. The action of the respondents is regressive. Electricity supply under the [Electricity Act](#), the Distribution and Supply Code, is a legal right. At this juncture, this Court deems it fit to consider the meaning of the word, 'right' and few decisions, as to when a Mandamus, can be sought for,

.....

84. In the case of those, who reside in Poramboke lands, to produce a "No Objection Certificate from the Officers, not below the rank of Deputy Tahsildar and if such certificate is not produced, an undertaking is sufficient. In the light of the statutory provisions and for all the reasons, stated supra, this Court is of the view that the petitioners are entitled to seek for electricity service connection. "

8. On perusal of the decision, makes it clear that it is the fundamental duty of the respondents to show compassion to those who are living in huts and tenements for long number of years, taking into consideration their socio-economic disabilities, without electricity supply for many years. Preamble to the Constitution of India guarantees right of every person to justice, social, economic and political. When socio and economic

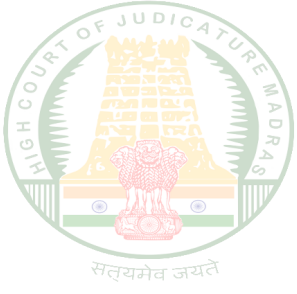


justice is the mandate of the Constitution of India, it is a traversity of justice to deny electricity to the petitioners. Income is one of the sources for achieving an egalitarian society and it is the fundamental right to decent living. Providing electricity to the poor, subject to the satisfying conditions, as per the electricity laws, would reduce the economic imbalance and help the under privileged. The authorities should be pragmatic and realistic to the constitutional goals. The weaker sections and under privileged do not crave, in their heart, for power in hierarchical positions, they only want electric power to have "lighting" in their house. Hut dwellers cannot expect and afford luxury. But for them, it is only a basic amenity. Electricity supply should, not only be extended to pattadars or the owners of lands, but it should also be extended to the poor and the needy, who live in unobjectionable government poramboke lands, when they substantiate occupation, for a considerable period.

9. Accordingly, the writ petitions are disposed of with a direction to the respondents to restore the electricity connection from the petitioners house till the evictions carried out by the revenue officials or competent authorities. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

26.11.2025

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M.DHANDA

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To

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