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WP No.19983 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 27.01.2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.MANINDRA MOHAN SHRIVASTAVA,
CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE G.ARUL MURUGAN

WP No.19983 of 2023

V.B.R.Menon

Petitioner

Vs

The Chief Controller Of Explosives
Petroleum And Explosives Safety Organisation
(peso), A-block, Cgo Complex, 5th Floor,
Seminary Hills, Nagpur-440 006. and
8 Others

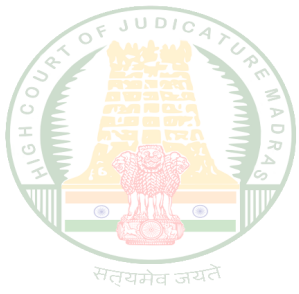
Respondent(s)

For Petitioner(s):

Mr.V.B.R.Menon (p-in-p)

For Respondent(s):

Mr.E.Raj Thilak,
Additional Public Prosecutor, For R-9.



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ORDER

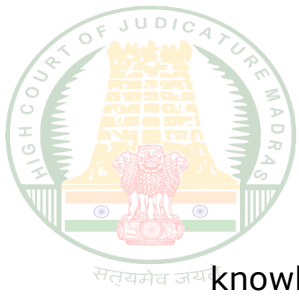
(Order of the Court was made
by the Hon'ble Chief Justice)

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Today, when the case comes up for hearing, learned State Counsel placed before the court, documents pertaining to final report submitted in the jurisdictional criminal court, upon conclusion of investigation.

2. Learned State counsel would submit that though investigation was carried out, the beneficiaries in whose favour fake certificates were issued have not been made accused till date because no incriminating evidence, so far, could be collected against them. He would further add that in view of an order passed by the CBCID Special Court, Egmore, on 20.11.2025, further investigation is going on, to examine the role of those beneficiaries in whose favour the fake certificates were issued.

3. The petitioner-in-person would submit that it is quite apparent that these fake certificates have been issued to the beneficiaries only to extend them undue benefit and it was within their personal



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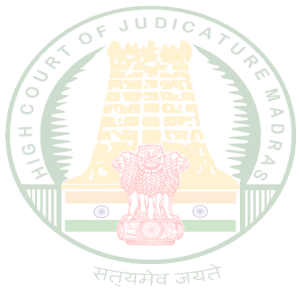
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knowledge that they had never applied to the competent authority nor any inspection was carried out. Therefore, they are *prima facie* accused of wrong doing but all attempts are being made to save them.

4. We find that none of the beneficiaries, except in cases relating to Dindigul and Erode Districts, have been made accused or registered for any offence.

5. There is considerable force in the submission made by the petitioner-in-person that the entire exercise of preparation of fake NOC was only intended to extend benefit to the beneficiaries who wanted to establish a petrol bunk and therefore, it was for their benefit and at their instance, fake NOCs were prepared.

6. Learned State Counsel further submitted that when the statements of beneficiaries were recorded under Section 161 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, they have stated that they met the accused persons for getting NOCs.



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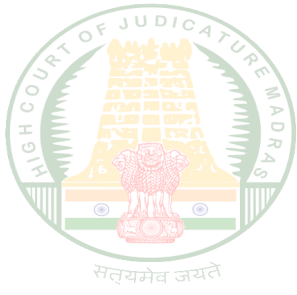
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7. If that be so, we fail to understand why investigation is not being carried out in proper direction. Except investigation carried out and charge sheet filed in respect of cases arising in Dindigul and Erode Districts; in respect of cases which are pending before the investigating officer of the CBCID, Chennai, though there are large number of beneficiaries in respect of whom, their role is found in material, no satisfactory investigation has been carried out.

8. Even though it is alleged by the petitioner-in-person that attempts are being made to save those beneficiaries, for reasons best known to the authorities, we would reserve our view; as only after proper, independent and fair investigation is carried out by a high powered agency to be appointed by the Court, truth will emerge.

9. Additional Director General of Police, CBCID, is directed to appear in Court on the next date of hearing so that appropriate orders, regarding constitution of a Special Investigating Team, are passed for proper and fair investigation in the matter.

10. List on 10.02.2026.



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11. Two days before the next date of hearing, memorandum of confession statement (of accused), if any recorded under Section 27 of the Indian Evidence Act (prior to the coming to the force of Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 or under corresponding section of Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam), shall also be placed on record.

(MANINDRA MOHAN SHRIVASTAVA, CJ.) (G.ARUL MURUGAN, J.)
27.01.2026

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