

W.P.(MD)No.3589 of 2026

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BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 16.06.2026

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE HEMANT CHANDANGOUDAR

W.P(MD) No. 3589 of 2026

and

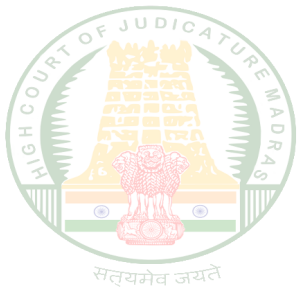
W.M.P(MD)No.2930, 2932, 2933, 6502 and 7124 of 2026

Chinnalapatti Devangar Mahajana Sabai,
(Reg. No.27/2011),
Represented by its Secretary,
M. Devendran,
S/o. Mani,
Devangar Higher Secondary School,
Chinnalapatti, Dindigul.

.. Petitioner

- Vs. -

1. The Inspector General of Registration,
100, Santhom High Road,
Chennai - 600 028.
2. The Deputy Inspector General of Registration,
Integrated Complex of Registration Department,
TNAU Nagar, Rajakampeeram,
Ya. Othakadai,
Madurai - 625 107.
3. The District Registrar of Societies,
Dindigul District Registrar Office,
Dindigul,
Dindigul District.



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4. The Chief Educational Officer,
Palani Road,
Dindigul - 624 001.

5. The District Education Officer (Secondary),
Palani Road,
Dindigul - 624 001.

.. Respondents

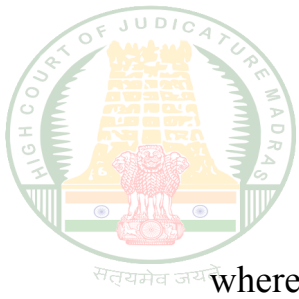
Prayer : Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this Court to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records relating to the impugned order passed by the 3rd respondent District Registrar in Na.Ka.No.4796/A3/2025 dated 05.01.2026 and Na.Ka.No.4796/A3/2025 dated 12.01.2026 quash the same as illegal and further direct the 3rd respondent, District Registrar forthwith to register the Form VII submitted by the petitioner's Society on 18.03.2025 for the triennium 2025-2028.

For Petitioner(s) : Mr.M.Vivek Kumar

**For Respondent(s) : Mr.M.Mahaboob Athiff,
Government Advocate**

ORDER

The petitioner has filed this writ petition challenging the orders dated 05.01.2026 and 12.01.2026 passed by the third respondent,

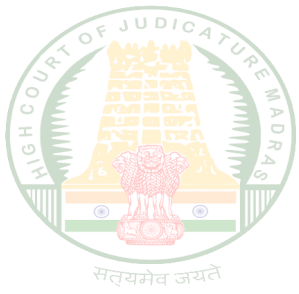


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whereby the petitioner's request to accept Form VII was rejected on the ground that there was no prior approval of the competent authority for the alleged amalgamation of the societies, as required under Section 30(1) of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975.

2. The facts, in brief, are that members of the Devangar community established the Chinnalapatti Devangar Educational Association in the year 1950. The Association was initially registered as Registration No. 20/1950 before the District Registrar, Madurai, and, after the formation of Dindigul Registration District, was assigned Registration No.37/1968. Since the Association failed to file annual returns and statutory forms, its registration stood dissolved under Section 44(4) of the Act. Though the registration was restored by proceedings dated 13.02.1997, the Association again failed to file the statutory returns. Thereafter, members of the Devangar community formed the Chinnalapatti Devangar Mahajana Sabai, which was registered in the year 2011 as Registration No.27/2011.



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3. According to the petitioner, the Association established in 1950 was amalgamated with the petitioner's Society. It is stated that after the General Body resolved to amalgamate the two societies, Form VII was submitted and accepted by the third respondent every year from 2011 to 2025. After elections were held on 09.03.2025, the petitioner again submitted Form VII. However, the third respondent rejected the same by the impugned orders.

4. The learned counsel for the petitioner contended that Section 30 of the Act does not require prior approval of the Registrar before the societies pass a resolution for amalgamation. It was submitted that the impugned orders are contrary to Sections 15 and 30 of the Act.

5. Per contra, the learned Government Advocate submitted that the petitioner has claimed amalgamation only to secure the movable and immovable properties of the Association established in 1950. It was contended that no prior approval of the Registrar, as mandated under Section 30 of the Act, was ever obtained for the alleged amalgamation.



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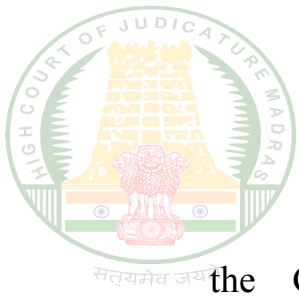
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Therefore, the rejection of Form VII is legal and does not call for interference.

6. I have considered the rival submissions and perused the materials placed on record.

7. The petitioner has produced a translated copy of the communication dated 10.05.2011 issued by the Public Information Officer attached to the office of the District Registrar, Dindigul, addressed to the Inspector General of Registration, Chennai. The communication seeks clarification as to whether the members of the Association could be informed that the Chinnalapatti Devangar Educational Association had stood dissolved and whether the transfer of its properties to the petitioner's Society could be accepted.

8. The petitioner has also produced a translated copy of the communication dated 09.06.2011 issued by the office of the third respondent to one S.T. Subramaniam. The communication records that

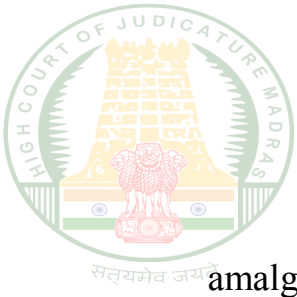


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the General Body of the Chinnalapatti Devangar Educational Association, in its meeting held on 27.03.2011, passed Resolution No.4 resolving to dissolve the Association, and that the same was intimated to the office on 03.05.2011. It further records that, by Resolution No.5, the Association resolved to transfer all its movable and immovable properties to the petitioner's Society and that the petitioner Society accepted the said resolution in its General Body meeting held on 27.03.2011.

9. Even accepting the petitioner's case, it is necessary to examine Section 30 of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act, 1975 and Rule 29 of the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Rules, 1978. Section 30 provides that two or more registered societies may amalgamate only with the prior approval of the Registrar and by passing special resolutions in all the concerned societies. Sub-section (3) further provides that such amalgamation shall not take effect unless the new society is duly registered in accordance with the provisions of the Act. Thus, the statute makes prior approval of the Registrar a mandatory requirement for



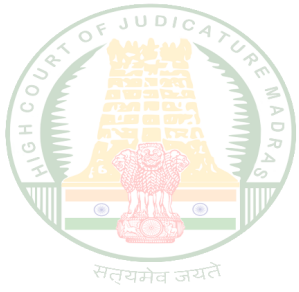
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amalgamation.

10. The petitioner contended that since Form VII submitted from 2011 to 2025 had been accepted by the third respondent, the approval for amalgamation should be deemed to have been granted.

11. This contention cannot be accepted. In the counter affidavit, the third respondent has stated that the annual returns and statutory forms submitted by the petitioner from 2011 to 2025 were returned on 12.01.2026 after it was noticed that there was no prior approval for the alleged amalgamation. In any event, mere acceptance of Form VII cannot amount to approval of amalgamation. Section 30 of the Act read with Rule 29 of the Rules specifically requires the Registrar to grant prior approval by passing a reasoned order and communicating the same to the applicant. In the absence of such an order, no approval can be inferred by implication. Therefore, the petitioner's contention of deemed or implied approval is liable to be rejected.



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12. It is also relevant to note that the alleged amalgamated society has not been registered afresh as required under Section 30(3) of the Act. Rule 29 further provides that if the Registrar approves the amalgamation, he shall record such approval by an order and communicate the same to the applicant. A conjoint reading of Section 30 of the Act and Rule 29 of the Rules makes it clear that an amalgamation becomes effective only after the Registrar grants prior approval by a written order and the requirements of the Act are complied with.

13. In the present case, the petitioner has not produced any order or proceeding to establish that the Association established in 1950 was amalgamated with the petitioner's Society after obtaining the prior approval of the Registrar. At the same time, it is clarified that the Act does not require prior approval of the Registrar before the societies pass resolutions expressing their intention to amalgamate. The requirement of prior approval arises before the amalgamation can take effect under Section 30. Since no such approval has been obtained, the third respondent was justified in rejecting Form VII and relegating the



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petitioner to work out its rights before the competent Civil Court. I, therefore, find no illegality in the impugned orders warranting interference under Article 226 of the Constitution.

14. Accordingly, the writ petition is dismissed. No costs. Consequently, the connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

16.06.2026

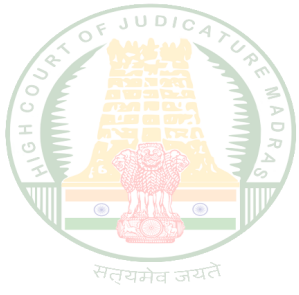
Index :Yes / No

NCC :Yes / No

PJL

To

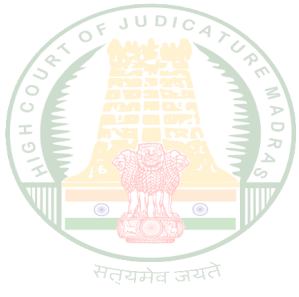
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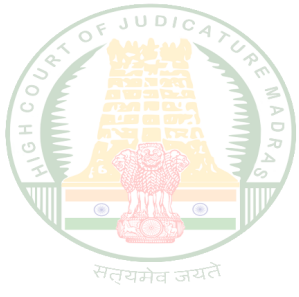
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HEMANT CHANDANGOUDAR, J.

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