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DRAVIDA MUNNETRA KAZHAGAM

(CENTRAL OFFICE)

I. PARANTHAMEN, B.A.,B.L., Ex.M.L.A.
Joint Secretary,
State Legal Wing.

"ANNA ARIVALAYAM"
367 & 369, Anna Salai,
Teynampet, Chennai - 600 018

Date: 23.11.2026

To:

His Excellency
The Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu,
Raj Bhavan,
Chennai – 600 022.

Respected Your Excellency,

Sub : Request for prior approval under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, for conducting an enquiry and investigation into the commission of offences under Sections 8 and 12 (and, in the alternative, Section 7A) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, read with Sections 45, 46, 49 and 61(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, against Mr. A. Rajmohan, Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Tamil Development and Information – Request to place the representation before the competent authority, ensure independent consideration and exclude the Minister from any decision-making in the matter – Reg.

Ref : 1. My complaint dated 02.11.2026 submitted to the Director, Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC), Chennai.

2. Complaint under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, prepared to be filed as Crl. M.P. No. ___ of 2026 before the Hon'ble Special Court for Prevention of Corruption Act Cases, Chennai.

I am an Advocate and a former Member of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. I respectfully submit this representation before Your Excellency in public interest, seeking appropriate intervention and prior approval under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (hereinafter referred to as the "PC Act"), for an independent enquiry and investigation into the serious allegations disclosed by the public statements made by Mr. A. Rajmohan, Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Tamil Development and Information, concerning an alleged offer of Rs.5 crore in connection with the appointment to the post of President of the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram.

No. A1105, Atlantic Ceebros Apartment, Montieth Road (Red Cross Road), Egmore, Chennai - 600 008
Mob: 99406 66269.

1. I humbly submit that on 01.11.2026, during the Tamil Nadu Day celebrations held at the Government Museum Auditorium, Egmore, Chennai, in the presence of Ministers, legislators, Government officials and members of the media, Mr. A. Rajmohan, Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Tamil Development and Information, publicly stated that a person had offered him a sum of Rs.5 crore in return for securing the post of President of the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram.

2. The Minister further stated that the offer was conveyed through Mr. A. Layola Mani, Chairman of the Tamil Nadu Textbook and Educational Services Corporation, and that he had also communicated his response through the same intermediary. He specifically stated that only Mr. Layola Mani knew about the alleged offer and that he had not disclosed the matter to anyone else until then. However, he deliberately refrained from disclosing the identity of the person who allegedly made the offer.

3. It is relevant to point out that the post of President of the Tamil Nadu Eyal Isai Nataka Mandram was conferred on another person on or about 05.10.2026.

4. The Minister's statements were recorded on video, widely circulated and reported in the media, and made publicly available on the very same day. The said statements constitute significant material warranting an independent investigation into the alleged offer, the persons involved, the intermediary through whom the offer was conveyed and the circumstances surrounding the appointment.

5. I submit that the aforesaid public statements prima facie disclose the commission of offences relating to the offering or promising of an undue advantage to a public servant, attracting Section 8 of the PC Act.

6. The role of the intermediary, Mr. A. Layola Mani, who allegedly conveyed the offer and the Minister's response, requires investigation with reference to Section 12 of the PC Act and the relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, including criminal conspiracy under Section 61(2), wherever the ingredients of the respective offences are established. Further, Section 7A of the PC Act may also require examination, depending upon the evidence that emerges regarding any person seeking or accepting an undue advantage for inducing or facilitating the improper performance of public duty.

7. The identity of the person who allegedly offered Rs.5 crore, the precise nature of the offer, the communications exchanged, the role of the intermediary and the involvement of any other persons can be established only through a fair, independent and comprehensive investigation.

8. I respectfully submit that, in view of the seriousness of the allegations, I submitted a written complaint dated 02.11.2026 to the Director, Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, Chennai, requesting registration of an FIR and appropriate investigation into the matter. However, to the best of my knowledge, no FIR has been registered and no action taken on the complaint has been communicated to me.

9. In these circumstances, I have also prepared a complaint under Section 223 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, proposing to approach the Hon'ble

Special Court for Prevention of Corruption Act Cases, Chennai, seeking appropriate legal action in accordance with law. A copy of the said complaint is enclosed for the kind consideration of Your Excellency.

10. I respectfully submit that, having regard to the fact that the person against whom the allegations have been made is a sitting Minister in the Government of Tamil Nadu, the requirement of prior approval under Section 17A of the PC Act requires consideration before proceeding with an enquiry or investigation against him, to the extent the statutory provision is attracted.

11. Though my specific case is that the alleged offences relating to offering, promising and facilitating an undue advantage are not necessarily referable to any recommendation made or decision taken by the Minister in the discharge of his official functions, I am making this representation by way of abundant caution to ensure that no procedural or statutory requirement is left unaddressed.

12. I therefore respectfully request Your Excellency to cause the matter to be placed before the competent authority for consideration and grant of prior approval under Section 17A of the PC Act, as may be required in law, for conducting an appropriate enquiry and investigation into the allegations against Mr. A. Rajmohan, Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Tamil Development and Information, and other persons who may be found involved.

13. I most respectfully submit that, in respect of the Minister, I request that this representation be placed before Your Excellency, being the competent authority in the matter, and that such necessary advice, consideration and appropriate directions be tendered in accordance with law.

14. I specifically bring to the notice of Your Excellency that the Minister himself is a direct participant in, and a material witness to, the very events forming the subject matter of this complaint. His own public statement is the basis upon which the allegations have arisen, and the relevant facts, communications and identity of the alleged offeror are stated to be within his exclusive knowledge. More importantly, the Department of Information and Public Relations falls within the Minister's portfolio. The said Department is understood to be in possession of the official video footage and original recordings of the Minister's speech dated 01.11.2026, which constitute substantial and potentially crucial corroborative evidence in the present matter.

15. In these circumstances, permitting the Minister to exercise any control, influence or authority over the consideration, processing, examination or decision-making concerning this representation, the grant of prior approval, or the preservation and production of relevant evidence would give rise to a serious apprehension of conflict of interest and may compromise the fairness and independence of the proceedings.

16. Therefore, I respectfully request Your Excellency that the Minister, Mr. A. Rajmohan, be specifically excluded from any consideration, consultation, administrative processing or decision-making in relation to this matter, and that the

matter be dealt with independently by the competent constitutional and statutory authorities, without any interference, influence or participation on his part.

17. I further request that appropriate directions be issued to ensure that the relevant official records and electronic evidence held by the Department of Information and Public Relations are secured and preserved independently, without being subjected to the control or influence of the Minister who is himself a person concerned in the allegations.I respectfully submit that the second proviso to Section 17A(1) of the PC Act prescribes a period of three months for communicating the decision on a request for prior approval, which may be extended by a further period of one month for reasons to be recorded in writing.

18. Considering the nature of the allegations and the possibility of crucial electronic evidence being lost, altered or rendered inaccessible with the passage of time, I request Your Excellency to ensure that the matter is considered expeditiously within the statutory period. I particularly emphasise that the original official footage is material evidence and its preservation must be ensured immediately, independently and without the involvement or control of the Minister concerned.

In the light of the facts and circumstances stated above, I most respectfully request Your Excellency to:

1. Take this representation on record and cause it to be placed before the competent authority for consideration of prior approval under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, in respect of Mr. A. Rajmohan, Hon'ble Minister for School Education, Tamil Development and Information.
2. Consider and grant the requisite prior approval under Section 17A of the PC Act, as applicable in law, to enable the Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption to conduct an appropriate enquiry and investigation into the allegations and the involvement of all persons concerned.
3. Ensure that the Minister, being himself a person directly concerned with the events and allegations, is excluded from any consideration, consultation, administrative processing or decision-making in this matter, so as to safeguard the independence, impartiality and fairness of the proceedings.
4. Direct the appropriate independent authorities to immediately secure and preserve the original and unedited video footage of the Minister's speech dated 01.11.2026, together with all relevant electronic communications, call records and other documentary and digital evidence, particularly those maintained by the Department of Information and Public Relations.
5. Ensure that the matter is considered independently and expeditiously and that the decision on prior approval is communicated within the statutory period prescribed under Section 17A of the PC Act.
6. Issue such further directions or take such appropriate steps as may be necessary to ensure an impartial investigation into the alleged offer of Rs.5 crore, the

identity of the person who made the offer, the role of the intermediary and the involvement of any other persons, strictly in accordance with law.

7. I submit that the allegations disclosed by the Minister's own public statements concern the integrity of public administration and the sanctity of public appointments. An independent investigation into the matter is therefore necessary in the larger public interest. I trust that your Excellency will be pleased to intervene and ensure that the matter is dealt with fairly, independently and in accordance with the statutory and constitutional requirements.

Thanking Your Excellency,

Yours faithfully,

23/11/26

(I. Paranthamen)

Enclosures:

1. Copy of the complaint dated 02.11.2026 submitted to the Director, DVAC.
2. Copy of the complaint under Section 223 BNSS, proposed to be filed before the Hon'ble Special Court for Prevention of Corruption Act Cases, Chennai, as Crl. M.P. No. ___ of 2026.
3. Copy/link of the publicly available video recording of the Minister's speech dated 01.11.2026.

Copy to:

1. The Chief Secretary to Government, Government of Tamil Nadu, Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai – 600 009, for information and necessary action in accordance with law.
2. The Director, Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, No. 293, M.K.N. Road, Alandur, Chennai – 600 016.
3. M/s. A. Saravanan, Counsel for the Complainant, No. 102/7, Tripti Apartments, 1st Floor, B Block, Marshalls Road, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.