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W.M.P.No.31696 of 2023 in WP.No.15120 of 2019

W.P.No.15120 of 2019
W.M.P.Nos.15112 of 2019 & 31696 of 2023
W.P.No.11049 of 2023
W.M.P.Nos.10931 & 10932 of 2023

N. SATHISH KUMAR, J.
AND
D. BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.

W.M.P.No.31696 of 2023

Today, the third respondent has filed counter affidavit.

2. It is stated that there are no further vertical cuttings is carried out. Mr.R.Srinivas, the learned Senior Counsel would point out that even after the orders of this Court, the vertical cuttings are happening at the behest of the State Highways. He would specifically point out an instance at Ooty-Adhikareddy Road. The learned Special Government Pleader is requested to get instructions with specific reference to that road.

2. That apart, it is submitted by Mr.Rahul Balaji, learned counsel that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India had taken up the root cause for such issue being the day trips exceeding beyond the limit and also tourism activities exceeding the limit. Therefore, a policy decision has to be taken by the State as to the carrying capacity of the load to the hill areas like Ooty and



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other ecological sensitive areas. The learned Special Government Pleader is

also directed to get instructions in this regard.

3. Post on 01.03.2024.

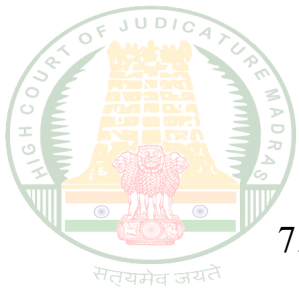
W.P.No.15120 of 2019

The Nilgris District

4. Today, a status report has been filed.

5. We have perused the status report. Steps have been taken to control the entry of PET bottles to the hills has been captured in the status report. It is also stated that as far as the installation of boom barrier at Kallar check-post, necessary proposal has already been sent to the Regional Officer, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Chennai on 02.01.2024. The copy of the letter is also produced before this Court.

6. Therefore, we direct the Regional Officer, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Chennai to take a decision on the proposal submitted by the State and sanction the appropriate funds as expeditiously as possible, preferably, within a period of one month from today.



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7. Post on 04.04.2024.

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Kodaikanal District

8. Today, a status report has been filed. We have perused the status report. The learned Special Government Pleader is directed to place the report on the disposal of the plastic waste collected. Post on 27.03.2024.

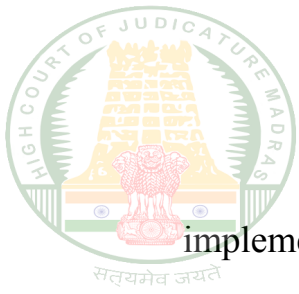
Meghamalai in Theni District

9. Today, a status report has been filed. We have perused the status report. The learned Special Government Pleader is directed to place the report on the disposal of the plastic waste collected. Post on 27.03.2024.

Buy-Back Scheme

10. Regarding the implementation of the buy-back scheme, a status report is filed by the fifth respondent.

11. The particulars of the bottles so far collected and the amount of money disbursed through the buy-back scheme in respect of 12 districts, in which, the scheme has already been implemented, is furnished. It is also stated that from the month of January 2024, the buy-back scheme is being



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implemented in the districts of Kaniyakumari, Theni, Dharmapuri,

Thiruvannamalai and Nagapattinam District. It is also further stated that 5th

respondent is planning to implement the buy-back scheme in seven other districts from 01.05.2024 which are the districts of Cuddalore, Ariyalur, Pudukottai, Sivagangai, Ramnad, Karur and Arokkanam. It is also stated that towards the non-reimbursed amount, so far, a sum of Rs.9 crore 75 lakhs has accumulated. The status report is recorded. The learned standing counsel is also directed to file further status report regarding further implementation and also the implementation of our direction in the connected writ petition in W.P.Nos.30426, 30430 and 30410 of 2023 relating to the tender of the bars, such as implementation of bar code, improvement of the accounting system etc.,

12. The learned Special Government Pleader is instructed to get particulars from the Municipalities and other garbage collection centres in respect of the districts in which already the buy back scheme is implemented as to the quantum of the bottles which are being received and segregated at the solid waste disposal and management centres, either from the municipalities or from the contractors concerned.



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(N.S.K.,J.) (D.B.C.,J.)
28.02.2024

kmk/dhk

Copy to:

The Regional Officer
Office of Superintending Engineer
Regional Office
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
C-1-A, Rajaji Bhavan, Besant Nagar
Chennai – 600 090



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28.02.2024