

*W.P.(MD).Nos.16485 of 2015, 14699 of 2015
& W.P.No.3075 of 2017*

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

CORAM :

**THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE N. SATHISH KUMAR
AND
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE D. BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY**

**W.P.(MD).Nos.16485 of 2015, 14699 of 2015
& W.P.No.3075 of 2017**

Vaiko, General Secretary,
Marumalarchi Dravida Munetra Kalagam (MDMK),
No.12, Rukmani Lakshmipathi Salai, Egmore,
Chennai – 600 008.

... Petitioner
in W.P.(MD) No.16485 of 2015

M.Patturajan

... Petitioner
in W.P.(MD) No.14699 of 2015

Sharath.P.Nair

... Petitioner
in W.P.No.3075 of 2017

Vs.

The Chief Secretary,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009 and 743 others

... Respondents
in W.P.(MD) No.16485 of 2015

1.The Commissioner,
Madurai City Municipal Corporation,
Anna Maligai, Madurai and 3 others

... Respondents
in W.P.(MD) No.14699 of 2015

1.The Chief Secretary,
Government of Tamil Nadu,



*W.P.(MD).Nos.16485 of 2015, 14699 of 2015
& W.P.No.3075 of 2017*

Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009 and 21 others

... Respondents
in W.P.No.3075 of 2017

In W.P.(MD) No.16485 of 2015:

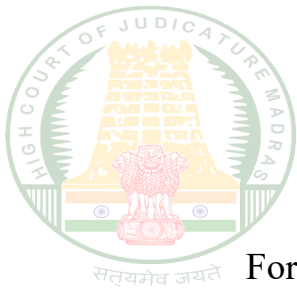
For Petitioner :Mr.R.Murali
for Mr.Senthil Selvan

For Respondents :Mr.P.Wilson, Senior Counsel
assisted by Dr.T.Seenivasan
Special Government Pleader
for RR 1 -16, 18 -655,
665 – 673, 737 and 738

Mr.S.M.Ananthamurugan for R17
Mr.R.Karthikeyan for R38
Mr.M.Govindan
for RR 380 – 382, 384 – 394, 506 -518,
481 – 488, 541 – 551, 594 – 605,
323 – 341, 625 – 643, 513, 608,
260 – 272, 395, 398, 342 – 359,
400, 489 – 492 and 396
Mr.Perumbulavil Radhakrishnan
for R741
Mr.G.Gomathi Sankar for R742
Mr.V.Chandrasekaran, SPC
for RR656-662
Mr.K.H.M.Afzal for R744
Mr.N.R.R.Arun Natarajan
Spl.Government Pleader (HR & CE)
for RR674 - 712

In.W.P.(MD) No.14699 of 2015:

For Petitioner : Ms.B.Asha



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*W.P.(MD).Nos.16485 of 2015, 14699 of 2015
& W.P.No.3075 of 2017*

For Respondents : Mr.P.Wilson, Senior Counsel,
assisted by Dr.T.Seenivasan
Special Government Pleader for RR1 - 4

In.W.P. No.3075 of 2017:

For Petitioner : Mr.J.M.Hassanulbazari

For Respondents : Mr.P.Wilson, Senior Counsel
assisted by Dr.T.Seenivasan
Special Government Pleader
for RR1 - 22

Amici Curiae:

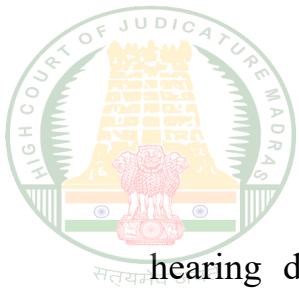
- 1.Mr.T.Mohan, Senior Counsel
- 2.Mr.M.Santhanaraman
- 3.Mr.Chevanan Mohan
- 4.Mr.Rahul Balaji

COMMON ORDER

In these matters, orders were reserved.

2. In view of the nature of the order proposed to be passed, we thought it fit to circulate the draft copy of the order to the learned amici curiae as well as the learned Special Government Pleader (Forests), so that they can also come up with further suggestions, if any, on their part and also come up with the names that are required in respect of each of the exercise mentioned therein.

2. It is made clear that final order will be pronounced on the next



*W.P.(MD).Nos.16485 of 2015, 14699 of 2015
& W.P.No.3075 of 2017*

hearing date, viz., 27.02.2026. The suggestions can be made on or before 25.02.2026 so that appropriate suggestions can be incorporated while finalising the judgment.

3. Call on 27.02.2026

**(N.S.K.J.) (D.B.C.J.)
20.02.2026**

dhk

To
1 THE CHIEF SECRETARY,
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU,
SECRETARIAT, FORT ST. GEORGE,
CHENNAI - 600 009.

2 THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU,
ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST DEPARTMENT,
SECRETARIAT, FORT ST. GEORGE,
CHENNAI - 600 009.

3 THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU,
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,
SECRETARIAT, FORT ST. GEORGE,
CHENNAI - 600 009.

4 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
MADURAI DISTRICT, MADURAI.

5 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
SIVAGANGAI DISTRICT, SIVAGANGAI.

6 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
DINDIGUL DISTRICT, DINDIGUL.



*W.P.(MD).Nos.16485 of 2015, 14699 of 2015
& W.P.No.3075 of 2017*

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7 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
THENI DISTRICT, THENI.

8 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
RAMANATHAPURAM DISTRICT,
RAMANATHAPURAM.

9 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT,
KANYAKUMARI.

10 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
TRICHY DISTRICT, TRICHY.

11 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
PUDUKOTTAI DISTRICT, PUDUKOTTAI.

12 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
THANJAVUR DISTRICT, THANJAVUR.

13 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
KARUR DISTRICT, KARUR.

14 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
VIRUDHUNAGAR DISTRICT, VIRUDHUNAGAR.

15 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
TUTICORIN DISTRICT, TUTICORIN.

16 THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT, TIRUNELVELI.

17. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
ERODE DISTRICT, ERODE.

18. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
THIRUPPUR DISTRICT, THIRUPPUR.

19. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
COIMBATORE DISTRICT, COIMBATORE.

20. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
NILGIRIS DISTRICT, OOTY.

21. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
KRISHNAGIRI DISTRICT, KRISHNAGIRI.



*W.P.(MD).Nos.16485 of 2015, 14699 of 2015
& W.P.No.3075 of 2017*

22. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
DHARMAPURI DISTRICT, DHARMAPURI.

23. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
SALEM DISTRICT, SALEM.

24. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
NAMAKAL DISTRICT, NAMAKAL.

25. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
PERAMBALUR DISTRICT, PERAMBALUR.

26. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
ARIYALUR DISTRICT, ARIYALUR.

27. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
THIRUVARUR DISTRICT, THIRUVARUR.

28. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
NAGAPATTINAM DISTRICT, NAGAPATTINAM.

29. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
CUDDALORE DISTRICT, CUDDALORE.

30. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
VILLUPURAM DISTRICT, VILLUPURAM.

31. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
VELLORE DISTRICT, VELLORE.

32. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
KANJIPURAM DISTRICT, KANJIPURAM.

33. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
THIRUVALLUR DISTRICT, THIRUVALLUR.

34. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
CHENNAI DISTRICT, CHENNAI.

35. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
THIRUVANNAMALAI DISTRICT,
THIRUVANNAMALAI.



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*W.P.(MD).Nos.16485 of 2015, 14699 of 2015
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N. SATHISH KUMAR, J.
and
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20.02.2026