

W.P.No.43202 of 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 14.11.2025

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. MANINDRA MOHAN SHRIVASTAVA,
CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.ARUL MURUGAN

W.P.No.43202 of 2025
and W.M.P.No.48368 of 2025

Muthu Subramaniam
S/o.Muthu,
Muthugam,
No.5, Masthan Layout Extension,
Udumalpet,
Tirppur,

Petitioner

Vs

- 1.The State Government of Tamilnadu
Rep. by its Secretary,
Tamilnadu Development and Information
Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai
- 2.The Director of Tamilnadu Development
Egmore,
Chennai



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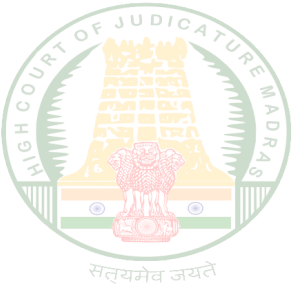
3.The Director of Tamil Etymological
Dictionary Project,
Directorate of Tamil Etymological
Dictionary Project,
Urban Administrative Building,
No.75, First Floor,
Santhome High Road,
M.R.C.Nagar, Chennai

Respondents

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking issuance of a writ of certiorarified mandamus calling for the records relating to the impugned order vide proceedings in Thiruvalluvarandu 2053 / subha kirudhu / karthigai-28 Na.Ka.No.A.Mo.3/4778/2022 dated 14.12.2022 issued by the 2nd respondent and quash the same and consequently direct the respondents to consider and take necessary steps to rename the தமிழ் வளர்ச்சித் துறை (Tamil Valarchi Thurai) to தமிழ் மேம்பாட்டு துறை Tamil Membattu Thurai and issue appropriate Government orders in this regard.

For Petitioner: Mr.N.Umapathi

For Respondents: Mr.M.Suresh Kumar
Additional Advocate General
assisted by
Mr.M.Habeeb Rahman
Government Advocate



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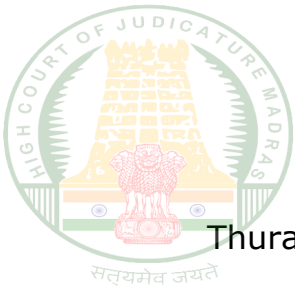
ORDER

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The nub of the matter is that the petitioner seeks to rechristen the தமிழ் வளர்ச்சித் துறை (Tamil Valarchi Thurai) as தமிழ் மேம்பாட்டு துறை (Tamil Membattu Thurai) and a consequential change in the name of the Directorate of the said department.

2. The request made by the petitioner in this regard was rejected by the authorities vide proceedings dated 14.12.2022. Having met his Waterloo before the authorities, the petitioner now knocked the doors of this court seeking rechristening of the said department of the government, as stated supra.

3. In the affidavit, it is asserted that the Tamil scholars have iterated that the word "development" cannot be equated with the word "valarchi". Highlighting the meaning of the word "valarchi" as growth; increase; enrichment, etc. and the meaning of the word "development" as higher state; upliftment; betterment, etc., the petitioner prays for changing of the name of "Tamil Valarchi Thurai" as "Tamil Membattu



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Thurai” and a consequential change in the name of its Directorate.

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4. It is beyond any cavil that all these issues have been raised by the petitioner, through his representation, before the respondent authorities and, on consideration of the same, the impugned order is passed. It is perceived that the actions of the authorities are whiter than white, in the absence of mala fides or arbitrariness. Though a vague assertion is made that the impugned order suffers from non-application of mind and administrative arbitrariness, no whit of material is placed on record to bolster the said plea.

5. The naming and re-naming of government department is purely within the domain of the Government and such task cannot be undertaken by the High Court exercising writ jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution of India. The courts lack the expertise in this regard and it is purely within governmental fiefdom.

6. That apart, the proceedings impugned in this petition was issued way back on 14.12.2022, however, the same is put to challenge after a lapse of nearly three years. This itself shows that there is no



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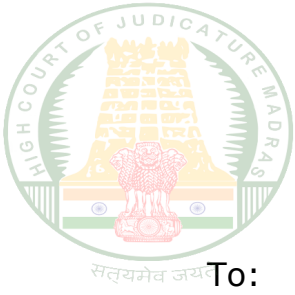
compelling urgency involved warranting exercise of extraordinary jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution of India. Moreover, the issue involved is not of such gravitas that the non-consideration of the same would impair the society at large. A public interest litigation should espouse a cause to protect the society and to avoid a deliberate peril arising out of governmental non-concern for social good and benefit.

7. The present is not a case warranting exercise of writ jurisdiction, as the cause espoused is purely an administrative act for the experts in the field to ponder on and this court lacks expertise in this regard.

8. For the foregoing reasons, the present PIL is dismissed, sans costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

(MANINDRA MOHAN SHRIVASTAVA, CJ) (G.ARUL MURUGAN,J)
14.11.2025

Index : Yes/No
Neutral Citation : Yes/No
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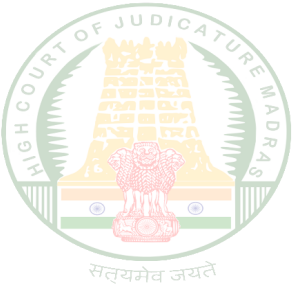


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To:

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THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
G.ARUL MURUGAN,J.

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