

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED 28.04.2020

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M. SATHYANARAYANAN

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.NIRMAL KUMAR

WP.No.7423 of 2020

P.Arularasu

... Petitioner

Versus

1.The Chief Secretary,  
Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Fort St. George, Chennai 600 009.

2.The Secretary to Government,  
Department of Revenue,  
Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Secretariat, Chennai- 600 009.

3.The Secretary to Government,  
Department of Food and Civil Supplies,  
Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Fort St.George, Chennai- 600 009.

4.The Commissioner,  
Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation,  
Ezhilagam, Chennai 600 005.

5.The Government of Tamil Nadu,  
rep. By its Secretary, Labour Department,  
St. George Fort, Chennai-600 009.  
(5<sup>th</sup> respondent impleaded vide order  
dated 09.04.2020 in W.P.No.7423 of 2020)

Respondents

**Prayer:-** Writ petition has been filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for the issuance of Writ of mandamus directing the respondents (a)to provide relief measures to the public those who do not have family ration card. (b)to issue relief measures on the basis of Aadhar Card or Driving License or any other identity issued by the competent authority.

For Petitioner : Mr.P.Arularasu  
Party-in-person

For RR 1 to 3 & 5 : Mr.V.Jayaprakash Narayan, GP

For R4 : Mr.L.P.Shanmugasundaram

**ORDER**

[Order of the Court was made by M.SATHYANARAYANAN,J.,]

(1)This Court, in continuation and in conjunction with the earlier orders

dated 03.04.2020 ; 09.04.2020 and 17.04.2020, is passing the following order.

(2) Heard the submissions of the petitioner / Party-in-person, who is also a practicing advocate as well as Mr.V.Jayaprakash Narayan, learned Government Pleader appearing for the respondents 1 to 3 and 5 and Mr.L.P.Shanmugasundaram, learned Standing counsel for Civil Supplies Corporation / 4<sup>th</sup> respondent herein.

(3) It is the primordial submission of the petitioner / Party-in-person that there are very many migrant workers who have registered themselves with the concerned Welfare Board and on account of complete lock down, they are unable to go to their native place and as a result, they are starving and suffering without minimum basic amenities which include food and water and therefore, prays for a positive direction from this Court by directing the official respondents to do enumeration in an emergent manner and provide them with reliefs and address their grievances regarding provision of basic amenities.

(4) Mr.V.Jayaprakash Narayan, learned Government Pleader appearing for the official respondents would submit that a Status Report dated April

2020 has been filed and also drawn the attention of this Court to the following Government Orders, viz.,

- a) G.O.Ms.No.77, Labour and Employment [I-2] Department dated 27.03.2020 ;
- b) G.O.Ms.No.82, Labour and Employment [K-2] Department dated 03.04.2020 ;
- c) G.O.Ms.No.84, Labour and Employment [I-2] Department dated 10.04.2020 ;
- d) G.O.Ms.No.85, Labour and Employment [K-2] Department dated 30.04.2020 ;

and would submit that the Government of Tamil Nadu has accorded sanction and permission to the Commissioner of Labour to distribute kits containing food commodities, viz., 15Kgs of rice ; 1Kg of Dhall and 1Kg of edible oil, to all the construction workers, pensioners, inter-state migrant workers and the workers working in unorganized sectors, in coordination with the Labour Department and enumeration is also being done in this regard and in the light of the contents of the affidavit and the additional affidavit, necessary instructions will be given to the Labour and Employment Department, Secretariat, Chennai-600 009 as well as to the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation to provide

necessary assistance to the said persons and also undertakes to file an additional Status Report, with supporting documents.

(5) It is needless to point out that on account of the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic virus, there is a lock down put in place, to prevent the spread of the said virus and it is also obligatory on the part of the official respondents to address the genuine grievances of the said migrant workers and other persons hailing from other States, who were occupied in certain unorganized sectors, prior to lock down.

**(6) Call on 26.05.2020.**

[M.S.N.,J]

[M.N.K., J]

28.04.2020

AP

Internet : Yes

To

1.The Chief Secretary,

Government of Tamil Nadu,

Fort St. George, Chennai 600 009.

2.The Secretary to Government,

Department of Revenue,

Government of Tamil Nadu,

Secretariat, Chennai- 600 009.

3.The Secretary to Government,

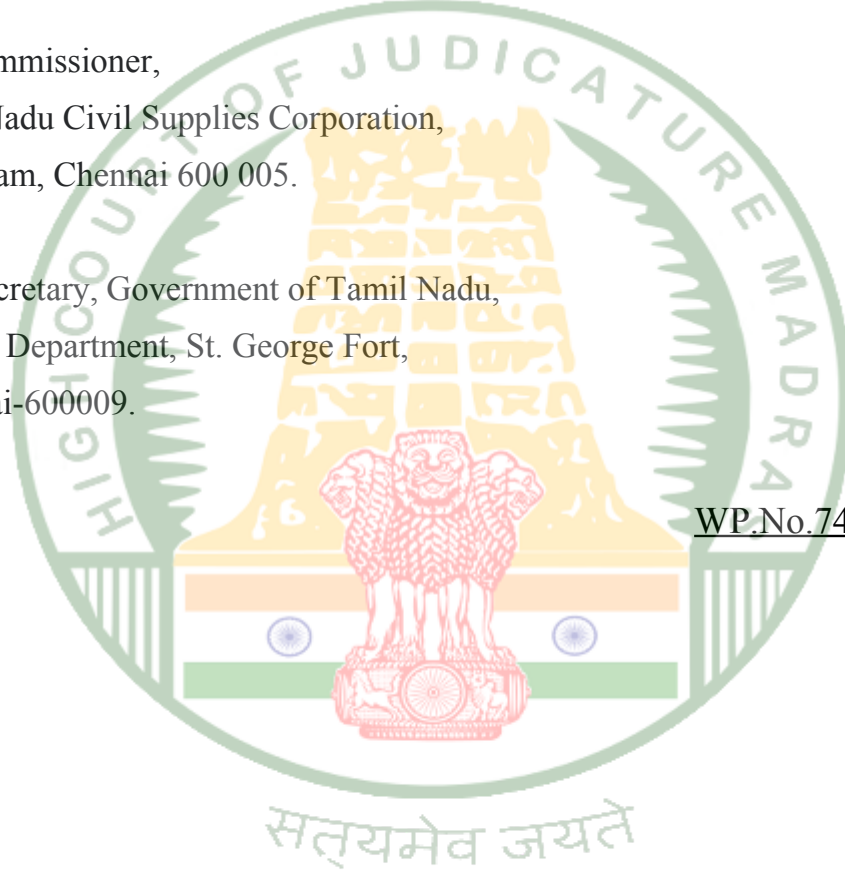
Department of Food and Civil Supplies,

Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Fort St.George, Chennai- 600 009.

M.SATHYANARAYANAN, J.,  
AND  
M.NIRMAL KUMAR, J.,  
AP

4.The Commissioner,  
Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation,  
Ezhilagam, Chennai 600 005.

5.The Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Labour Department, St. George Fort,  
Chennai-600009.



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