



W.P.No.15120 of 2019

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 21.08.2026

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CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE N. SATHISH KUMAR

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE K. RAJASEKAR

W.P.No.15120 of 2019

and

W.M.P.No.14765 of 2025, W.M.P.No.16969 of 2025,

W.M.P.No.37106 of 2025, W.P.No.34642 of 2024,

W.P.No.1897 of 2026

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 33 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.14765 of 2025

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 15 others

... Respondent(s)

W.M.P.No.16969 of 2025

The Tamil Nadu Hotel Association
Represented by its Secretary Mr.R.Srinivasan,
4th Floor, Montieth Mansion, 27 Montieth Road,
Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.

... Petitioner (s)

Vs

1.G.Subramania Koushik and 15 others

... Respondent(s)

W.M.P.No.37106 of 2025

M/s.Nilgiri Homestay and Bed and Breakfast Association,
Represented by its Secretary Mr.Mugunthan Ganapathy,
Mayston, 124 Grays Hills, Coonoor,
The Nilgiris – 643 101.

... Petitioner (s)

Vs

1.G.Subramania Koushik and 16 others

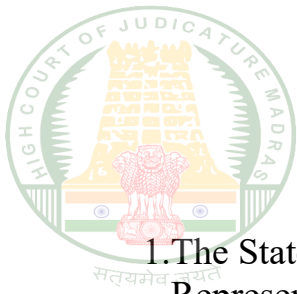
... Respondent(s)

W.P.No.34642 of 2024

S.Ramji

... Petitioner (s)

Vs



W.P.No.15120 of 2019

1.The State of Tamil Nadu,
Represented by the Secretary, Tourism, Culture and
Religious Endowments Department,
Tamil Nadu Tourism Complex,
No.2, Wallajah Road, Triplicane,
Chennai – 600 002 and 2 others

... Respondent(s)

W.P.No.1897 of 2026

Amitha Suryakanth

... Petitioner (s)

Vs

1.The Commissioner,
Coonoor Municipality, 10 Mount Road,
The Nilgiris District – 643 102 and another

... Respondent(s)

W.P.No.15120 of 2019

For Petitioner : Mr.T.V.Suresh Kumar
M/s. Genicon & Associates

For Respondent(s): Mr.K.Surendar,
Special Government Pleader
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



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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
Mr.Arun C.Mohan for R26
Mr.S.Arunkumar for R27
R31 - Mr.S.Muralidharan (P-I-P)
Mr.Arun Karthik Mohan for R33
Mr.V.Ramesh
for Mr.R.Ashwanth for R34
Mr.K.Sathishkumar,
Standing Counsel for TASMACH
Mr.P.T.Ramkumar, Standing Counsel for Railways

W.P.No.34642 of 2024

For Petitioner : Mr.N.L.Rajah
Senior Counsel
for M/s.R.Meenal
For Respondent(s): Mr.K.Surendar,
Special Government Pleader
for RR1 to 3

W.P.No.1897 of 2026

For Petitioner : M/s.Ramapriya Gopalakrishnan
For Respondent(s): Mr.K.Surendar,
Special Government Pleader
for RR1 and 2



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Amici Curiae

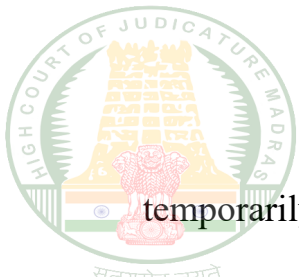
1. Mr.C.Mohan, Advocate
2. Mr.T.Mohan, Senior Advocate
3. Mr.M.Santhanaraman, Advocate
4. Mr.Rahul Balaji, Advocate

ORDER

Bed and Breakfast & Homestays :

Today, a status report has been filed with regard to the illegal cottages, homestays, hotels, resorts and Bed & Breakfast establishments, as on 18.08.2026.

2.The status report filed in this regard in February 2026 clearly indicated that there were 920 establishments which were found to be in violation of the requirements. The status report filed today, however, shows that there are now a total of 943 establishments, comprising cottages, resorts, homestays and Bed & Breakfast units, which have been identified across all the local bodies in the District and notices have been issued to all such establishments. In the current enforcement drive, 79 establishments have been locked and sealed under the monitoring of the District Level Committee. Further, 64 establishments have commercial approval, 58 are heritage buildings and 449 establishments have applied under the Bed & Breakfast Scheme through the NIDHI portal, 44 establishments have obtained Classification Certificates, 62 establishments have

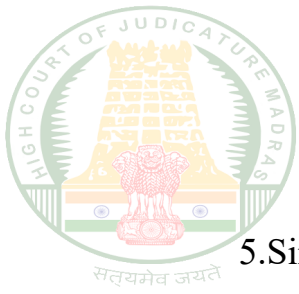


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temporarily closed their operations and 32 establishments have preferred appeals against the notices. Action is being taken against the remaining 155 establishments. It is further stated that this strict enforcement posture will continue, with all local bodies being firmly instructed to maintain vigilance, submit reconciled data and ensure that no further violations occur.

3.Though the authorities have identified the establishments and cottages running in violation and have furnished their details in Para No.5 of the status report filed today, we are of the view that the authorities are required to identify, among the cottages and other establishments, how many have valid building licences or building permissions. If any such building has been constructed or is being operated without a valid building licence or permission, all such buildings shall be sealed forthwith.

4.Similarly, the authorities shall also identify the nature of the planning permission obtained by each establishment and ascertain whether any application for conversion has been filed and if so, whether such conversion has been granted. If it is found that any building has been converted or is being used for a purpose other than that for which permission was granted, without obtaining the requisite conversion permission, appropriate action shall be taken against such building in accordance with the applicable Rules, forthwith.



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5. Similarly, as far as the Bed & Breakfast establishments are concerned, the authorities have stated that 449 establishments have applied under the Bed & Breakfast Scheme through the NIDHI portal and only 44 establishments have obtained Classification Certificates. In such circumstances, the authorities shall identify the number of applications received, processed and considered and ascertain their present status. If the applications have been properly filed as per the Government Order issued in this regard and are found to be in order, the authorities shall constitute an Inspection Committee and conduct an inspection of the concerned establishment and if the establishments satisfy all the requisite conditions, there is no impediment for the authorities to consider and process the applications and dispose of the same in accordance with law, without any further delay. At the same time, if the applications are not in order and if it is found that the concerned persons are continuing to run their businesses without obtaining the requisite classification, renewal or permission, it is for the respondents to immediately take steps to close such establishments from operating as Bed & Breakfast units, forthwith.

6. The aforesaid exercise shall be completed within a period of two weeks and a status report in this regard shall be filed on the next date of hearing.

7. Call on 11.09.2026.



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8.Mr.K.Surendar, learned Special Government Pleader, takes notice for the respondents 1 and 2. For filing a status report in the matter, call on 18.09.2026.

(N.S.K., J.) (K.R.S., J.)
21.08.2026

mkn

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

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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.



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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. Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Represented by its Chairman,
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.



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N. SATHISH KUMAR. J.

AND

K. RAJASEKAR. J.

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21.08.2026