



W.P.No.35390 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 18.03.2026

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. SUSHRUT ARVIND DHARMADHIKARI,
CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.ARUL MURUGAN

W.P.No.35390 of 2023
and W.M.P.No.35362 of 2023

Surya Kumar.K
S/o Krishnan
No.4/15 Perumal Kovil Street
Otteri, Vandalur,
Chennai 600 048

Petitioner

Vs

1.Union of India
Rep. by its Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate Change
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jorbagh Road
New Delhi-110 003

2.The Deputy Drugs Controller
Central Drug Standard Control
Organization, South Zone
CDSCO Bhawan
No.37,Jothi Venkatachalam Street
Vepery, Chennai-600 007



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3.The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Chief Wildlife Warden
Department of Forests
Government of Tamil Nadu
No.1, Jeenais Road, Panagal Buildings
Saidapet, Chennai 600 015

4.The Director of Drugs Control
Tamil Nadu Drugs Control Department
No.359, Anna Salai, Teynampet
Chennai 600 006

5.The Additional Chief Secretary to
Government
Animal Husbandry, Dairying and
Fisheries Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George
Chennai 600 009

6.Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association
102, Poonam Chambers
'A' Wing, 1st Floor, Dr. A.B.Road
Worli, Mumbai 400 018

Respondents

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking issuance of a writ of mandamus directing the 1st and the 3rd respondents to create vulture conservation centers in the vulture habitat areas falling under the districts of Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Tirupur and Erode.

For Petitioner: Mr.SP.Chockalingam

For Respondents: Dr.G.Babu
Senior Panel Counsel
for R1 and R2



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Dr.T.Seenivasan
Spl. G.P. (Forests)
for R3
Mr. A.Edwin Prabakar
State Government Pleader
for R4 and R5

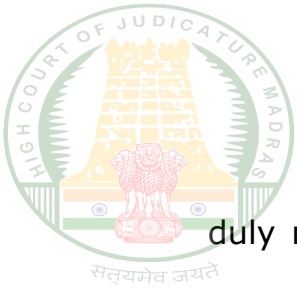
R6 - No Appearance

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by the Hon'ble Chief Justice)

This public interest litigation filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeks a direction to respondents 1 and 3 to create vulture conservation centres in the vulture habitat areas falling under the Districts of Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Tirupur and Erode for the purpose of preservation of vultures, where decrease in vulture population is because of consumption of carcass of animals which have been administered unsafe drugs during the course of their treatment.

2. Pursuant to the direction of this Court, the State has filed a status report dated 3.2.2026 disclosing the action plan taken by the State to preserve vultures. As per the action plan, the respondent authorities have constituted Field Level Monitoring Committee and the said Committee has been requested to develop and submit a map by



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duly marking the vulture nesting and habitat usage sites, monitoring hotspots for carcasses to meet out conditions for declaring an area as vulture safe zone. Based on the outcome of the findings of the said Committee, the vulture safe zone will be notified as per the guidelines issued by the Government of India.

3. This Court had earlier granted liberty to the petitioner to go through the action plan and make suggestions through an expert, if so advised. In compliance thereof, learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted suggestions, which need to be taken note of by the Committee and for taking necessary further action. The suggestions in the form of an affidavit submitted by the petitioner were given by the Wildlife Biologist, who is a Doctorate in vulture conservation studies. The said suggestions are taken on record.

4. In view of the status report as well as the suggestions in the form of affidavit submitted by the petitioner, we direct the Field Level Monitoring Committee constituted to take necessary action in the light of the suggestions made by the petitioner for preservation of vultures and act accordingly.

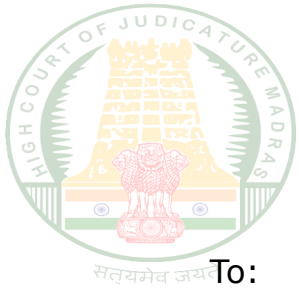


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With the above observation and direction, the writ petition is disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

(SUSHRUT ARVIND DHARMADHIKARI, CJ) (G.ARUL MURUGAN,J)
18.03.2026

Index : Yes/No
Neutral Citation : Yes/No
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To:

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- 1.Ministry of Environment,
Forest and Climate Change
Union of India
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Jorbagh Road
New Delhi-110 003
- 2.The Deputy Drugs Controller
Central Drug Standard Control
Organization, South Zone
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THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE
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G.ARUL MURUGAN,J.

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