



W.P.No.45422 of 2025

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 26.11.2025

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.K. ILANTHIRAIYAN

W.P.No.45422 of 2025

G.Shanthi

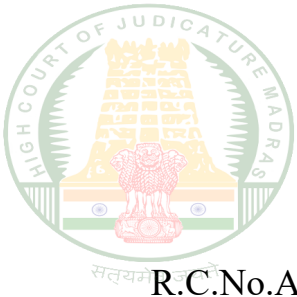
: Petitioner

Vs.

- 1.The Government of Tamil Nadu,
Represented by its Secretary,
Revenue Department,
Fort.St.George,
Chennai-600 009.
- 2.The Commissioner of Revenue
Administration and Disaster Management
Chepauk,Chennai-600 005.
- 3.The District Collector,
Cuddalore District,
Cuddalore.
- 4.The District Revenue Officer,
Cuddalore District,
Cuddalore.
- 5.S.Sasikumar
- 6.S.Elavarasi
- 7.A.Abhirami

: Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying to issue Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records pertaining to the impugned orders passed by the third respondent in proceedings



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WEB R.C.No.A2/9988/2022 dated 06.05.2023 and Na.Ka.(A3)/10113/2022 dated 27.06.2024 and consequential proceedings in A2/pdl.30/2024 dated 24.02.2025 relates to panels for Deputy Tahsildar, Assistants, Tahsildar panels insofar as Inclusion of the private respondents 5,6, & 7 and quash the same and consequently direct the respondents 1 to 4 to restore the petitioner seniority in Deputy Tahsildar Panel year 2018 for all further promotions with all other service and Monetary/attendant/seniority benefits within a stipulated period.

For Petitioner : Mr.M.Loganthan

For Respondents : Mr.V.Jeevagiridharan
Additional Government Pleader

ORDER

The writ petition is filed calling for the records pertaining to the impugned orders passed by the third respondent in proceedings R.C.No.A2/9988/2022 dated 06.05.2023 and Na.Ka.(A3)/10113/2022 dated 27.06.2024 and consequential proceedings in A2/pdl.30/2024 dated 24.02.2025 relates to panels for Deputy Tahsildar, Assistants, Tahsildar panels insofar as Inclusion of the private respondents 5,6, & 7 and quash the same and consequently direct the respondents 1 to 4 to restore the petitioner seniority in Deputy Tahsildar Panel year 2018 for all further promotions with all other service and Monetary/attendant/seniority benefits within a stipulated period.

2. Heard, the learned counsel appearing on either side and perused the materials placed before this Court.



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3. A similar issue has already been dealt with by this Court in W.P.No.19409 of 2022 etc. batch. This Court, by an order dated 27.03.2024, held as follows:

“12. All the petitioners and the private respondents were initially appointed to the post of Assistant through combined subordinate service examination conducted by the TNPSC. Thereafter, they were promoted to the post of Deputy Tahsildar. Subsequently they were promoted to the post of Tahsildar except some of the petitioners. Initially, the District Collector, Krishnagiri District, published panel to the post of Deputy Tahsildar as well as the Tahsildar and the same were in violation of judgment of the Hon-ble Supreme Court of India. Therefore, the Commissioner of Revenue Administration published the revised seniority list of the candidates who recruited for the post of Revenue Assistant for the recruitment year 2008~2011 and 2013~2014 enabling the district administration to issue promotion based on the rank list/merit seniority assigned by the TNPSC, instead of roster seniority.

13. Further as per the order passed by the Hon-ble Supreme Court of India and this Court, the District Collector, Krishnagiri, had published redrawn panel to the post of Deputy Tahsildar for the year 2004~2021 on 16.05.2022. Further the District Collector, Krishnagiri, had issued panel to the post of Tahsildar for the year 2022 and placed one respondent namely N.Vetrivel as Sl.No.3 and placed the petitioners below to him, though they were placed above him as per the revised merit seniority list.

14. Therefore, the Commissioner of Revenue Administration issued circular dated 29.05.2023, directing all the District Collector to ensure strict adherence of special rule 38(b)(ii) r/w annexure~IX of



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Tamil Nadu Ministerial Services Rules and Rule 7(a) read with annexure~IX of the Tamil Nadu Revenue Services Rules and also to ensure only the names of the fully qualified persons alone be included in the panel of Deputy Tahsildar. Accordingly, the District Collector had issued panel to the post of Deputy Tahsildar dated 16.05.2022. However, on the objections received from the private respondents, the Commissioner of Revenue Administration cancelled the panel to the post of Deputy Tahsildar on 27.06.2023. However, the petitioners were not given any opportunity of hearing and it is clear violation of principles of natural justice.

15. *Thereafter, as directed by the Commissioner of Revenue Administration, the District Collector, Krishnagiri, had redrawn the panel to the post of Deputy Tahsildar for the year 2009~2022 on 31.08.2023, thereby placed the private respondents above to the petitioners for the year 2018 panel on account of scheduled castes carried over vacancies, though they were not qualified to the post of Deputy Tahsildar. Though the said panel 31.08.2023, provided two months time to raise objections, the District Collector, Krishnagiri, further published the panel to the post of Tahsildar on 05.09.2023 i.e., within five days from the date of panel to the post of Deputy Tahsildar dated 31.08.2023. In the said panel also, the other unqualified persons were placed above the petitioners that too without any amendment/relaxation to Rules 7(b) & 8(a) of the Tamil Nadu Revenue Subordinate Services Rules.*

16. *Admittedly, they were not undergone for the training of Revenue Inspector as on the crucial date. Though the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the private respondents as well as the learned Additional Advocate General contended that the proposal has been sent to the government for relaxation, similar request made for relaxation was rejected by the communication dated 26.02.2024, on the ground that to the post of*



Deputy Tahsildar it is mandatory to complete all the training since it is field work. Therefore, no relaxation can be granted.

17. Rule 38(b)(ii) r/w Annexure~IX of the Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service Rules provides for service qualification which include passing of departmental tests as well as completion of two years Firka Revenue Inspector training and one year Assistant training in the Collector Office. Provisions 38(b)(ii) r/w Annexure~IX of the Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service Rules is reads as follows :~

□8. Every person appointed as Assistant by direct recruitment shall be imparted the training as prescribed below:~

Period

*.....
Therefore, it is mandatory that directly recruited Assistant shall be eligible for promotion to selection category post only on passing of departmental test as well as completion of two years Firka Revenue Inspector training and one year Assistant training in the Collector's Office.*

18. Further as per proviso 27(f) of the TNGS Act, the unfilled vacancies reserved for SC/ST to be filled up by recruitment of transfer by promotion shall be carried over to four consecutive recruitment years, namely, year of recruitment plus three subsequent recruitment years. Second proviso to the said Section directs that normal number of vacancies reserved for the candidates belong to SC/ST and the carried forward vacancies as specified in the first proviso shall not exceed fifty percent of the total number of vacancies for a particular recruitment. Therefore, it is restricted to 50% of approved vacancies wherein the qualified hands belong to reserved category can be included. Accordingly, the candidates belong to the reserved category can be considered for inclusion in the carried

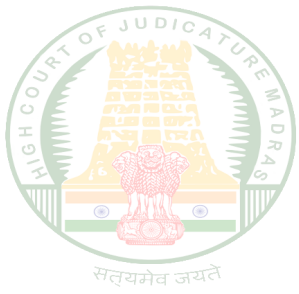


forward vacancies only if qualified with passing of department tests, completion of Revenue Inspector training etc.

19. *Further as per the impugned panel, the private respondents have been included though they have not been qualified as on the crucial dated viz., on 15.09.2018, in as much as they have not completed requisite two Revenue Inspector training as on the crucial date. They were completed their Revenue Inspector training only in the years 2019, 2020, 2021 on various dates. Therefore, they were not qualified on the crucial date for the panel to the post of Deputy Tahsildar. As per the Rule 7 of the Tamil Nadu Revenue Subordinate Service Rules, no Deputy Tahsildar shall be eligible to have his name in the list of approved candidates as Tahsildar if he has not completed police training for two months.*

20. *That apart, as per Rule 8 of the Tamil Nadu Revenue Subordinate Service Rules, every person appointed as Deputy Tahsildar shall, from the date on which he joins duty, be on probation for a total period of two years on duty within a continuous period of three years. Therefore, Deputy Tahsildar would become eligible for promotion to the post of Tahsildar only on declaration of probation and further completing the police training as mandated under the Tamil Nadu Revenue Subordinate Service Rules. However, the panel to the post of Tahsildar was issued within the period of five days from the panel to the post of Deputy Tahsildar that too without any reference to the completion of police training and declaration of probation of the private respondents.*

21. *While pending these writ petitions, the Commissioner of Revenue Administration cancelled the impugned panel issued by the District Collector,*



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Krishnagiri, dated 31.08.2023 and 05.09.2023 to the post of Deputy Tahsildar as well as Tahsildar by its proceedings dated 08.12.2023 and directed all the District Collectors to send revised list of redrawn panel of Deputy Tahsildar and Tahsildar. Thereafter, the District Collector, Krishnagiri, had redrawn the panel to the post of Deputy Tahsildar for the year 2009~2022 and to the post of Tahsildar of the year 2012~22 dated 16.10.2023. As per the redrawn panel, the petitioners were reverted to the post of Deputy Tahsildar and the private respondents were promoted to the post of Tahsildar by an order dated 13.01.2024. Hence, the above panel had been drawn by the District Collector, Krishnagiri, against the orders passed by the Hon-ble Supreme Court of India as well as the Hon-ble Division Bench of this Court in the case of N.Santosh Kumar Vs. The Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission and ors.”

4. In view of the above, the impugned order in proceedings R.C.No.A2/9988/2022 dated 06.05.2023 and Na.Ka.(A3)/10113/2022 dated 27.06.2024 are hereby quashed. The official respondents are directed to restore the petitioners- seniority in accordance with merit/mark based seniority list issued by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission, adhering service rules with all other service and attendant benefits within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this Order.



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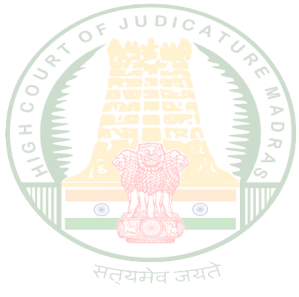
5. The writ petition stands allowed. No costs. WMP Nos.50617 and 50621 of 2025 are closed.

26.11.2025

Speaking (or) Non Speaking Order
Neutral Citation: Yes/No
mrn

To

- 1.The Government of Tamil Nadu,
Represented by its Secretary,
Revenue Department,
Fort.St.George,
Chennai-600 009.
- 2.The Commissioner of Revenue
Administration and Disaster Management
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G.K. ILANTHIRAIYAN, J.

(mrn)

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