



WEB COPY

W.P.No.15120 of 2019
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 24.04.2026

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR
AND
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY

[Through Video Conferencing]

W.P.No.15120 of 2019
and
W.M.P.Nos.15112 of 2019 and 8422 of 2024

W.P.No.15120 of 2019

G.Subramania Koushik

... Petitioner (s)

Vs.

1. The Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,
Environment and Forest Department,
Secretariat,
Fort St. George,
Chennai - 600 009 and 31 others

... Respondent(s)

W.M.P.No.15112 of 2019

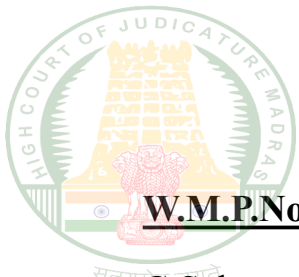
G.Subramania Koushik

... Petitioner (s)

Vs

1.The Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,
Environment and Forest Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai 600 009 and 30 others

... Respondent(s)



W.P.No.15120 of 2019

W.M.P.No.8422 of 2024

G.Subramania Koushik

... Petitioner (s)

WEB COPY

Vs

1.The Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,
Environment and Forest Department,
Secretariat, Fort St.George,
Chennai 600 009 and 15 others

... Respondent(s)

For Petitioner :

Mr.T.V.Suresh Kumar
M/s. Genicon & Associates;
Mr.R.Krishnaswamy in W.M.P.No.2806 of 2026

For Respondent(s):

Mr.P.S.Raman
Advocate General
Assisted by Dr.T.Seenivasan,
Special Government Pleader (Forests),
for RR1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 30
Mrs.A.Sri Jeyanthi for R4
Mr.R.Srinivas,
Senior Counsel for Mr.K.Madhan for R12
Mr.V.Chandrasekaran, Senior Panel Counsel
for RR15, 28, 29, 32
Mr.B.N.Suchindran,
Standing Counsel for TNPCB for R16
Mr.Madhan Babu for R17
Mr.R.S.Diwaagar, M/s.Vivrti Law for R18 and R20
Mr.G.Kalyan Jhabakh
For M/s.Surana and Surana for R19
Mr.G.Prabhu for R21
Mr.R.Sathish Kumar for R22
Ms.Vanitha Bharghava for R23
Mr.Thriyambak J. Kannan for R24
Mr.Vinod Kumar for M/s.J.Sagav Associates for R25



WEB COPY



W.P.No.15120 of 2019

Mr.Arun C.Mohan for R26

Mr.S.Arunkumar for R27

R31 - Mr.S.Muralidharan (P-I-P)

Mr.P.T.Ramkumar, Standing Counsel for Railways

Amicus Curiae

1. Mr.C.Mohan, Advocate
2. Mr.T.Mohan, Senior Advocate
3. Mr.M.Santhanaraman, Advocate
4. Mr.Rahul Balaji, Advocate

ORDER

(A)E-Pass:

With reference to the directions issued regarding carrying capacity and the e-pass system, it is submitted that as far as the traffic in the Kallatti Road is concerned, orders have been issued by the District Collector, implementing the order of this Court, by an order dated 21.04.2026, thereby except the local vehicles, all tourist vehicles entering via Kallatti Road are stopped and they will be guided to the other routes and adequate signage and public awareness measure will be undertaken. The same is recorded

2. As far as the software synchronization is concerned, it is submitted that the Collector has also sent a reminder dated 21.04.2026 to the Chief Executive Officer, Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency and the issue has been followed up and



W.P.No.15120 of 2019

in any event on or before 01.05.2026, the said software calibration will be made and e-pass will be strictly implemented.

WEB COPY

3. With reference to synchronization with the ANPR camera, it is submitted that private vendors have been apprised of the urgency of the matter, and the work is currently underway. The same is expected to be completed on or before 01.05.2026.

(B) Traffic Arrangements in Valparai:

4. With reference to Valparai, the written instructions submitted to the Government Pleader on behalf of the District Collector is produced, wherein it is stated that the upper cap ordered by this Court has been duly implemented. A detailed analysis of the number of vehicles entering Valparai is being undertaken, and the relevant data is available for review. It is further stated that, on all days, the number of vehicles entering is maintained below the upper limit permitted by this Court. The same is recorded.

5. With reference to the introduction of manual approval, once we have implemented as e-pass, it is again stated that manual approval is also being granted to the visitors. The same will run counter to the very system. Generating
Page 4 of 8



W.P.No.15120 of 2019

e-pass near the entry point is different and granting of manual permission is different. No manual permission shall be granted. Entry shall only be on e-pass.

WEB COPY

6. The learned Special Government Pleader is directed to obtain instructions, and if any software upgradation is required, the same shall be carried out in the meanwhile and reported to this Court

7. In view of the above, call this matter on **30.04.2026**.

[N.S.K., J.]

[D.B.C., J.]

24.04.2026

vsm
To

1. The Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,
Environment and Forest Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai - 600 009.
2. The District Collector,
The Nilgiris District,
Collectorate, Ooty – 643 001.
3. The Commissioner,
Udhagamandalam Municipality,
Ooty,
The Nilgiris District.
4. The Commissioner,
Coonoor Municipality,
Coonoor, The Nilgiris District.

Page 5 of 8



W.P.No.15120 of 2019

5. The Commissioner,
Gudalur Municipality,
Gudalur,
The Nilgiris District.

6. The Commissioner,
Kotagiri Town Panchayath,
Kotagiri,
The Nilgiris District.

7. The Field Director,
Mudumalai Tiger Reserve,
Mount Stuart Hill,
Ooty, The Nilgiris.

8. The District Forest Officer
The Nilgiris District,
Mount Stuart Hill,
Ooty – 643 001.

9. The Commissioner,
Kodaikanal Municipality,
Kodaikanal,
Dindigul District.

10. The Principal Secretary to Government,
Transports Department,
Secretariat,
Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009.

11. The Transport Commissioner,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Commissionerate of Transport and Road Safety,
Ezhilagam, PWD Estate,
Chepauk, Triplicane, Chennai – 600 005.

12. The Principal Secretary,
Department of Municipal Administration,
Urban and Water Supply, Government of Tamil Nadu,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009.



W.P.No.15120 of 2019

13. The Additional Chief Secretary,
Department of Tourism,
Culture and Religious Endowments Department,
Government of Tamil Nadu, Secretariat,
Fort St. George, Chennai – 600 009.
14. The Secretary to the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways,
Transport Bhawan, No.1, Parliament Street, New Delhi – 110 001.
15. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai – 600 032.
16. The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers
Federation Limited, (AAVIN),
AAVIN ILLAM, TCMPF Ltd.,
3A, Pasumpon Muthuramalingar Salai,
Nandanam, Chennai – 600 035.
17. The Secretary to Government,
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare,
Government of India, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi – 110 003.
18. The Secretary to Government,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Government of India,
Indira Paryavaran
Bhawan, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi – 110 003.
19. The Secretary to Government,
Health and Family Welfare Department,
Government of Tamil Nadu, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009.
20. The Chairperson,
Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
3rd and 4th Floor, FDA Bhawan,
Kotla Road near Bal Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110 002.



WEB COPY



W.P.No.15120 of 2019
N.SATHISH KUMAR. J.

AND

D. BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY. J.

vsm

W.P.No.15120 of 2019

24.04.2026