



WEB COPY

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS**

DATED : 25..07..2025

CORAM :

**THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR  
AND  
THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY**

W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2022  
and  
W.M.P.Nos.13292, 13294, 36994 & 37000 of 2024  
and  
W.M.P.Nos.35572, 42082, 42113 to 42116 of 2024  
in W.P.No.27356 of 2019  
and W.M.P.No.30612 of 2025 in W.P.No.28266 of 2022  
in Rev.Aplw.(SR) No.68395 of 2025

**W.P.No.27356 of 2019 :-**

MR. S.MURALIDHARAN,  
S/o.Mr.P.Sivalingam,  
2A, 3rd Main Road, Kottur Gardens,  
Chennai-600 085.

.....Petitioner

Versus

1.THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND  
CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN,  
Department Of Forests,  
Govt. Of Tamil Nadu,  
No.1 Jeenis Road, Panagal Buildings,



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Saidapet, Chennai-600 015

2.STATE OF TAMIL NADU

Rep. By Its Chief Secretary,  
Fort St.George, Chennai- 600 009.

(R2 DELETED VIDE ORDER DT 09/06/2021 MADE IN WMP.4685/2021 IN  
WP.27356/2019 BY CJ & SKRJ)

3.DISTRICT COLLECTOR,  
Coimbatore District,  
Gopalpuram, Coimbatore-6410108

4.PRINCIPAL SECRETARY / CHAIRMAN  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy,  
Chennai- 600 032

5.THE COMMISSIONER,  
Department Of Geology And Mining Thiru.Vi.Ka.Industrial Estate, Alandur  
Road, Guindy, Chennai-600 002

6.GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,  
Ministry Of Environment,  
Forest And Climate Change,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,  
Jorbagh Road, New Delhi-110 003

7.SURYAKUMAR.K,  
S/o. Krishnan,  
No. 4/15 Perumal Kovil Street,  
Otteri, Vandalur, Chennai - 600048.

(R7 IMPEADED VIDE ORDER DT 16.09.2022 MADE IN  
WMP.23968/2022 IN WP.27356/2019 BY NSKJ, DBCJ)



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8.THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (COIMBATORE NORTH),  
Tamilnadu Generation And Distribution Limited (TANGEDCO), Tatabad,  
Coimbatore.  
(R8 SUO MOTU IMPEADED VIDE ORDER DT 19.01.2023 MADE IN  
WP.27356/2019 BY NSKJ & DBCJ)

9.P.SUBRAMANIAN,  
S/o. R.N.Palanisamy,  
4/502, Ramanathapuram,  
Chinnathadagam Post,  
Coimbatore-641108.

10.R.SUBBULAKSHMI,  
W/o. Ramalingam,  
4/24, Kalappanaickenpalyaam,  
Somayampalayam Post,  
Coimbatore-641108.

11.N.K.CHANDRAMOHAN,  
S/o.N.C.Kandasamy,  
6/242, 22, Nanjundapuram,  
Chinnathadagam Post,  
Coimbatore-641108.

12.M.RAVI,  
S/o.L.Maruthappan,  
6/11-22, Nanjundapuram,  
Chinnathadagam Post,  
Coimbatore-641 108.

13.S.CHANDRAPRABHA,  
W/o.T.V.Selvaraj,  
3/220, Anaikatti Main Road,  
Thaneerpandal Sri Balaji Garden,  
Chinnathadagam,



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Coimbatore-641 108.

14.C.N.MUTHUKUMAR,  
S/o. U.Nanjundagowder,  
2/402-A, 24, Veerapamndipudhur Road,  
Chinnathadagam Post,  
Coimbatore-641 108.

15.R.RAJAMANI,  
S/o.Rangasamy,  
1/18, Palanigowder Colony,  
N.G.G.O Colony,  
Coimbatore-641 022.

(R9 TO R15 IMPEADED VIDE ORDER DT 01.12.2023 MADE IN  
WMP.9090/2021 IN WP.27356/2019 BY NSKJ, DBCJ)

16.C.ARUNKUMAR,  
S/o.Chandrasekaran,  
No.43, Mosuvanna Street,  
Erode 638001.

17.V. SAMPATHKUMAR,  
S/o Velumani,  
6, Anbal Nagar,  
MKP Colony, Ganapathy Post,  
Coimbatore North-641006.

18.D. RAMYA,  
W/o. Divakar,  
29/4, Sri Suryodaya Apartment,  
Sriram Nagar,  
Chollampudur Main Road.



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19.K. DEVIKA,  
W/o M. Karunakaran,  
2/5, Ramasamy Pillai Street,  
Vadavalli Post,  
Coimbatore 641041.

20.M. SURESH KUMAR,  
S/o Mayilsamy,  
3/214, Anaikatty Main Road,  
Thagadampudhur,  
Chinnathadagam,  
Coimbatore-641108.

21.R. SUBRAMANIAM,  
S/o Ramukutty,  
4/1, KRS Kalvai, Kallapanaickanpalayam,  
Somaiyampalayam,  
Coimbatore, Coimbatore South- 641039.

22.S. PARASURAMAN,  
S/o Somappan,  
1/247, Main Road,  
Chinnathadagam,  
Coimbatore 641108.

23.T. VELLINGIRI,  
S/o. Thirumoorthi,  
1/1H, Anna Street,  
Vadavalli,  
Coimbatore 641041.

24.S. ARIVUCHELVAN,  
S/o. S. Sivalingam,  
S.F.No.539/1, Periya Thadagam Rroad,  
Chinna Thadagam Post,



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Cimbatore- 641108.

25.E. KRISHNA VENI,  
W/o ErrattaiMuthu,  
2/398, KanthappaGonderaThottam,  
Chinnathadagam, Coimbatore 641108.

26.D. KANAGARAJ,  
S/o. Dasappagowdar,  
2/100, Mariyammankovil Street,  
Chinnathadagam, Coimbatore 641108 .

27.P. SENTHIL,  
S/o. Periyabalan,  
8/25, Seigulli, Tholampalayam,  
Gopani R.F., Coimbatore 641113.

28.R. PALANISAMY,  
S/o, Rangasamy,  
4/85 North Street,  
Thadagam, Coimbatore 641108.

29.P. KUMAR,  
S/o.Palanisamy,  
2/38, MariammaKoil Street,  
Chinnathadagam, Coimbatore 641108.

30.S. SARAVANAKUMAR,  
S/o. Subbramaniyan,  
2/117, MariyammanKoil Street,  
Chinnathadagam, Coimbatore- 641108.

31.K.S. RAJKUMAR,  
S/o Selvaraj,  
8/22, R.S. Nagar,



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Kavundampalayam,  
Coimbatore North-641030.

32.M. MADHANKUMAR,  
S/o. Marudhappan,  
2/39, MariyammanKoil Street,  
Chinnathadam,  
Coimbatore-641108.

33.R. KRISHNASWAMY,  
S/o. Raja Chettiyar,  
Work Shop Stop,  
AneriKutty Main Road,  
ChinnaThadagam,  
Coimbatore 641108.

34.S. KARTHIK  
S/o. Rajappan,  
3/81, 24 Veerapandipudur,  
24, Veerapandi Post,  
Veerapandi,  
Veerapandithadagam,  
Coimbatore 641108.

35.G. KRISHNAMOORTHY,  
S/o. Gopalan,  
159/8, Thadagam Road,  
Edaiyarpalayam,  
Coimbatore North,  
Coimbatore-641025.

36.D. SARAVANAKUMAR,  
S/o. Duraisamy,  
6/129, Dhaliyur,  
Pannimadai,



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Coimbatore-641017.

37.P. RAMASUPPU,  
S/o Pothiraj,  
No.5/381/V1, Vivekanandhar Street,  
Kanuvai, Somaiyampalayam,  
Coimbatore-641108.

38.K.R. RAMAKRISHNAN,  
S/o. Ramasamy,  
4/4B, Murugan Nagar,  
Coimbatore North,  
Kavundampalayam,  
Coimbatore- 641030.

39.V. KAMPALIYAPPAN  
S/o. Venkatraman,  
3/220-G, Balaji Garden Thaneer Panthal,  
Chinnathadagam,  
Coimbatore North,  
Coimbatore-641108.

40. A. SELVARAJ,  
S/o. Ayyasamy,  
15/32A, Kondanurpudhur,  
24VeerapandiAnaikatty North,  
Coimbatore-641108.

41.M. PONNUSAMY,  
S/o. MarappaGounder,  
4/244, North Street,  
Chinnathadagam,  
Coimbatore- 641108.



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42.R. KRISHNASWAMY,  
S/o. Ramanna Udayar,  
New No.42, Shiva Nagar,  
Opp. TVS Nagar,  
Edaiyarpalayam,  
Coimbatore-641025.

43. R. THANGARAJ,  
S/o Rangasamy,  
No.2/468-9, Thiruvalluvar Nagar,  
Somaiyanur,  
Nanjundapuram-thadagam,  
Coimbatore-641108.

44.C. VIJAYAKUMAR,  
C/o. Chinnasamy,  
95, Kumaran Avenue,  
NGGO Colony, MTP Road,  
Coimbatore North-641017.

45.G. KANNAPIRAN,  
S/o Gopal,  
1593C, Thadagam Road,  
Vellandipalayam,  
Coimbatore North-641025.

(R16 TO R45 IMPEADED VIDE ORDER DT 01.12.2023 MADE IN  
WMP.10794/2021 IN WP.27356/2019 BY NSKJ, DBCJ)

46.N.PALANISWAMY,  
S/o. R.Narayanaswamy,  
No. 2/1A, Vinayagar Koil Veedhi,  
Chinnathadagam,



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Coimbatore-641108.

47.T.N.VELUSWAMY,  
S/o. R.Narayanaswamy,  
No. 2/1, Vinayagar Koil Veedhi,  
Chinnathadagam,  
Coimbatore-641108.

48.SOUNDARAVADIVU,  
W/o. S.Anandan,  
4/17, North Street,  
Chinnathadagam,  
Coimbatore -641108.

49.R.KARTHIK,  
S/o. R. Rajappan,  
3/81, 24 Veerapandi Pudhur,  
Chinnathadagam,  
Coimbatore -641108.

(R46 TO R49 IMPEADED VIDE ORDER DT 01.12.2023 MADE IN  
WMP.30994/2022 IN WP.27356/2019 BY NSKJ, DBCJ)

50.M/S. SPS TERRA BRICKS (SPS BRICKS),  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR, T.ANANDHI,  
S.F. NO. 253/2B, MADHAMPATTI VILLAGE,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 010.

51.M/S. KRS KALAVAI (KRS BRICKS),  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR , M.LAKSHMI,  
S.F. NO. 29/1B3, KUPAIPALAYAM,  
THONDAMUTHUR,  
PERUR TALUK,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 109.



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52.M/S. SPB BRICKS,  
S.F. NO.692/1C, 693/1,  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR,  
P.BOOPATHY, VANDIKKARANUR,  
THONDAMUTHUR,  
PERUR TALUK,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 109.

53.M/S. VMS BRICKS,  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR, M.SIVAKUMAR,  
SF. NO. 655 & 653/6B, VADIVELAMPALAYAM,  
POOLUVAPATTI PANCHAYAT,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 101.

54.M/S VMV BRICKS,  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR, V.M.VELUCHAMY,  
S.F. NO. 605/1, VADIVELAMPALAYAM,  
POOLUVAPATTI PANCHAYAT,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 101.

55.M/S. VG BRICKS  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR, L.KARTHI,  
S.F. NO. 706/1D, VADIVELAMPALAYAM,  
POOLUVAPATTI PANCHAYAT,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 101.

56.M/S. MPS BRICKS,  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR,  
P.SELVARAJ,  
S.F. NO. 711, 713,  
VADIVELAMPALAYAM,  
POOLUVAPATTI PANCHAYAT,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 101.



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57.M/S. SUN BRICKS,  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR, S.C.VENKATASAMY,  
S.F. NO. 849/2 , VADIVELAMPALAYAM,  
ALANTHURAI VILLAGE,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 101.

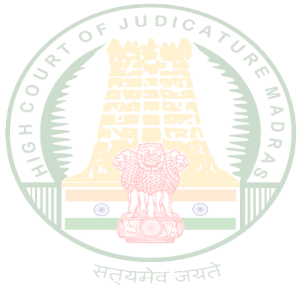
58.M/S. VKM BRICKS,  
S.F. NO. 604/1, REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR, SANKAR GANESH,  
VADIVELAMPALAYAM,  
POOLUVAPATTI PANCHAYAT,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 101.

59.M/S. SVT BRICKS  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR, M.RATHINASAMY,  
S.F NO. 44/2 , KUPAIPALAYAM,  
THONDAMUTHUR,  
PERUR TALUK,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 109

60.M/S. KSR BRICKSR BRICKS NATTTUSENGALSOOLAI (KSR  
BRICKS),  
REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR , K.T.RAMASAMY,  
S.F. NO. 390/1 & 390/2, THENKARAI,  
PERUR TALUK,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 109

61.M/S. BST BRICKS,  
SF NO. 468/1E, REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR ,  
T.ARUMUGAM,  
MOLAPALAYAM,  
POOLUVAPATTI PANCHAYAT,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT.

62.M/S. TATA BRICKS ,  
S.F. NO. 185/1C1, REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR ,



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M.RANGASAMY, VANDIKKARANUR,  
THONDAMUTHUR, PERUR TALUK,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 109.

63.M/S. AVB BRICKS,  
S.F.NO.650/2, REP. BY ITS PROPRIETOR, NAGARAJ,  
VADIVELAMPALAYAM,  
POCLUVAPATTI PANCHAYAT,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT 641 101.

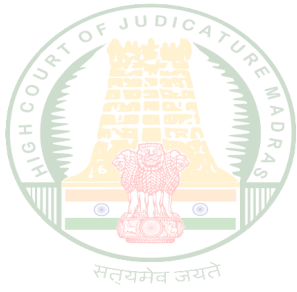
(R50 TO R63 IMPEADED VIDE ORDER DT 01.12.2023 MADE IN  
WMP.25158/2023 IN WP.27356/2019 BY NSKJ, DBCJ)

64.M/S.K.S.S. BRICKS,  
Rep By Its Proprietor Mr.Ganesh,  
S.F. NO. 450/1A, Karamadai,  
Perur Taluk, Coimbatore District- 641 101.

(R64 IMPEADED VIDE ORDER DT 01.12.2023 MADE IN  
WMP.26838/2023 IN WP.27356/2019 BY NSKJ, DBCJ)

65.V.LOGANATHAN,  
S/O.VEERACHAMY,  
4/356, NALLURVAYALPATHY TRIBAL VILLAGE,  
NALLUR VAYAL POST,  
MATHUVARAYAPURAM,  
COIMBATORE 641 114.

66.M.SIVA,  
S/O.LATE V.MANI,  
NO.168, KARUPPARAYAN KOVIL STREET,  
PULIYAKULAM,  
COIMBATORE 641 045.



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(R65 AND R66 ARE IMPEADED AS PER ORDER DATED 20.09.2024 IN WMP.30346/2024 IN WP.27356/2019 BY NSKJ AND DBCJ)

67.MATA AMRITANANDAMAYI MATH,  
S.F.NOS.360 & 371, ETC.,  
ETTIMADAI VILLAGE,  
MADHUKKARAI TALUK,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT.

68.MR.P.VIJAYKUMAR,  
AGRO-FORESTRY, MUSHROOM CULTIVATION,  
VERMICOMPOST & APICULTURE,  
S.F.NO.3/1, ETTIMADAI VILLAGE,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT.

[RR67 AND 68 impleaded suo motu as per order of this court dated 27.06.2025 made in W.P.No.27356 of 2019]

..... Respondents

**W.P.No.28266 Of 2022 :-**

DR.R.KARPAGAM  
W/O. S. RAMALINGAM,  
80/44, ANSARI STREET,  
RAMNAGAR,COIMBATORE.

.... Petitioner

**Versus**

1.ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,  
Department Of Geology And Mining,  
Coimbatore District,  
Coimbatore,  
Coimbatore - 641018.



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2. DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Coimbatore North,  
No. 5, Ramasamy Nagar,  
Kavundampalayam,  
Coimbatore-641030.

3. DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Coimbatore South,  
Plot No. E55A, SIDCO Industrial Estate Kurichi,  
Pollachi Main Road,  
Coimbatore-641021.

4. DISTRICT COLLECTOR,  
Coimbatore District,  
Gopalapuram,  
Coimbatore - 6410108.

.... Respondents

**Prayer in W.P.No.27356 of 2019 :-** Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, pleaded to issue a Writ of Mandamus directing the 1st respondent to secure the 16 elephant corridors in the state of Tamil Nadu with the support of the other respondents.

(Prayer amended vide order, dated 16.09.2022 made in W.M.P.No.23966 of 2022 in W.P.No.27356 of 2019)

**Prayer in W.P.No.28266 of 2022 :-** Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, pleaded to issue a Writ of Mandamus directing all the

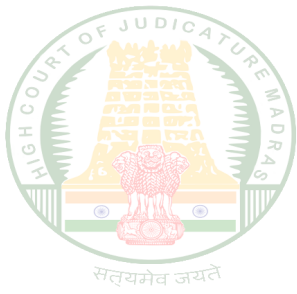


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respondents herein to shut down the illegal brick kilns operating in Coimbatore District.

**IN W.P.No.27356 of 2019**

- For Petitioner : Mr.S.Muralidharan,  
Party-in-person
- For Respondents : Mr.J.Ravindran, Additional Advocate General  
Assisted by Dr.T.Seenivasan,  
Special Government Pleader (Forest),  
for R1, 3 to 5
- : R2 deleted vide order, dated 09.01.2021  
made in W.M.P.No.4685 of 2021 in  
W.P.No.27356 of 2019
- : Mr.B.N.Suchindran,  
Standing Counsel for R4
- : Mr.V.Chandrasekaran, Senior Panel Counsel,  
for R6
- : Mr.S.P.Chockalingam, for R7
- : Mr.L. Jaivenkatesh, Standing Counsel for R8
- : Mr. Richardson Wilson, for R 9 to 11, 16 to  
45
- : RR - 12 to 15 - No Appearance
- : Mr.N.Muralikumaran, Senior Counsel,  
for M/s.MCGAN Law Firm, for R 46 to 49



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W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2022  
& connected Writ Petitions



: Mr.L.Palanimuthu, for RR - 50 to 64

: Mr.M.Purushothaman, for R 65 and 66

: Mr.Ramaswamy Meyyappan

**In W.P.No.28266 of 2022:**

For Petitioner : Mr.S.P.Chockalingam

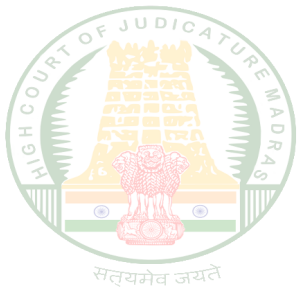
For Respondents : Mr.J.Ravindran,  
Additional Advocate General,  
Assisted by Dr.T.Seenivasan,  
Special Government Pleader for RR1 & 4

: Mr.B.N.Suchindran,  
Standing Counsel for RR2 & 3

**In W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 & W.P.No.28266 of 2022:** : Mr.K.M.D.Muhilan,  
Additional Public Prosecutor for the Special  
Investigation Team (SIT)

**Amici Curiae in both Writ Petitions**

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



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W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2022  
& connected W.P.Nos.



## **COMMON ORDER**

This court heard both sides.

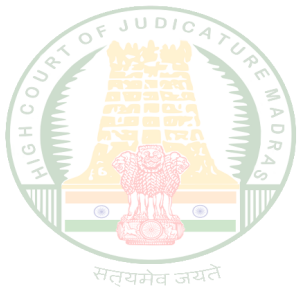
### **(A) INVESTIGATION BY SPECIAL INVESTIGATION TEAM**

(W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2022)

2.1 Pursuant to the directions issued by this Court on 10.01.2025, 27.02.2025, and 27.06.2025, a status report dated 24.07.2025 has been filed today by the District Collector, Coimbatore.

2.2 With respect to the imposition of penalty, it is stated that out of a total of 270 cases, orders have been passed in 134 cases. Enquiry is currently being conducted by the Revenue Divisional Officer to pass appropriate orders in the remaining 136 cases. Among the 134 cases in which orders have been passed, it is reported that in two cases, penalties have been imposed and collected, and a sum of Rs. 8,66,424/- has been remitted to the Government Account.

2.3 It is further stated that in 74 cases, appeals have been filed and are pending at various stages, including the conduct of personal hearings and calling for records. Out of the remaining 60 cases, proceedings under the



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Revenue Recovery Act, 1890 have already been initiated in 10 cases.

2.4 It is furthermore stated that in respect of the balance 50 cases, proceedings under the Revenue Recovery Act, 1890 will be initiated upon the expiry of the appeal period. The said statement is recorded. It is directed that the concerned authorities, including the concerned staff handling files related to the proceedings under the Revenue Recovery Act, 1890, shall be appropriately sensitized to issue the correct forms, particularly the demand notice, in accordance with the prescribed procedure. Any procedural lapses, even at the stage of initiating proceedings under the Revenue Recovery Act, 1890, will be viewed seriously by this Court.

2.5 In respect of the action being taken against erring officials, it is stated that the Director of Geology and Mining, vide letter Rc.No.11476/MM1/2024 dated 24.07.2025, has informed that a preliminary enquiry was conducted by the Inquiry Officer/Regional Joint Director, Salem. Based on the enquiry, prima facie misconduct has been established against two officers, and charges have been framed against them under Rule 17(b) of the Tamil Nadu Civil Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1955.



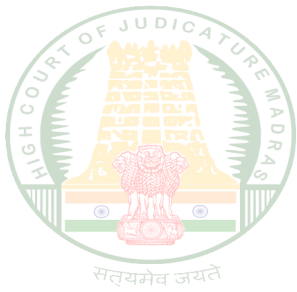
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2.6 Further, it is reported that 16 Tahsildars, 9 Deputy Tahsildars, 16 Revenue Inspectors, and 19 Village Administrative Officers (14 from Perur Taluk and 5 from Coimbatore North Taluk), who served in the subject areas of Perur and Coimbatore North Taluks during the period 2021 to 2024, have been transferred to other Taluks.

2.7 Additionally, with regard to the lapse in taking timely action on the letter from the District Forest Officer, it is stated that charges have been framed under Rule 17(b) of the Tamil Nadu Civil Services (Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1955, against one Tahsildar of Perur Taluk by the District Collector. In the case of other officials, show cause notices have been issued under Rule 17(a) of the said Rules for dereliction of duty, and upon receipt of their explanations, further disciplinary action will be considered.

2.8 It is further stated that upon submission of the final report of the Special Investigating Team (SIT), constituted pursuant to the orders of this Court, if any other persons are found to be complicit or involved, appropriate action will be initiated against them as well.

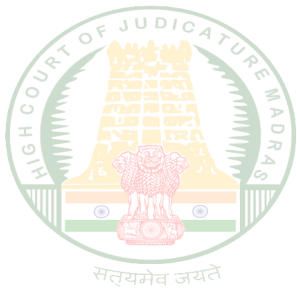
2.9 Similarly, with regard to police personnel, the Deputy Inspector



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General of Police, Coimbatore Range, in his status report filed before this Court, has stated that a preliminary inquiry was conducted through the Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore District. During the said enquiry, it was prima facie found that there were significant lapses on the part of certain Investigating Officers in handling the aforementioned cases. Consequently, departmental disciplinary proceedings under Rule 3(b) of the Tamil Nadu Police Subordinate Service (Disciplinary and Appeal) Rules, 1955, have been initiated against four Investigating Officers for dereliction of duty and procedural lapses during the course of investigation.

2.10 It is further stated that disciplinary proceedings under Rule 3(a) of the Tamil Nadu Police Subordinate Service (Disciplinary and Appeal) Rules, 1955, have been initiated against 18 Special Branch police personnel who failed in their duty to gather intelligence, process information, and report inputs relating to illegal mining activities. Their failure to do so resulted in the competent authorities not being able to take timely and effective action. As an immediate administrative measure, all 18 Special Branch personnel have been transferred and reposted outside their respective Sub-Divisions.

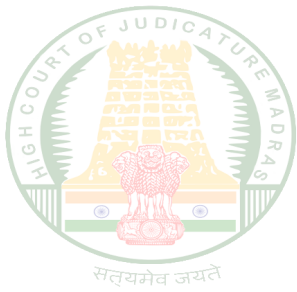


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2.11 It is also stated that, based on the outcome of the investigation and the findings of the Special Investigating Team (SIT), further action will be taken against any other police personnel found to be complicit in the matter.

2.12 In addition to the status report filed by the District Collector, Coimbatore, regarding the disciplinary action taken against errant police officials, the Deputy Inspector General of Police has also submitted a separate status report affirming the disciplinary measures initiated against the said officials.

2.13 With regard to the development of a mobile application and website for lodging complaints and providing real-time data, it is stated in the status report that the private agency, M/s. AKP Enterprises, is presently developing both the mobile application and the website. It is informed that the backend development is nearly complete, and the Beta version will be ready within a period of 15 days. Upon verification and testing of the Beta version, the regular version will be launched within 25 to 30 days. The said statement is recorded, and the concerned authorities are directed to ensure that the regular version is launched within a period of 30 days from today.

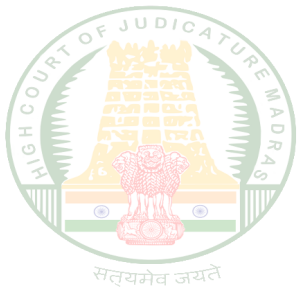


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2.14 It is further informed that, with respect to submission of complaints directly to the Special Investigating Team (SIT), mobile number 94870 06571 (with WhatsApp facility) has been provided. This number has been widely publicized through newspapers and by affixing notices on the notice boards of all public offices within Coimbatore District. Therefore, any member of the public, or any person who notices illegal mining activities or suspicious/unauthorized transportation of earth or minerals, may lodge a complaint or provide information via the said mobile number.

2.15 It is made clear that the identity and details of the informant will be kept strictly confidential. The information received will only be used for the purpose of investigating the alleged illegal mining or transportation activities, to ascertain whether any illegality has taken place. The concerned authorities shall give wider publicity to this mechanism through both print and electronic media to the maximum extent possible.

3. With regard to the inspection and study by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), it is stated that TERI was invited to deliver a technical presentation, which was conducted on 30.04.2025. Based on the discussions



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held during the presentation, work orders were issued to TERI on 17.06.2025 for carrying out the study in Perur Taluk of Coimbatore District, in accordance with Section 1.3.2 of the *Report of the CPC In-house Committee on Methodology for Assessing Environmental Compensation and Action Plan to Utilize the Fund.*

**4. Call on 19.09.2025.**

**(B) Delay condonation application**

(W.M.P.No.30612 of 2025 in W.P.No.28266 of 2022 in Rev. Aplw.(SR) No.68395 of 2025)

**5. Call on 19.09.2025.**

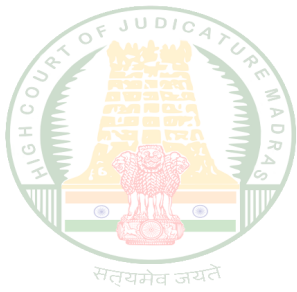
**(C) ILLEGAL MINING OF EARTH AND MINERALS**

**AND**

**ELEPHANT PROTECTION**

(W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2022)

6. With regard to the construction of an illegal bridge, it is stated in the report that the unauthorized bridge constructed across the *Odai* at Anaikatti in Veerapandi Village, Coimbatore North Taluk, as mentioned in the report of the District Judge, Permanent Lok Adalat, Coimbatore, has been removed.



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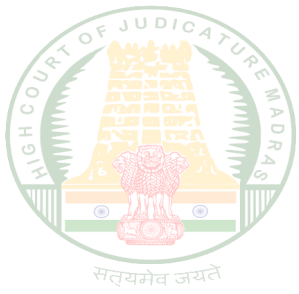
Photographs evidencing the removal have also been filed before this Court.

7. A perusal of the photographs clearly reveals the pristine nature of the area, and it is imperative that the concerned authorities ensure that the waterbody is properly maintained and preserved in its natural state.

8. As regards the installation of surveillance cameras, it is stated that an estimate of Rs.1,83,70,316/- has been prepared for the installation of 108 AI-enabled Surveillance Cameras and 42 Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) Cameras across the entire area.

9. It is also placed on record that the Government, vide G.O.(D) No.46, Natural Resources (MMD.1) Department, dated 24.07.2025, has sanctioned the required funds, which are to be drawn from the District Mineral Foundation Trust (DMFT).

10. It is further stated that adequate financial resources are available in the said Trust Fund, and upon identification of the supplier through due process, the entire installation work of the AI-enabled Surveillance Cameras and ANPR Cameras will be undertaken. The process shall be completed within a period of two months from today.

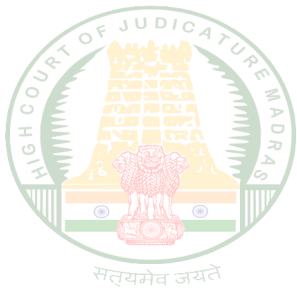


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11. With regard to the digital solution for monitoring illegal mining activities, it is stated in the status report that the Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency had communicated with the Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu. Subsequently, possible digital solutions were discussed with the Director of the Institute of Remote Sensing and officials from the Commissionerate of Geology and Mining on 25.02.2025.

12. During the discussion, it was noted that the officials of the Commissionerate of Geology and Mining are already utilizing the Mining Surveillance System (MSS) developed by the Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N) for monitoring mining activities. Accordingly, BISAG-N was contacted through letters dated 27.02.2025 and 11.07.2025. Upon receipt of inputs from BISAG-N, Gujarat, further action will be taken by the concerned authorities.

13. Mr.V.Chandrasekaran, learned Senior Panel Counsel for the 6th respondent, is requested to take notice for BISAG-N, which is an autonomous scientific society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 and functioning under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology



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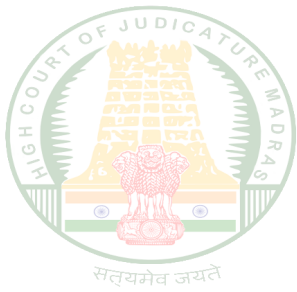
(MeitY), Government of India, with its office located at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

He shall obtain instructions from BISAG-N in response to the letters addressed by the Commissioner of Geology and Mining in Rc.No.5195/MM4/2017 dated 27.02.2025 and 11.07.2025.

14. In view of the urgency involved, the said institute is expected to respond at the earliest. Upon receipt of their response, appropriate further action shall be taken by the authorities concerned.

15. With regard to the assignment of lands, it is clearly and categorically stated in the status report that there is no proposal to assign any land located within the buffer or conservancy zones, which measure 40.2 metres and 60.4 metres in width, respectively. Paragraph 16 of the report, containing this categorical statement, is as follows:

“With respect to the direction contained in para no. 21 of the said order, it is submitted that the District Revenue Officer, Coimbatore vide letter reference no.E3574030/2025/B2 dated 22.07.2025 has informed that as per Revenue Standing Order 15-38(iii), there are no fresh proposals for assignment of land in the vicinity of the Reserve Forest particularly within the



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W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2020  
& connected WAs



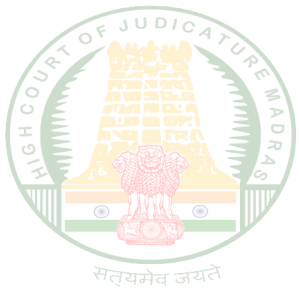
prohibited belt areas of 40.2 meter and 60.4 meters in width, as well as within the designated buffer zones and conservancy areas as per the applicable Government Orders - G.O.Ms.No.679, Rev. dated 15.03.1939, G.O.Ms.No.2769, Rev. dated 11.12.1942, G.O.Ms.No.3316, Rev. dated 05.09.1958 and G.O.1798, Rev. (Spl.) dated 09.10.2020. Further, informed that vide letter no. no.E3574030/2025/B2 dated 14.07.2025 directions were issued to all Divisional Officers and Tahsildars not to entertain any assignment in the vicinity of the Reserve Forest and to follow the Rules in force.”

The above said statement is reorded. The authorities are directed to strictly comply with the undertaking given before this Court in this regard.

16. Let further developments, including progress relating to the imposition of penalties and the status of departmental disciplinary proceedings, be placed before this Court in a further status report to be filed on or before next date of hearing.

17. Call on 19.09.2025.

**(D) ILLEGAL RESORTS AT ANAIKATTI AREA / ELEPHANT PROTECTION AND BANNING OF NIGHT TRAFFIC ON SH-164**



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W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2019  
& connected W.P.Nos.

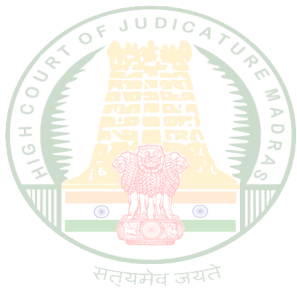


(W.M.P. Nos. 23020 of 2025 & W.M.P.No.23022 of 2025)

18. It is now brought to the notice of this Court that, in view of the action being taken in the Masinagudi area of The Nilgiris District pursuant to the Inquiry Committee report and the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, certain resort operators are allegedly relocating their operations to Perur and Anaikatti villages. In light of the same, the concerned authorities are directed to conduct a thorough inspection of the Anaikatti area, particularly focusing on resorts functioning within the elephant corridor and buffer zone. A detailed status report shall be filed before this Court regarding the same.

19. The said status report shall be considered along with the miscellaneous petitions filed by the petitioner in W.P.No.27396 of 2019, one in W.M.P. Nos. 23020 of 2025 seeking a direction to respondents 1,3 and 4 to close and demolish illegal resorts and commercial establishments constructed in ecologically sensitive Anaikatti area and the other in W.M.P.No.23022 of 2025 seeking a direction to the respondents 1,3 and 4 to close night traffic in State Highway, SH-164.

20.Call on 19.09.2025.



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W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2019  
& connected W.P.Nos.



**(E) STEEL WIRE ROPE FENCING AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS  
ISSUES RELATING TO ELEPHANT PROTECTION**

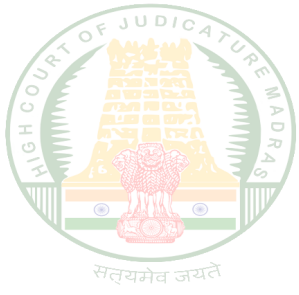
(W.M.P.No.35572 of 2024, W.M.P.Nos.42082, 42113, 42114,  
42115 & 42116 of 2024 in W.P.No.27356 of 2019)

21. With respect to the installation of steel wire fencing, Mr.Ramaswamy Meyyappan, learned counsel appearing on behalf of the 67th respondent, sought time to file a counter affidavit. The relevant papers are being served on the learned counsel. As regards the 68th respondent, it is seen from the records maintained by the Registry that service is still awaited.

22. **Post on 14.08.2025.** The Registry is directed to print the name of Mr.Ramaswamy Meyyappan, learned counsel for the 67<sup>th</sup> respondent in W.P.No.27356 of 2019.

23. The 67th respondent is expected to file a counter affidavit in the mean time addressing the alleged violation of the conditions attached to the permission granted to them, as well as other issues relating to the installation of steel wire fencing.

24. The interim order of status quo granted by this Court by order dated

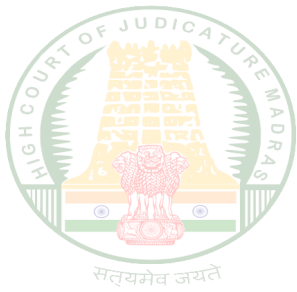


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25.04.2025 in W.M.P. No. 35572 of 2024, in respect of the steel wire fencing, and which has been extended from time to time, shall continue to remain in force until then.

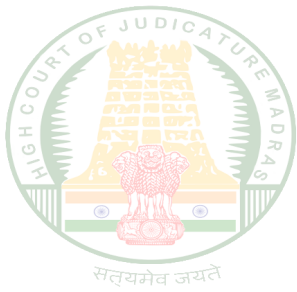
(N.S.K., J.) (D.B.C., J.)  
25..07..2025

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To

1. THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS AND  
Chief Wildlife Warden, Department Of Forests, Govt. Of Tamil Nadu,  
No.1 Jeenis Road, Panagal Buildings, Saidapet, Chennai-600 015
2. THE CHIEF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU,  
Fort St.George, Chennai- 600 009.
3. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR  
Coimbatore District, Gopalpuram, Coimbatore-6410108
4. THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY / CHAIRMAN  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai- 600 032
5. THE COMMISSIONER  
Department Of Geology And Mining Thiru.Vi.Ka.Industrial Estate, Alandur  
Road, Guindy, Chennai-600 002
6. THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,  
Forest And Climate Change,  
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan,  
Jorbagh Road, New Delhi-110 003
7. THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (COIMBATORE NORTH),  
Tamilnadu Generation And Distribution Limited (TANGEDCO),  
Tatabad, Coimbatore.
- 8 THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS  
AND CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN,  
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS,  
GOVT. OF TAMIL NADU,  
NO.1 JEENIS ROAD, PANAGAL BUILDINGS,  
SAIDAPET, CHENNAI-600 015.



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9. THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINING,  
COIMBATORE DISTRICT,  
COIMBATORE COLLECTORATE,  
COIMBATORE – 641018.

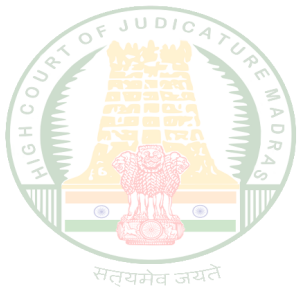
10. THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,  
Department Of Geology And Mining,  
Coimbatore District, Coimbatore-641018.

11. THE DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Coimbatore North,  
No. 5, Ramasamy Nagar,  
Kavundampalayam,  
Coimbatore-641030.

12. DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Coimbatore South, Plot No. E55A, SIDCO Industrial Estate Kurichi,  
Pollachi Main Road,  
Coimbatore-641021.

Copy To

1. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, TAMIL NADU, CHENNAI.
2. THE ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, CBCID,  
TAMIL NADU, CHENNAI.
3. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, COIMBATORE.
4. TMT.G.NAGAJOTHI, I.P.S., SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE,  
STATE CRIME RECORDS BUREAU, CHENNAI.
5. THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR, HIGH COURT OF MADRAS.
6. DR.T.SREENIVASAN, THE SPECIAL GOVERNMENT PLEADER  
(FOREST), MADRAS HIGH COURT, CHENNAI.



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W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2022  
& connected WPs



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

kmk

W.P.Nos.27356 of 2019 and 28266 of 2022  
& connected WPs

25..07..2025