

ITEM NO.18

COURT NO.13
S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

SECTION XII

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s). 32172/2026
[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 20-07-2026
in WAMD No. 982/2026 passed by the High Court of Judicature at
Madras at Madurai]

M/S SRI PAULTHAI LORRY BOOKING OFFICE

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE GENERAL MANAGER FOOD CORPORATION
OF INDIA & ANR.

Respondent(s)

IA No. 273423/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED
JUDGMENT

IA No. 273425/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 21-09-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K.V. VISWANATHAN
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN PALLI

For Petitioner(s) :Mr. S S Sundar, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Harshed Sundar, Adv.
Mr. Narean M, Adv.
Mr. Shilp Vinod, AOR

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Purushottam Sharma Tripathi, AOR

Upon hearing the counsel, the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. We have heard Mr. S.S. Sundar, learned senior counsel appearing for the petitioner and Mr. Purushottam Sharma Tripathi, learned counsel appearing on caveat for the respondent-Corporation.

2. In a tender issued by the respondent-Corporation, the petitioner, on 11th August, 2022, was declared as the successful bidder. Work order was subsequently issued on 30th November, 2022.

3. On 30th November, 2024, the petitioner completed the contract and was awarded the contract for the next period also.

4. Show cause notices came to be issued to the respondent owing to discrepancy in payment of salaries to few employees which resulted in an order of blacklisting and forfeiture of the security deposit on 24th October, 2025. Subsequently, on 30th October, 2025, a writ petition being W.P. (MD) No. 31219 of 2025 was filed by the petitioner.

5. The learned Single Judge, *vide* order dated 25th November, 2025, set aside the impugned order and partly allowed the writ petition insofar as it relates to blacklisting of the petitioner and remanded the matter back for fresh consideration. The respondent(s) accepted the judgment of the learned Single Judge.

6. The petitioner appealed before the Division Bench of the High Court in a writ appeal. The Division Bench, *vide* impugned order dated 20th July, 2026 passed in W.A. (MD) No.982 OF 2026, dismissed the writ appeal. Relevant paragraph 7 of the impugned order, is reproduced as under:

"7. In such circumstances, we are inclined to exercise our jurisdiction to set aside even that portion of the order of the learned Single Judge by which the writ petition was partly allowed, though the said

portion is not the subject matter of the present appeal. Accordingly, the order of the learned Single Judge is set aside, in its entirety, and the writ petition stands dismissed in toto. Consequently, the writ appeal stands dismissed. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed."

7. The net result is that the petitioner was rendered worse off in its own appeal inasmuch as even that portion of the order of the learned Single Judge remanding back to the employer, was set aside. Aggrieved, the petitioner is before us.

8. During the pendency of the writ appeal, on 20th May, 2026 read with 17th July, 2026, a speaking order was passed by the respondent-Corporation upholding the forfeiture and blacklisting.

9. In this scenario, we are of the opinion that the petitioner should be granted liberty to challenge the subsequent orders dated 20th May, 2026 and 17th July, 2026 by way of a fresh writ petition.

10. Mr. Purushottam Sharma Tripathi, learned counsel for the respondent-Corporation submits that the respondent-Corporation will not raise any objection with regard to the petitioner approaching the grievance redressal committee. We place this statement on record.

11. In case any writ petition is filed challenging the

subsequent orders, the same shall be decided on its own merits, uninfluenced by the orders of the High Court or by this order.

12. With the aforesaid observations, the Special Leave Petition stands disposed of.

13. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of.

(SHUBHAM SONI)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(NIKITA SINGH)
COURT MASTER (NSH)