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W.P. No.13842/2024

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATE : 15.06.2026

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.DHANDAPANI

W.P. NO.13842 OF 2024

AND

W.M.P. NO.14999 OF 2024

The High Court of Judicature at Madras
Rep. by its Registrar General
High Court, Madras.

.. Petitioner

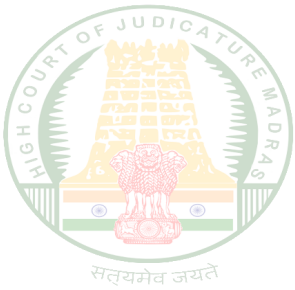
- Vs -

1. The Tamil Nadu Information Commission/
2nd Appellate Authority
Rep. By State Information Commissioner
No.19, Government Farm Village
(Pension Pay Office Backside)
Panepet, Nandanam
Chennai 600 035.

2. Akbar Ahamed

.. Respondents

Writ petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying
this Court to issue a writ of certiorari calling for the records and orders passed by
the Tamil Nadu Information Commission, Chennai, relating to case in
S.A.17084/A/2021 dated 18.10.2023 and quash the same.



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For Petitioner : Mr. Ayyadurai, SC, for
Mr. A.Durai Eswar

For Respondents : Mr. C.Vigneswaran for R-1
No Appearance for R-2

ORDER

An order passed by the 1st respondent directing the petitioner to furnish the information with regard to the administration of the Registry, sought for by the 2nd respondent, under the Right to Information Act (for short 'RTI Act') is put in issue before this Court by the petitioner.

2. The 2nd respondent had submitted an application under the RTI Act to the Public Information Officer of the petitioner seeking certain information relating to the administrative activities of this Court, more particularly with respect to the constitution of the Committee, the qualification of the members of the committee, their experience, functions and responsibilities of the Administrative Committee of the High Court. The petition seeking the said information was negated by the Public Information Officer by relying upon the Division Bench judgment of this Court in W.P. No.20485/2012 dated 17.12.2013 against when the 2nd respondent moved the appellate authority and the appellate authority confirmed the said order passed by the Public Information Officer.



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Aggrieved by the said rejection, the 2nd respondent preferred the second appeal before the 1st respondent, who, after adjudication, passed the impugned order dated 18.10.2023 directing the petitioner to provide the information to the 2nd respondent, as sought for, and further directed to file compliance report, aggrieved by which the petitioner is before this Court.

3. Learned senior counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted that the information sought for by the 2nd respondent cannot be provided as it relates to the internal administration of the Registry and that the same is exempted u/s 8 of the RTI Act. It is the further submission of the learned senior counsel that the reason for rejection of the information sought for by the 2nd respondent stems from the decision of the Division Bench of this Court in W.P. No.20485/2012 dated 17.12.2013, which has since been affirmed by the Apex Court in SLP (Civil) CC No.17294/2013 dated 4.10.2013, in and by which, information relating to enquiries conducted by the Vigilance Department and personal details unconnected with the discharge of duties were exempted from disclosure by relying upon Section 8 of the RTI Act. It is the submission of the learned senior counsel that though the decision and the provisions of the RTI Act were brought to the notice of the 1st respondent, however, without properly considering all the



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above, the impugned order had come to be passed, which if allowed to continue and subsist, would gravely prejudice the functioning of the Court and, therefore, prays for allowing the writ petition.

4. Learned counsel appearing for the 1st respondent submits that the present writ petition is premised on the decision of the Division Bench in W.P. No.20485/2012, which has been affirmed by the Apex Court in WLP (Civil) CC No.17294/2013. However, the said decision would not be applicable to the facts of the present case as in the said decision, the information sought for related to vigilance enquiries against the judicial officers, which was exempted u/s 8 of the RTI Act. However, in the present case, the information sought for by the 2nd respondent does not fall under any of the exemptions provided u/s 8 of the RTI Act and further it is submitted that the information which is sought for by the 2nd respondent is not held by the petitioner in a fiduciary capacity as provided for under clause (e) to Section 8 (1). It is further submitted that the information also does not relate to any personal information, but which are information which are shareable if sought for by the Parliament or the State Legislature and, therefore, it cannot be denied to any person, who seeks for the same and which is provided under proviso to clause (j) of Section 8 (1). Rightly appreciating all the above and



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also going into the relevancy and the nature of the information sought for, the 1st respondent had directed the petitioner to provide the information to the 2nd respondent and submit compliance report, which cannot be said to be erroneous, illegal or arbitrary and, therefore, the same does not warrant any interference.

5. This Court gave its careful consideration to the submissions advanced by the learned counsel appearing on either side and perused the materials available on record.

6. The order of rejection of the appeal by the petitioner was on the basis of the order of the Division Bench in ***The Registrar General, High Court of Madras – Vs – K.Elango & Anr. (W.P. No.20485/2012 dated 17.12.2013)***, which is said to have been confirmed in SLP (Civil) CC No.17294/2013 vide order dated 4.10.2013. Therefore, this Court has to first satisfy itself as to whether the said order would bar parting with of the information sought for by the 2nd respondent. For better appreciation, the relevant portion of the said order of the Division Bench is quoted hereunder :-

“2.The Tamil Nadu Information Commission, Chennai, in Case No.10447/Enquiry/A/11 dated 10.01.2012 has, among other things, observed that 'A perusal of the appeal and the replies



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furnished by the public authority shows that the appellant has only asked for details relating to the number of subordinate Judges, employees, complaints of bribe and so on in the subordinate judiciary. He has not asked for details of anything which could be termed as Judicial proceedings or part of the Judicial process. During the enquiry it was also confirmed by the Assistant Public Information Officer that these details are received and collected by the Registry of the High Court routinely. Section 4 of the RTI Act very clearly defines the obligation of the public authorities. Most of the information sought for by the present appellant seem to be covered in this section. Such being the case the Hon'ble High Court, Madras, being a public authority, requires to provide access to these information unless expressly prohibited by a Competent forum or exempted as defined under various sections of the RTI Act. It is also observed that the appellant has asked only for statistical details and not names of individuals. Therefore, the argument of "un warranted invasion of privacy of individuals" is very weak and hence not accepted' and resultantly, allowed the appeal by directing the public authority (Writ Petitioner) to furnish the details within 15 days from the date of receipt of this order.

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13. The Learned Senior Counsel for the 2nd Respondent urges before this Court that Section 22 of the Right to Information Act enjoins that the provisions of the Act have an overriding effect on the Official Secrets Act, 1923 (19 of 1923) and any other law for the time being in force etc. Viewed in that perspective, it is



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contended that the informations sought for by the 1st Respondent/Petitioner, by his Letter dated 01.11.2010, can be supplied by the Petitioner/High Court, because of the reason that he has sought for statistical particulars and names of individuals concerned. In short, the Learned Senior Counsel for the 2nd Respondent contends that the impugned order dated 10.01.2012 passed by the Tamil Nadu Information Commission does not suffer from any impropriety or illegality, in the eye of law.

14.The Learned Counsel for the Petitioner submits that the information sought for by the 1st Respondent/Petitioner in his application dated 01.11.2010 addressed to Public Information Officer of High Court relates to the internal administration of the Madras High Court and the information sought for by the 1st Respondent/Petitioner from Serial Nos.1 to 9 in his application dated 01.11.2010, if furnished would cause an invasion of privacy of the individuals. Therefore, under the ingredients of Section 8(e) and (f) of the Act, the Writ Petitioner is exempted to disclose the information sought for. Also, as per Section 8(i) of the Act, the Petitioner/High Court is exempted to disclose the information sought for by the 1st Respondent/Petitioner.

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35.For denying the information as per Section 8(e) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, the following paramount factors may be taken into consideration.

(a) Whether supplying/furnishing information on public records would impede the investigation/apprehension/prosecution;



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(b) *Whether the information is such that can be refused/denied to Parliament or State Legislature;*

(c) *Whether public interest in disclosure earns the protected interest;*

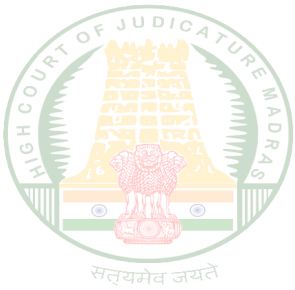
(d) *Section 22 of the Right to Information Act has an overriding effect and as such, the legal procedure enshrined for quasi judicial proceedings gets overridden by the Right to Information Act.*

36. In this connection, this Court worth recalls the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **Namit Sharma V. Union of India** [2013-2-L.W.1 at page 2] wherein it is laid down as follows:

"The Right to Information, like any other right, is not an unlimited or unrestricted right. It is subject to statutory and constitutional limitations. The doctrine of severability finds place in the statute in the shape of Section 10 of the Act of 2005".

.....

44. Coming to the aspect of non disclosure of information, it is to be pointed out that the ingredients of Section 8 and 11 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, there is total bar on 6 out of 10 exceptions i.e. 1(a), (b), (c), (f), (g) & (h). Insofar as the matters covered by Section 8(1)(d), (e)(h) and (i) of Section 8 of the Act, the Information Officers are necessarily to record a finding by taking into account the relative merit between the Public interest and secrecy. If the public interest outweighs private interest, then, the information has to be furnished. Otherwise, the Officer is



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entitled to assign reasons for refusing to supply/furnish the information in question.

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53. Under Section 8(1)(j) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 the Officers are not required to provide private or personal information which is exempted. As a matter of fact, the informations relating to employees in High Court/Subordinate Courts/Judicial Officers etc. are inter se matters between an employer and employee in an institution which are purely governed by respective service rules. In fact, it partakes the character of 'personal information', the disclosure of the same has no public interest or public activity. It cannot be lost sight of that under the concept of 'Right to Know', a Public Information Officer is not supposed to be harassed or persecuted/prosecuted.

54. It is to be pointed out that the personal information and the information between persons in fiduciary relationship is exempted from disclosure under the Right to Information Act. Also, 'Confidence' may be outweighed by public interest in the matter of such disclosure.

*55. The Learned Senior Counsel for the 2nd Respondent cites the decision of High Court of Delhi in **Secretary General, Supreme Court of India V. Subhash Chandra Agarwal, [2010 (1) CTC 241] (Full Bench)**, wherein it is held as under:*

"Every citizen is entitled to information held by or under Control of Public Authority unless it is exempted by Section 8(1) of the Right to Information Act etc."



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56. Moreover, it is held that 'The Resolution of Full Court of the Honourable Supreme Court treating declaration of assets by Judges as confidential does not make it any less information which citizen is entitled to access'.

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59. Be that as it may, on a careful consideration of respective contentions and on going through the contents of the application

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dated 01.11.2010 filed by the 1 Respondent/Applicant, this Court is of the considered view that the information sought for by him in Serial Nos.1 to 9 pertaining to the internal delicate functioning/administration of the High Court besides the same relate to invasion of privacy of respective individuals if the informations so asked for are furnished and more so, the informations sought for have no relationship to any public activity or interest. Moreover, the informations sought for by the 1st Respondent/Applicant, through his application dated 01.11.2010 addressed to the Public Information Officer of the High Court, Chennai, are not to a fuller extent open to public domain. Added further, if the informations sought for by the 1st Respondent/Applicant, through his letter dated 01.11.2010 addressed to the Public Information Officer of High Court, are divulged, then, it will open floodgates/Pandora Box compelling the Petitioner/High Court to supply the informations sought for by the concerned Requisitionists as a matter of routine, without any rhyme or reasons/restrictions as the case may be. Therefore, some self restrictions are to be imposed in regard to the supply of informations in this regard. As a matter of fact, the Notings,



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Jottings, Administrative Letters, Intricate Internal Discussions, Deliberations etc. of the Petitioner/High Court cannot be brought under Section 2(j) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, in our considered opinion of this Court. Also that, if the informations relating to Serial Nos.1 to 9 mentioned in the application of the 1st Respondent/Applicant dated 01.11.2010 are directed to be furnished or supplied with, then, certainly, it will impede and hinder the regular, smooth and proper functioning of the Institution viz., High Court (an independent authority under the Constitution of India, free from Executive or Legislature), as opined by this Court. As such, a Saner Counsel/Balancing Act is to be adopted in matters relating to the application of the Right to Information Act, 2005, so that an adequate freedom and inbuilt safeguard can be provided to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of High Court [competent authority and public authority as per Section 2(e)(iii) and 2(h)(a) of the Act 22 of 2005] in exercising his discretionary powers either to supply the information or to deny the information, as prayed for by the Applicants/Requisitionists concerned.

.....

61. To put it differently, if the informations sought for by the 1st Respondent/Applicant, through his letter dated 01.11.2010/Appeal dated 20.12.2010, are divulged or furnished by the Office of the High Court (on administrative side), then, the secrecy and privacy of the internal working process may get jeopardised, besides the furnishing of said informations would result in invasion of unwarranted and uncalled for privacy of



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individuals concerned. Even the disclosure of informations pertaining to departmental enquiries in respect of Disciplinary Actions initiated against the Judicial Officers/Officials of the Subordinate Court or the High Court will affect the facile, smooth and independent running of the administration of the High Court, under the Constitution of India. Moreover, as per Section 2(e) of the read with Section 28 of the Right to Information Act, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of this Court is empowered to frame rules to carry out the provisions of the Act. In this regard, we point out that 'Madras High Court Right to Information (Regulation of Fee and Cost) Rules, 2007' have been framed [vide R.O.C.No.2636-A/06/F1 – SRO C-3/2008] in Tamil Nadu Gazette, No.20, dated 21.05.2008, Pt.III, S.2. Also, a Notification, in Roc.No.976 A/2008/RTI dated 18.11.2008, has been issued by this Court to the said Rules, by bringing certain amendments in regard to the Name and Designation of the Officers mentioned therein, the same has come into force from 18.11.2008.”

7. In fine, as premised in para-61, the information as sought for by the 2nd respondent, if provided, would impact the secrecy, privacy and internal working process and jeopardize the interest of the administration and the individuals, as the same relates to vigilance statistics, including the names of the judicial officers against whom complaints have been received and would affect the smooth and independent running of the administration and on that basis, the Division Bench



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had negated the request of the complainant therein, which has received the affirmation from the hands of the Apex Court. This Court is not only bound by the said decision, but it is also in respectful agreement with the view expressed therein.

8. Before adverting to the facts of the case and applying the provisions of law, it would be trite to refer to the objects and reasons for which the RTI Act was enacted, the preamble to which reads as under :-

“An Act to provide for setting out the practical regime of right to information for citizens to secure access to information under the control of public authorities, in order to promote transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority, the constitution of a Central Information Commission and State Information Commissions and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

WHEREAS the Constitution of India has established democratic Republic;

AND WHEREAS democracy requires an informed citizenry and transparency of information which are vital to its functioning and also to contain corruption and to hold Governments and their instrumentalities accountable to the governed;

AND WHEREAS revelation of information in actual practice is likely to conflict with other public interests including efficient



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operations of the Governments, optimum use of limited fiscal resources and the preservation of confidentiality of sensitive information;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to harmonise these conflicting interests while preserving the paramountcy of the democratic ideal;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is expedient to provide for furnishing certain information to citizens who desire to have it.

9. From the above, it would be evident that every public authority is required to maintain all its record duly catalogued and indexed in a manner and the form which facilitates the right to information and also ensure that all records that are necessary to be computerized are, within a reasonable time and subject to availability of resources, computerized and connected through a network all over the country on different systems so that access to such record is facilitated. Public authority has also to carry out certain other functions also, as provided under the RTI Act.

10. As provided in the objects and reasons to the enactment of the RTI Act, right to information for citizens to secure access to information under the control of public authorities, in order to promote transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority has been the main reason for the coming



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into force of the said Act so that democracy requires an informed citizenry and transparency of information which are vital to its functioning and also to contain corruption and to hold Governments and their instrumentalities accountable to the governed by providing safeguards and harmonizing the conflicting interests which may arise in the furnishing of information by preserving the paramountcy of the democratic ideal. Therefore, so long as there is no conflicting interest and the security and safety is not jeopardized, the citizens are to be provided with all the information that are available at the disposal of the public authority.

11. In such a backdrop, the moot question that falls for consideration is whether the ratio laid down in *Elango's case*, which forms the basis for rejection of the information sought for, would be attracted to the case on hand so as to deny the information sought for by the 2nd respondent.

12. Before proceeding to dissect and find out whether the said information could be parted with or not, the information that have been exempted under the RTI Act, as provided for u/s 8 are as under :-

"8. Exemption from disclosure of information :- (1)

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, there shall be no obligation to give any citizen,—



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(a) information, disclosure of which would prejudicially affect the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security, strategic, scientific or economic interests of the State, relation with foreign State or lead to incitement of an offence;

(b) information which has been expressly forbidden to be published by any court of law or tribunal or the disclosure of which may constitute contempt of court;

(c) information, the disclosure of which would cause a breach of privilege of Parliament or the State Legislature;

(d) information including commercial confidence, trade secrets or intellectual property, the disclosure of which would harm the competitive position of a third party, unless the competent authority is satisfied that larger public interest warrants the disclosure of such information;

(e) information available to a person in his fiduciary relationship, unless the competent authority is satisfied that the larger public interest warrants the disclosure of such information;

(f) information received in confidence from foreign Government;

(g) information, the disclosure of which would endanger the life or physical safety of any person or identify the source of information or assistance given in confidence for law enforcement or security purposes;

(h) information which would impede the process of investigation or apprehension or prosecution of offenders;

(i) cabinet papers including records of deliberations of the Council of Ministers, Secretaries and other officers:



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Provided that the decisions of Council of Ministers, the reasons thereof, and the material on the basis of which the decisions were taken shall be made public after the decision has been taken, and the matter is complete, or over:

Provided further that those matters which come under the exemptions specified in this section shall not be disclosed;

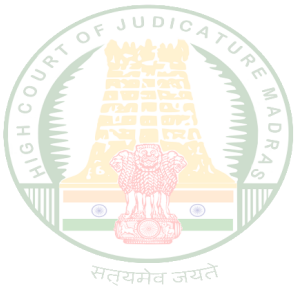
(j) information which relates to personal information the disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or interest, or which would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual unless the Central Public Information Officer or the State Public Information Officer or the appellate authority, as the case may be, is satisfied that the larger public interest justifies the disclosure of such information:

Provided that the information which cannot be denied to the Parliament or a State Legislature shall not be denied to any person.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in the Official Secrets Act, 1923 nor any of the exemptions permissible in accordance with sub-section (1), a public authority may allow access to information, if public interest in disclosure outweighs the harm to the protected interests.

(3) Subject to the provisions of clauses (a), (c) and (i) of sub-section (1), any information relating to any occurrence, event or matter which has taken place, occurred or happened twenty years before the date on which any request is made under section 6 shall be provided to any person making a request under that section:

Provided that where any question arises as to the date from which the said period of twenty years has to be computed, the



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decision of the Central Government shall be final, subject to the usual appeals provided for in this Act."

(Emphasis Supplied)

13. In the background of the information that are exempted from disclosure u/s 8 of the RTI Act, the information sought for by the 2nd respondent has to be looked at to find out whether it falls within the ambit of information which could not be disclosed, as has been held by the Division Bench in *Elango's case (supra)*.

14. In *Elango's case*, the division Bench had held that *"information relating to employees in High Court/Subordinate Courts/Judicial Officers etc. are inter se matters between an employer and employee in an institution which are purely governed by respective service rules. In fact, it partakes the character of 'personal information', the disclosure of the same has no public interest or public activity"*, however, what is sought for in the present case does not relate to any particular employee; rather it relates to a particular issue regarding the constitution of the committee and certain details about the members of the committee in relation to the said the Party-in-Person rules and nothing further. Therefore, keeping aside the employer-employee relationship, which would not be applicable in the



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present case, as the information sought for relates to constitutional functionaries, this court would now look into the information sought for to find out whether the said information would stand exempted u/s 8 of the RTI Act.

15. The information, which have been sought for by the 2nd respondent vide his RTI Application dated 28.07.2021, as could be seen from the affidavit filed in support of the petition by the petitioner are as under :-

“i) The Details of The High Court of Madras (Conduct of Proceedings by Party-in-person) Rules 2019 as to;

a) Names & Designation of the members of the Party-in-Person Committee,

b) Their previous & present experience details in the Field of law,

c) Their previous and present achievement(s) details in the field of law,

d) Their Educational background/qualification details,

e) Their expertise details in the field of law, such as in Criminal Side or Civil side practice;

f) Their conduct details,

g) Their pay scale/salary details, and

ii) The functions, responsibilities, powers and Area/Field/Limits of Jurisdiction of the Hon'ble Administrative Committee of The Madras High Court.



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16. The information sought for is catalogued into two parts, viz., the first part pertains to The High Court of Madras (Conduct of Proceedings by Party-in-Person) Rules, 2019 and the names and designation of the members of the said committee along with their experience, achievements and other details and the second part pertains to their pay scale/salary details and also the functions, responsibilities, powers and Area/Field/limits of jurisdiction of the Administrative Committee of the High Court.

17. First of all, the information sought for by the 2nd respondent would by no stretch fall within the exemptions prescribed u/s 8 of the RTI Act. While The High Court of Madras (Conduct of Proceedings by Party-in-Person) Rules, 2019, as pointed out by the petitioner, is very much available in public domain and accessible by each and every citizen, the same cannot be said to be an information exempted under Section 8. However, the petitioner could very well point out that it is available in the public domain which could be accessed by the 2nd respondent and need not hide itself under Section 8 by claiming it to be exemption.



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18. The other details sought for by the 2nd respondent pertains to the names and designation of the members of the Party-in-Person Committee, which has been constituted along with the experience details, achievements of the said members in the field of law, their educational background/qualification details and their field of expertise.

19. It is to be pointed out that the constitution of the Committee and the composition of the members of the Committee is an administrative act, which is not a classified information that could not be parted, as it is only the Judges of the High Court, who would be members of the said Committee and the names of the Judges having been published in the website of the High Court, merely spelling out the names of the members/Judges, who constitute the Committee would in no way jeopardize the administrative functioning of the High Court.

20. Further, it is also to be pointed out that the website of the High Court carries the personal details of all the Judges, which is accessible by all the citizens and that the details of the Judges is not held by the Registry in a fiduciary capacity. The details of the Judges includes their qualification, their experience as also their field of practice and when the same is available in the website, which



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could be accessed by all the citizens, the petitioner cannot shield itself u/s 8 to claim that the said information are exempted/classified information, which could not be parted with as parting with would jeopardize the administrative functioning of the High Court.

21. The other information sought for relates to the conduct details of the members of the committee, which, definitely would not be within the realm of information available with the High Court and, therefore, the petitioner could very well claim that such information not being available with it, the petitioner would not be in position to part with the said information.

22. Coming to the second part of the information sought for, it relates to the pay scale/salary details, which is a matter of public record, as the Judges receive the salary from out of the Consolidated Fund of India and their pay being paid from the public fund, the public, including the 2nd respondent, who is a citizen of India cannot be precluded from knowing the details and, therefore, there would be no embargo for providing the said information as it is not exempted u/s 8 of the RTI Act.

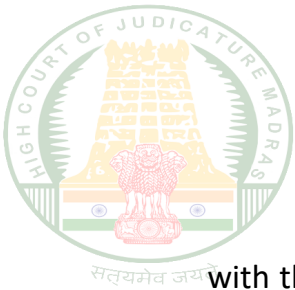


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23. Insofar as the other portion of the information sought for, the same relates to the functions, responsibilities, power and area/field/limits of jurisdiction of the Administrative Committee of the High Court. This merely relates to the working of the High Court and is governed by the provisions in the Constitution and also the respective Administrative Rules of the High Court. Further, the information sought for merely relates to the administrative activities and the responsibilities of the Administrative Committee and the area within which the powers could be exercised. All these are constitutionally prescribed and demarcated by the various decisions of the High Court and the Apex Court. Such being the case, there being no element of confidentiality or sensitive nature involved in the information, the petitioner cannot seek to hide itself u/s 8 of the Act to not part with the information.

24. Further, the petitioner, to reject the application of the 2nd respondent by not providing the information, has tried to take shelter under the decision of the division Bench in *Elango's case (supra)*. However, as stated above, the said decision relates to sensitive and personal information relating to the vigilance particulars of the judicial officers in relation to corrupt practice, which would be in the stage of enquiry and various stages of disciplinary proceedings and parting



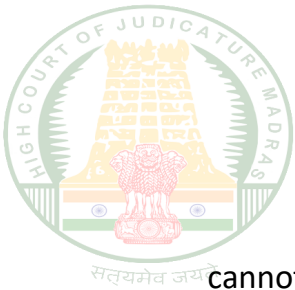
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with the said information would cause grave prejudice not only to the petitioner but also to the individual involved and, therefore, there being an element of fiduciary relationship between the petitioner and its employee with regard to the information, the Division Bench had held that the said information are exempted from being provided u/s 8 (1)(e) of the RTI Act.

25. However, in the present case, the information sought for is neither sensitive or classified nor does it involves any element of fiduciary relationship, which exempts the information from being provided. Further, Section 8 (1) (j) though provides that personal information is exempted from being disclosed, however, the proviso thereto has clearly delineated that information which cannot be denied to the Parliament or a State Legislature shall not be denied to any person. In the present case, the information, which has been sought for by the 2nd respondent is information, which cannot be denied to the Parliament or a State Legislature and, therefore, any citizen is entitled to get the said information under the provisions of the RTI Act.

26. On a clear misreading of the decision and erroneous application thereof, the petitioner has rejected the application of the 2nd respondent, which



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cannot be sustained. Though it is the stand of the petitioner that the 1st respondent has not carefully appreciated the decision relied on by the petitioner in *Elango's case (supra)* and, therefore, the said decision cannot be sustained, however, this Court, has threadbare analysed the decision in *Elango's case* and for reasons stated supra, has held that the information sought for by the petitioner are furnishable except for clause (f) of the first part relating to the conduct details of the members of the Committee, the fragile reasons given in the impugned order passed by the 1st respondent for furnishing the information cannot form the basis for rejection of the application of the 2nd respondent.

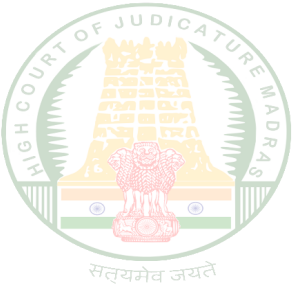
27. For the reasons aforesaid, this writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the petitioner to provide all the information sought for except for the details relating to conduct as is sought for under clause (f) of the first part to the 2nd respondent within a period of two weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. Connected miscellaneous petition is closed. There shall be no order as to costs.

15.06.2026

Index : Yes / No

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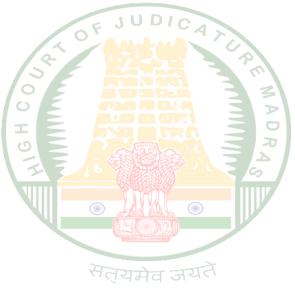


W.P. No.13842/2024

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To

1. The Registrar General
High Court of Judicature at Madras
High Court, Madras.
2. The State Information Commissioner
Tamil Nadu Information Commission/
2nd Appellate Authority
No.19, Government Farm Village
(Pension Pay Office Backside)
Panepet, Nandanam
Chennai 600 035.



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M.DHANDAPANI, J.

NHS/GLN

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15.06.2026