

WP(MD) No.35790 of 2025

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT
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DATED: 15.12.2025

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE B.PUGALENDHI

WP(MD) No.35790 of 2025 and
WMP(MD) No.28418 of 2025

M.Sudha

... Petitioner

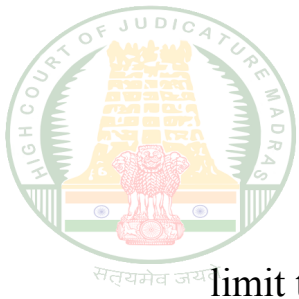
Vs

1.The Joint Director (Personal Establishment),
School Education Department,
Chennai - 06.

2.The Chief Educational Officer,
Tiruchirappalli District,
Tiruchirappalli.

...Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus, to call for the records on the file of the 2nd respondent in connection with the impugned 17 (a) charge memo issued by proceedings in Na.Ka.No. 007909/A3/2024 dated 17.12.2024 and quash the same as unlawful and consequently direct the 2nd respondent to treat a suspension period of 18.12.2024 to 18.03.2025 as duty period for all purpose and thereby disburse the salary for the above period within the time



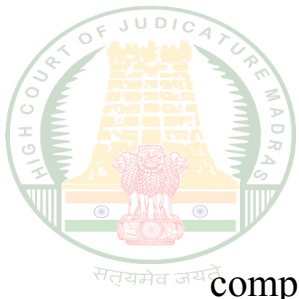
WP(MD) No.35790 of 2025

limit that may be stipulated by this Honble Court
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For Petitioner : Mr.Gurunathan K
For Respondents : Mr.S.Vinodh
Government Advocate

ORDER

This petitioner is working as BT Assistant(Science) in a Government Higher Secondary School, Ina Mathur, Trichy. She has lodged a complaint before the second respondent that on 07.10.2024, the Headmaster of the School has sexually misbehaved with her. For this complaint, the Headmaster himself has constituted an internal complaint committee. Aggrieved by that, the petitioner has given a complaint before the District Social Protection Officer, who in turn has issued notice to the Headmaster on 14.12.2024. At this juncture, the Chief Educational Officer, Trichy/the second respondent herein has issued a charge memo, under Rule 17(a) of the Tamil Nadu Civil Services (Discipline & Appeal) Rules, as against this petitioner, on 17.12.2024, that this petitioner has not co-operated for the internal



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complaint committee and this petitioner has left abroad without prior permission. Challenging the charge memo, the petitioner has approached this Court.

2.The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submits that this petitioner went to abroad only after submitting an application and it has been forwarded by the Headmaster to the Chief Educational Officer. The Chief Educational Officer has also forwarded the same to the Joint Director. According to the learned counsel, since this petitioner has lodged a complaint of sexual harassment as against the Headmaster of the School, she has now been targeted with the charge memo. The petitioner is also having a grievance that the Internal Complaints Committee itself has been constituted by the Headmaster, the person who has misbehaved with the petitioner.

3.Since the petitioner has made out a *prima facie* case, there shall be an order of interim stay for a period of four weeks.



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Post the matter after four weeks along with WP(MD)

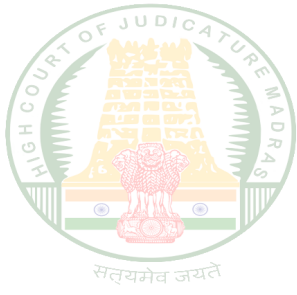
No.35657 of 2025.

15.12.2025

Index:Yes
Internet:Yes
vrn

To

- 1.The Joint Director (Personal Establishment),
School Education Department,
Chennai - 06.
- 2.The Chief Educational Officer,
Tiruchirappalli District,
Tiruchirappalli.



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B.PUGALENDHI, J.

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Order made in
WP(MD) No.35790 of 2025 and
WMP(MD) No.28418 of 2025

15.12.2025