



WEB COPY



WP No.35390 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 21.11.2025

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.MANINDRA MOHAN SHRIVASTAVA,

CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE G.ARUL MURUGAN

WP No.35390 of 2023

Surya Kumar K

Petitioner

Vs

Union Of India
Represented By Its Ministry Of Environment
Forest And Climate Change Indira Paryavaran
Bhawan Jorbagh Road New Delhi 110 003 and
5 Others

Respondents

For Petitioner:

Mr. SP.Chockalingam

For Respondents:

Mr. Dr.G. Babu,
Senior Panel Counsel For R1 And R2.
Mr.A.Edwin Prabakar,
State Government Pleader
Assisted By Mr.K.Karthik Jagannath,
Government Advocate For R3 To R5.

R6-No Appearance.



WP No.35390 of 2023

WEB COPY

ORDER

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

Petition has been filed praying for issuance of direction to take appropriate measures towards preservation of vultures.

2. Primary cause for decrease in vulture population, according to various researches, is the consumption of carcass of animals which had been administered unsafe drugs during the course of their treatment.

3. The first respondent - Union of India has submitted guidelines before this Court. Among other things, the guideline prohibits use of unsafe drugs and encourages use of safe drugs for the purpose of treatment of cattle so that by consumption of carcass, drugs administered may not harm the vultures and endanger the species as a whole.



WP No.35390 of 2023

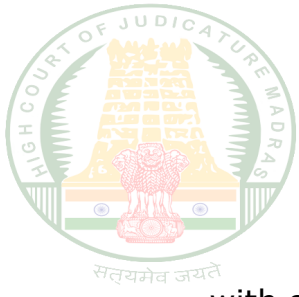
WEB COPY

4. Learned State Counsel, referring to his affidavit, would submit that as far as use of drugs is concerned, though many drugs have already been banned by the Government of India itself, still, some drugs are in use and the State has taken steps to minimize the use of unsafe drugs.

5. If there is an alternative in the form of minimising the use and eventual substitution of the unsafe drugs by safe drugs, we do not see any reason why this should not be done by the State.

6. Learned State Counsel would submit that under the new scheme and guidelines for treatment, minimal use of drugs has been advised by the veterinary department. However, as far as scheme with regard to substitution of unsafe drugs by safe drugs in a phased manner is concerned, we do not find any action plan in this regard.

7. The State shall file an affidavit stating what is the action plan to preserve vultures, with specific advertence to creation of safe zones and discontinuance of use of harmful drugs and substituting the same



WP No.35390 of 2023

with safe drugs.

WEB COPY

8. Post in the first week of January, 2026.

(MANINDRA MOHAN SHRIVASTAVA, CJ.) (G.ARUL MURUGAN, J.)
21.11.2025

TAR