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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

RESERVED ON : 16.11.2026

PRONOUNCED ON : 17.11.2026

Case QR

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE K. SURENDER

WP No. 30524 of 2026

CNR:{HCMA011788802026}

AND

WMP NO. 33525 OF 2026

Dr.Shruti Yeddula

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. Medical Council Of India
   MCI Building, Pocket-14,
   Sector - 8, Dwarka Phase - I,
   New Delhi - 110 077.
2. Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute,
   Rep.by its Registrar,
   Chettinad Health City,
   SH 49A, Kelambakkam,
   Chengalpattu - 603 103.

3. Controller of Examinations,
   Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute,
   Chettinad Health City, SH49A,
   Kelambakkam,
   Chengalpattu - 603 103.

4. The Dean (Medical),
   Chettinad Hospital and Research Institute,
   Chettinad Health City, SH49A,

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Kelambakkam,
Chengalpattu - 603 103.

..Respondent(s)

Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus to direct the Respondents to permit the Petitioner to appear for the Third Year Post Graduate University Examination scheduled to commence on 03.08.2026, by enabling the Petitioner to remit the prescribed University Examination Fee and to download the Hall Ticket through the online examination portal, without reference to the alleged deficiency in attendance or Internal Assessment marks, and consequently permit the Petitioner to write the said examination**.**

For Petitioner(s): M/s.S.Varsha

For Respondent(s): Mr.Shubharanjani Ananth for R1

Mr.T.Balaji for R2 and R3

Mr.M.S.Krishnan Senior Advocate

for Mr.M.Praveen Kumar for R4

ORDER

The Writ Petitioner has approached this Court seeking a direction to the respondents to permit her to appear for the Third-Year Postgraduate University

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Examination, which commenced on 03.08.2026, and further to direct the respondent University to permit her to write the examination without reference to the alleged deficiency in attendance or other eligibility criteria.

2. The facts of the case are that the petitioner completed her M.B.B.S. course at SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Chennai, in the year 2022. Thereafter, the petitioner commenced her M.S. (General Surgery) postgraduate course at the second respondent University in September 2023. Prior to the commencement of her final examination on 03.08.2026, the petitioner found that she was unable to remit the examination fee online and that her hall ticket could not be generated. Upon enquiry, she was informed by the college authorities that she had not met the prescribed minimum attendance requirement.

3. The petitioner made several attempts to convince the respondent University and college authorities that she satisfied the minimum attendance requirement. However, there was no response from the college or the University. Subsequently, the petitioner’s father met the Dean of the Medical College and requested that his daughter be permitted to write the examination. However, the petitioner's father

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was also informed that the petitioner would be permitted to write the examination only upon satisfying the minimum attendance requirement.

4. Aggrieved by the same, the petitioner filed the present Writ Petition seeking the intervention of this Court to permit her to write the examination. This Court, by an interim order dated 31.07.2026, permitted the petitioner to write her examination and directed the respondents to enable her to pay the examination fee and to issue the hall ticket. However, it was made clear that the said interim order was purely an interim arrangement, that no equities or rights would accrue to the petitioner by virtue of the said order, and that the arrangement would be subject to the final outcome of the Writ Petition.

5. The situation now is that the petitioner has written her examination, and the respondent University is withholding her results. The results need to be declared to enable her to apply for and pursue a Super Specialty course. The attendance requirement for postgraduate students undergoing a three-year course is that a student must attend at least 751 working days (i.e., 80%) out of 939 working days to become eligible to appear for the examination. Further, as per the National Medical Commission Post-Graduate Medical Education Regulations, 2023, the period of training shall be extended by the

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same number of days as the number of days of excess leave taken, so as to meet the required attendance.

6. It is the claim of the respondent University that the petitioner was present for on only 707 days up to the cut-off date of 30.06.2026, against the required 751 days. Thus, according to the University, there is a shortfall of 44 days in the attendance required to write the examination.

7. As already stated, this Court permitted the petitioner to write the examination, and she has accordingly done so. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner had regularly attended the hospital and fulfilled all the requirements to be eligible to write the examination. It is contended that the college and the University have falsely stated that the petitioner attended on only 707 days out of the required 751 days. According to the learned counsel, the said assertion is incorrect, as the manual attendance register would demonstrate that she attended on more than the required 751 days. The petitioner also took this Court through the attendance registers wherein her attendance was marked and pointed out several discrepancies between the physical attendance register and the biometric attendance records. The learned counsel

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finally submitted that since the petitioner has already written the examination, this Court may direct the University to publish and release her examination results.

8. On the other hand, the learned counsel for the respondents submitted that a postgraduate medical course is crucial, and the minimum attendance requirement has been prescribed solely to ensure that students undergoing postgraduate training acquire the necessary competence. It is contended that the biometric attendance system is indisputable, as it accurately records when students enter and leave the college.

9. It is further submitted on behalf of the respondents that the petitioner, despite entering the college premises, did not attend classes regularly. When questioned by this Court, the learned counsel appearing for the respondents submitted that the petitioner had attended on only 707 days, which is insufficient for writing the examination. Furthermore, since she wrote the examination purely on the basis of the interim order passed by this Court, her results can be published only when the minimum attendance requirement of 751 days is met. At this juncture, the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted that since the petitioner has already written her examination, any delay in publishing her results would amount to an arbitrary denial of her right to appear

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for the Super Specialty Examination, especially since the last date prescribed for payment of fees for the Super Specialty Examination is 18.11.2026.

10. The National Medical Commission regulates medical education and prescribes the basic requirements that must be fulfilled by a candidate to be eligible to appear for postgraduate examinations. Such regulations are framed with the sole intention of ensuring that a postgraduate medical student is well equipped in her area of study and acquires the requisite expertise, considering that medical professionals deal directly with human lives and patients requiring medical attention.

11. Although the petitioner contended that there are discrepancies in the biometric attendance records, the fact remains that biometric attendance cannot be tampered with. However, this Court pointed out that in the details furnished by the University, the total duration was recorded as 00.00 hours for several days. In response, the learned counsel for the respondents explained that the petitioner had punched in and punched out of the college at the same time, which is why the total hours were reflected as 00.00 hours. Further, the learned counsel fairly submitted that the University had already included the days showing 00.00 hours in the 707 days credited to the petitioner.

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12. In the Writ Petition, the petitioner originally sought permission to write the examination. This Court granted that permission by an interim order, which specifically stated that the petitioner could not insist on the declaration of her results until the Writ Petition was disposed of.

13. Keeping in view the nature of the petitioner's course of study and the minimum attendance requirement prescribed after due consideration by the National Medical Commission, this Court is of the opinion that the ends of justice would be met if the petitioner is required to make up the alleged attendance shortfall of 44 days.

14. At this stage, the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner had attended classes in July 2026 and thereafter and that counting those days would bring her attendance to the required 751 days.

15. The learned counsel appearing for the respondents submitted that, if the petitioner had attended classes after 30.06.2026, those days would be taken into account. The figure of 707 days was calculated up to 30.06.2026. The interim order permitted the petitioner to sit the examination subject to the final outcome of this Writ Petition. In view of the respondents' submission, verification of the training days actually attended

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after 30.06.2026 will establish whether those days make up the shortfall calculated as of that date.

16. In the present circumstances, this Court directs the respondents to take into account the petitioner's attendance after 30.06.2026. If that attendance makes up the shortfall of 44 days, her examination results shall be published forthwith. If the petitioner has yet to make up the full shortfall of 44 days as of the date of this order, her examination results shall be published forthwith upon her completion of the remaining days of required training.

17. With the above direction, this Writ Petition stands disposed of. No costs.

K.SURENDER J.
17-11-2026

Index: Yes/No
Speaking/Non-speaking order
Neutral Citation: Yes/No

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K.SURENDER J.

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To

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Pre-Delivery Order

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