



W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

**BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT**

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**DATED: 10.03.2026**

**CORAM**

**THE HONOURABLE MRS.JUSTICE S.SRIMATHY**

**W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026**  
**and**

**W.M.P(MD)Nos.24358, 24364 & 24365 of 2025,**  
**2987, 2988, 3097, 3098, 3102 & 3104 of 2026**

**1.W.P(MD)No.31125 of 2025:**

- 1.K.V.Ramamurthy
- 2.V.Baskaran
- 3.V.Jeyaraman
- 4.V.B.Sivarama Krishnan
- 5.V.B.Venkatesh
- 6.Chidambaram
- 7.Subramanian Karutharaj
- 8.K.Murugan
- 9.K.Sureshkumar
- 10.G.Ezhil Rega
- 11.S.Sivakumar
- 12.S.Manoj Vignesh

... Petitioners

**Vs**

1.The Commissioner of Land Administration,  
Chepauk,  
Chennai.

2.The District Collector,  
Madurai District,  
Madurai.



W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

3.The Land Acquisition Officer cum District Revenue Officer,  
Madurai District.

4.M/s.Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited,  
Through its Manager,  
Kappalur,  
Madurai.

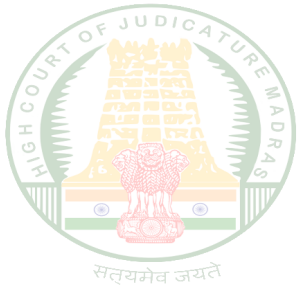
... Respondents

**PRAYER:** Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, calling for the records relates to the order of the third respondent in Na.Ka.No. 4241/2023/B4 dated 12.09.2025 and quash the same as it is arbitrary and illegal and in consequence direct him to conduct the enquiry afresh after getting an expert's opinion report to the feasibility of the alternative route for laying the track from the existing railway track for avoiding the acquisition proceeding at Nilaiyur Village Bit-2, Thiruparankundram Taluk, Madurai District.

For Petitioners : Mr.R.Suriya Narayanan

For Respondents : Mr.D.Gandhi Raj (R1 to R3)  
Special Government Pleader

: Mr.B.Saravanan  
Senior Counsel  
for Mr.R.J.Karthick



W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

WEB COPY **2.W.P(MD)No.3692 of 2026:**

K.Murugan

... Petitioner

Vs

1.The Commissioner of Land Administration,  
Chepauk,  
Chennai.

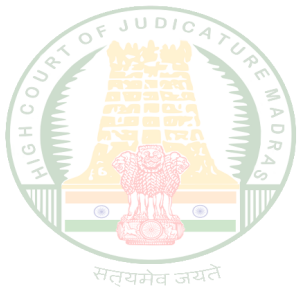
2.The District Collector,  
Madurai District.

3.The District Revenue Officer,  
Madurai District.

4.M/s.Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited,  
Through its Manager,  
Kappalur,  
Madurai.

... Respondents

**PRAYER:** Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorari, calling for the records relates to the order of the third respondent in Na.Ka.No.4241/2023/B4 dated 30.12.2025 and quash the same related to Sl.No.3 in its annexure-I.A as it is arbitrary and illegal.



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W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Suriya Narayanan

For Respondents : Mr.D.Gandhi Raj (R1 to R3)  
Special Government Pleader

: Mr.B.Saravanan  
Senior Counsel  
for Mr.R.J.Karthick

**3.W.P(MD)No.3792 of 2026:**

- 1.K.V.Ramamurthy
- 2.V.Baskaran
- 3.V.Jeyaraman
- 4.V.B.Sivarama Krishnan
- 5.V.B.Venkatesh
- 6.Chidambaram
- 7.Subramanian Karutharaj
- 8.K.Suresh Kumar
- 9.S.Sivakumar

... Petitioners

Vs

1.The Commissioner of Land Administration,  
Chepauk,  
Chennai.

2.The District Collector,  
Madurai District,

3.The District Revenue Officer,  
Madurai District.

4.M/s.Hindustan Petroleum Corporation,  
Through its Manager,  
Kappalur,  
Madurai.

... Respondents



W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

**PRAYER:** Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorari, calling for the records relates to the order of the third respondent in Na.Ka.No.4241/2023/B4 dated 30.12.2025 and quash the same as it is arbitrary and illegal.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Suriya Narayanan

For Respondents : Mr.D.Gandhi Raj (R1 to R3)  
Special Government Pleader

: Mr.B.Saravanan  
Senior Counsel  
for Mr.R.J.Karthick

**4.W.P(MD)No.3796 of 2026:**

1.G.Ezhil Rega  
2.R.Surianarayanan

... Petitioners

Vs

1.The Commissioner of Land Administration,  
Chepauk, Chennai.

2.The District Collector,  
Madurai District.

3.The District Revenue Officer,  
Madurai District.

4.M/s.Hindustan Petroleum Corporation,  
Though its Manager,  
Kappalur,  
Madurai.

... Respondents



W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

**PRAYER:** Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorari, calling for the records relates to the order of the third respondent in Na.Ka.No.4241/2023/B4 dated 30.12.2025 and quash the same related to Sl.No.16 in its annexure-I.A as it is arbitrary and illegal.

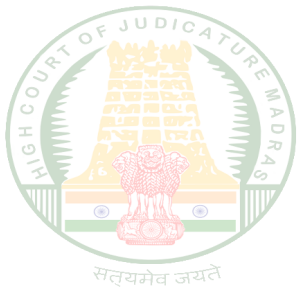
For Petitioner : Mr.R.Suriya Narayanan  
for Mr.S.Sakthi Siddharth

For Respondents : Mr.D.Gandhi Raj (R1 to R3)  
Special Government Pleader

: Mr.B.Saravanan  
Senior Counsel  
for Mr.R.J.Karthick

### **COMMON ORDER**

W.P(MD)No.31125 of 2025 has been filed seeking the issuance of a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus to quash the impugned order passed by the third respondent dated 12.09.2025 and consequently direct the respondents to conduct a fresh enquiry, after obtaining an expert opinion regarding the feasibility of alternative routes for laying the railway track from the existing railway line, so as to avoid acquisition proceedings.

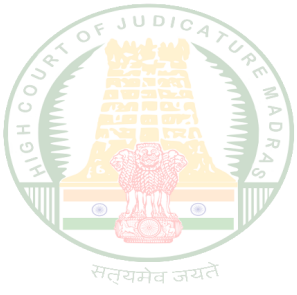


W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

2.W.P(MD)Nos.3692, 3792 and 3796 of 2026 have been

filed seeking the issuance of a Writ of Certiorari to quash the order passed by the third respondent dated 30.12.2025, whereby the third respondent fixed the compensation.

3.The petitioners are landowners. The lands in question are situated in various Survey Numbers in Nilaiyur Bit-II Village, Thiruparankundram Taluk, Madurai District. The first respondent proposed to acquire the lands under the Tamil Nadu Acquisition of Land for Industrial Purposes Act, 1997 (Tamil Nadu Act 10 of 1999) (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”), on the requisition made by the fourth respondent/Hindustan Petroleum Company Limited for laying a railway line to the company for transporting petroleum products. The second respondent issued a publication on 09.09.2023 and also issued show cause notices to the landholders under Section 3(2) of the Act inviting objections. The petitioners submitted individual objections stating that there exists an alternative land for laying the railway line and that the alternative land predominantly consists of Government poramboke land and uncultivable dry lands.

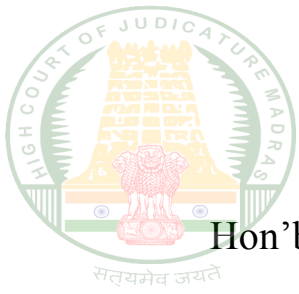


W.P.(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

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4.The contention of the petitioners is that as per Section 3(3) of the Act, if any objection is received, the authority concerned must hear the objectors and thereafter pass an order under Section 3(1) of the Act by the first respondent, followed by a Gazette publication for the acquisition of lands. The enquiry regarding the objections must be conducted in accordance with Rule 6 of the Tamil Nadu Acquisition of Land for Industrial Purposes Rules, 2001 (hereinafter referred to as “the Rules”). According to the petitioners, whenever objections are received, the third respondent ought to conduct an enquiry by following the procedure prescribed under Rules 6(b) and 6(c) of the Rules. However, the first respondent failed to follow the said procedure and proceeded to make a Gazette publication for acquiring the lands, including the lands of the petitioners.

5.Hence, W.P.(MD)No.9557 of 2024 was filed before the Court and the same was partly allowed by order dated 30.04.2024 insofar as four petitioners were concerned. Aggrieved by the said order, an appeal was preferred in W.A(MD)No.1093 of 2024. The

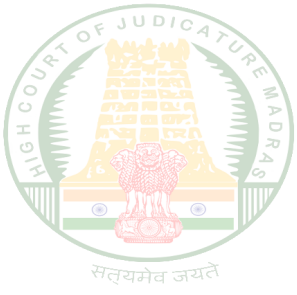


W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

Hon'ble Division Bench of this Court set aside the order passed by the respondent therein and directed the third respondent to conduct a fresh enquiry and pass orders by following the procedures prescribed under Rules 6(b) and 6(c) of the Rules.

6.Pursuant to the said direction, the third respondent conducted an enquiry. The petitioners submitted their objections reiterating their earlier contention that there exists an alternative land. The fourth respondent filed a counter-affidavit denying the same, stating that there is no feasible alternative land.

7.The petitioners also filed an application seeking the appointment of an Advocate Commissioner, to which the fourth respondent filed a counter-affidavit. However, the third respondent, after recording evidence and cross-examining the expert, passed the impugned order dated 12.09.2025, which is challenged in W.P(MD) No.31125 of 2025. The contention of the petitioners is that the impugned order has been passed without adhering to Rule 6(c) of the Rules.



W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026

8. During the pendency of W.P(MD)No.31125 of 2025,

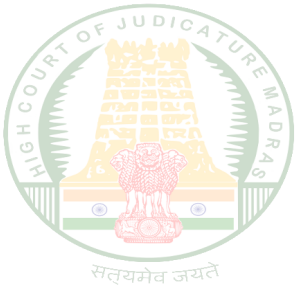
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taking advantage of the non-granting of an interim order, the third respondent passed an award in Na.Ka.No.4241/2023/B4 dated 30.12.2025 fixing the compensation. Aggrieved by the same, the petitioners have filed W.P.(MD) Nos.3692, 3792 and 3796 of 2026.

9. Heard the learned counsel appearing on either side and perused the materials available on record.

10. The primary contention of the petitioners is that their objection regarding the availability of an alternative land has not been properly considered.

11. On perusing the Google Map and the expert opinion placed before this Court, this Court is of the considered opinion that there is no substantial extent of Government land available for laying the railway track. Even if such land is available, it is only a small stretch which cannot be utilised for the purpose of laying the railway track.



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12.The next contention of the petitioners is that an existing railway track is already available and the same can be utilised. However, in the present case, it is seen that there is technical upgradation and therefore the existing track may not be feasible for the proposed purpose. Hence, an additional track has become necessary. The technical opinion also indicates that the additional track is essential. Therefore, the contention of the petitioners regarding the availability of an alternative land is rejected.

13.The next contention of the petitioners is that the respondents have fixed the value of the lands by treating them as agricultural lands. According to the petitioners, in respect of adjacent lands which were acquired earlier, the respondents have treated them as housing plots and fixed the rate at Rs.1080/- per square metre. However, in respect of the petitioners' lands, the respondents have classified them as agricultural lands and fixed the rates at Rs.183/- and Rs.148/- per square meter respectively. This Court is of the

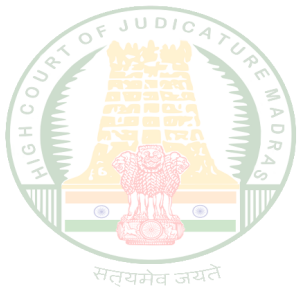


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considered opinion that even though the lands are classified as agricultural lands, when they are situated adjacent to plotted lands, the same rate ought to have been fixed.

14. Therefore, insofar as the rate of compensation is concerned, this Court is inclined to interfere with the impugned order passed by the third respondent dated 30.12.2025 in W.P(MD) Nos.3692, 3792 and 3796 of 2026. Accordingly, the authority concerned is directed to fix the rate at Rs.1080/- and pay the compensation accordingly, by treating the agricultural lands on par with the adjacent plotted lands.

15. The respondents submitted that there is urgency to complete the project at the earliest. It is further submitted that there is war like situation in the world and there is necessity to complete the project. Since there is an enhancement of compensation, the petitioners shall permit the respondents to proceed with the work. Therefore, the respondents are permitted to proceed with the project forthwith.



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16.In view of the above discussions, W.P(MD)No.31125 of 2025 is dismissed and W.P(MD)Nos.3692, 3792 and 3796 of 2026 are partly allowed. No costs. Consequently, the connected Miscellaneous Petitions are closed.

**10.03.2026  
(1/2)**

NCC : Yes / No  
Index : Yes / No  
Internet : Yes  
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**Note: Issue Order Copy on 12.03.2026.**

To

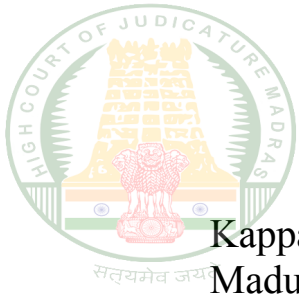
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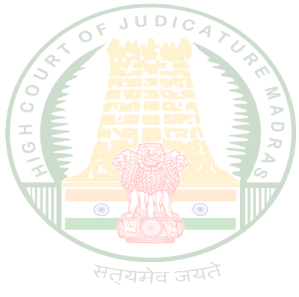


Kappalur,  
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**W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026**

**S.SRIMATHY, J.**

ps

Order made in  
**W.P(MD)Nos.31125 of 2025, 3692, 3792 & 3796 of 2026**

**10.03.2026  
(1/2)**