

W.P.(MD)No.11355 of 2026

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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DATED: 21.04.2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY

W.P.(MD)No.11355 of 2026

Velappan

.. Petitioner

- Vs. -

- 1.The Director of Tourism,
Department of Tourism,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Chennai-600 002.
- 2.The Principal Secretary of Tourism,
Department of Tourism,
Secretariat, Chennai.
- 3.The District Tourism Officer,
Dindigul District.
- 4.The Tahsildar,
Kodaikanal Taluk,
Kodaikanal.
- 5.Tourist Officer,
P.T. Road (Poet Thyagaraya Road),
Naidupuram, Kodaikanal.

.. Respondents

Prayer: Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this Court to issue a Writ of Mandamus, thereby direct the respondents to renew the petitioner's registration certificate with new mobile number and



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issue renewed registration certificate for next period by considering the petitioner's representation dated 07.04.2026.

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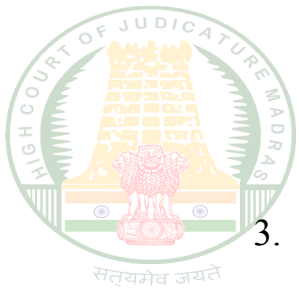
For Petitioner : Mr.A.Karthick Kumar

For Respondents : Mr.N.Ramesh Arumugam
Government Advocate

ORDER

The Writ Petition is filed for a mandamus, directing the respondents to renew the petitioner's registration certificate by considering the petitioner's representation dated 07.04.2026.

2. Upon hearing the learned counsel for the petitioner and perusing the material records of the case, it is the contention of the petitioner that the petitioner's property is registered as a homestay by the Department of Tourism, Tamil Nadu at Kodaikanal. The said certificate issued to the petitioner was valid upto 31.03.2026. When the petitioner had made the request for renewal, the respondents had not considered the same. The petitioner has been intimated that he will receive the OTP in the registered mobile number and only upon furnishing of the same, further processing will be done. The petitioner does not even remember as to which mobile number he furnished at the time of original registration and he has not received any OTP.



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3. The learned Government Advocate taking notice on behalf of the respondents would submit that the entire renewal of homestays or processed online and as and when an application is made, OTP will be generated and upon entering the OTP further processing will be made.

4. I have considered the rival submissions made on either side and perused the material records of the case.

5. With reference to the homestays in Kodaikanal as well as the Nilgiris, directions were already issued by the Hon'ble Division Bench of this Court, to which I am also a party. The authorities have to check whether the petitioner's facility is duly developed, run by the petitioner, with the relevant approval of the local authority for the building. If the petitioner has the due approval and if he complies with all the rules, then the petitioner will be entitled for renewal. It is the legal players who have to be encouraged, as opposed to the illegal homestays. When the petitioner is said to have made an application for renewal, the error on the part of the petitioner is that he does not remember as to which is the registered mobile number.

6. In view thereof, an opportunity can be granted to the petitioner. Within



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two weeks from the date of receipt of a web copy of the order, the petitioner shall once again apply afresh in the online portal by giving the present mobile number, notwithstanding an earlier application being made or pending, the second application need not be rejected by the respondents and the same shall be considered as the first application and the third respondent shall take the application on file and the OTP shall be generated in the new mobile number that is being furnished by the petitioner and after inspection of the petitioner's property and after ensuring that all the rules are complied with by the petitioner, the licence for the homestay shall be renewed in the manner known to law. If the authorities are refusing on any ground, such as lack of approval or violation of the development control regulations or violation of the rules, an order in writing shall be passed. The aforesaid exercise shall be completed within a period of eight weeks from the date of application given by the petitioner.

7. With the above observations and directions, this Writ Petition is disposed of. No costs.

21.04.2026

sjl

NCC: Yes/No

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D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.

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