



W.P.No.27356 of 2019

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 26.09.2025

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE N. SATHISH KUMAR

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY

WP No. 27356 OF 2019

and

WMP No. 31591 of 2023 & WMP.No.41067 of 2025

Mr. S.Muralidharan

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

Petitioner(s)

Vs

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 and 67 Others

Respondent(s)

WMP NO. 31591 of 2023

Mr. S.Muralidharan

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

Currently Residing At F1, 1st Floor, No.40 R.S.Sridhar Street, Kottur, Kotturpuram, Chennai 600085.

Petitioner(s)

Vs

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 and 7 Others

Respondent(s)



W.P.No.27356 of 2019

WMP NO. 41067 of 2025

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

Petitioner(s)

Vs

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 and 69 Others

Respondent(s)

For Petitioner(s): Mr.Muralidharan (P-IN-P)

For Respondent(s): Dr.T.Seenivasan, Special Government Pleader (Forest), for
R1, 3 to 5

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

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

Mr.M.Purushothaman, for R 65 and 66

Mr.K.M.D.Muhilan

Additional Public Prosecutor for the Special Investigation Team (SIT)

Amici Curiae

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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ORDER

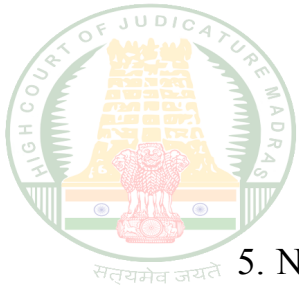
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With reference to the removal of *prosopis juliflora* in Tadagam valley and Perur, let the District Collectors and District Forest Officers have to come up with the report giving exact pits available in the public as well as the private lands. The District Collector, Nilgiris and District Collector, Coimbatore shall also request the private land owners to close the pits in their lands as already directed by this Court vide our order dated 10.01.2025.

2. Whenever any assistance is required by the private land owners for closing the pits in their lands, the District Collector, Coimbatore shall provide assistance by engaging JCB and other machineries. As far as the public lands and forests lands are concerned, using the funds under the District Mineral Funds the District Collector shall level the pits. Such action should be taken forthwith and file a report in this regard on the next hearing date.

3. Post on 10.10.2025.

4. Issue notice to the newly proposed respondent Nos.69 & 70, returnable by 10.10.2025. Private notice is also permitted.



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5. Notice shall also be served to Mr.N.R.R.Arun Natarajan, learned Special Government Pleader (HR & CE) and the Registry is directed to print the name of Mr.N.R.R.Arun Natarajan, learned Special Government Pleader (HR & CE) for the proposed respondent No.69.

6. Post on 10.10.2025.

[N.S.K.J.,] [D.B.C.J.,]
26.09.2025

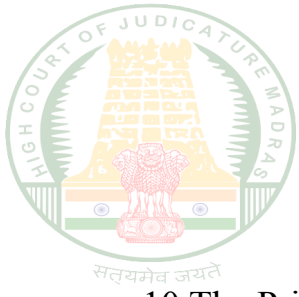
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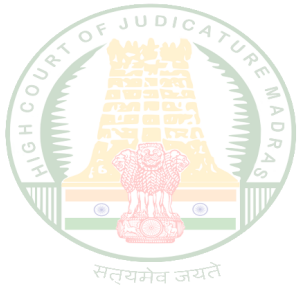
- 1.The Principal Secretary,
Department of Forests And Environment,
St. George Fort, Chennai 600 009.
- 2.The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
(Head of Forest Force),
Forest Head Quarters,
Guindy-Velachery Main Road,
Velachery, Chennai – 600 032.
- 3.The District Collector,
The Nilgiris, Ooty,
The Nilgiris District.
- 4.The District Collector,
Coimbatore.
- 5.The District Forest Officer,
Kodaikanal, Dindigul District.
- 6.The Assistant Director of Rural Development,
Coimbatore.
- 7.The Commissioner,
Department of Geology and Mining Thiru.Vi.Ka.Industrial Estate, Alandur Road,
Guindy, Chennai-600 002
- 8.Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi-110 003
- 9.The Superintending Engineer (Coimbatore North),
Tamilnadu Generation and Distribution Limited (TANGEDCO), Tatabad,
Coimbatore.



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10. The Principal Secretary/Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai- 600 032

11. The Special Government Pleader (Forests),
Madras High Court, High Court Campus,
Chennai 600 104.



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