



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 31.07.2026

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CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY

W.P.(MD).Nos.16485 of 2015, 14699 of 2015
& W.P.No.3075 of 2017

Vaiko, General Secretary,
Marumalarchi Dravida Munetra Kalagam (MDMK),
No.12, Rukmani Lakshmipathi Salai, Egmore,
Chennai – 600 008.

... Petitioner
in W.P.(MD) No.16485 of 2015

M.Patturajan

... Petitioner
in W.P.(MD) No.14699 of 2015

Sharath.P.Nair

... Petitioner
in W.P.No.3075 of 2017

Vs.

The Chief Secretary,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009 and 743 others .

... Respondents
in W.P.(MD) No.16485 of 2015

1.The Commissioner,
Madurai City Municipal Corporation,
Anna Maligai, Madurai and 3 others

... Respondents
in W.P.(MD) No.14699 of 2015

1.The Chief Secretary,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009 and 21 others

... Respondents
in W.P.No.3075 of 2017



W.P.(MD) No.16485 of 2015:

For Petitioner :

Mr.Vaiko
Party-in-Person

For Respondent(s):

Mr.P.V.Balasubramaniam,
Additional Advocate General,
assisted by Mr.K.Surendar,
Special Government Pleader and
Mr.G.Abraham Prabhu, Additional Government Pleader
for RR 1 -16, 18 -655, 665 – 673, 737 and 738

Mr.S.M.Ananthamurugan for R17

Mr.R.Karthikeyan for R38

Mr.M.Govindan
for RR 380 – 382, 384 – 394, 506 -518, 481 – 488, 541 –
551, 594 – 605, 323 – 341, 625 – 643, 513, 608, 260 –
272, 395, 398, 342 – 359, 400, 489 – 492 and 396

Mr.Perumbulavil Radhakrishnan for R741

Mr.G.Gomathi Sankar for R742

Mr.P.T.Ramkumar, Standing Counsel for Railways
for RR656-662

Mr.K.H.M.Afzal for R744

Mr.N.R.R.Arun Natarajan,
Special Government Pleader (HR & CE)
for RR674 – 712

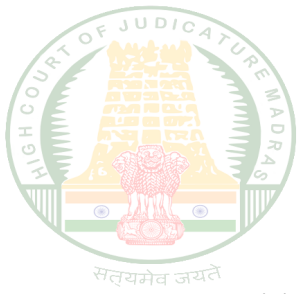
W.P.(MD) No.14699 of 2015

For Petitioner :

Ms.B.Asha

For Respondent(s):

Mr.B.Saravanan,
Additional Advocate General
for RR1 - 4



W.P. No.3075 of 2017

For Petitioner :

Mr.J.M.Hassanulbazari

For Respondent(s):

Mr.P.V.Balasubramaniam,
Additional Advocate General,
assisted by Mr.K.Surendar,
Special Government Pleader and
Mr.G.Abraham Prabhu, Additional Government Pleader
for RR1 - 22

Amici Curiae:

- 1.Mr.T.Mohan, Senior Counsel*
- 2.Mr.M.Santhanaraman*
- 3.Mr.Chevanan Mohan*
- 4.Mr.Rahul Balaji*

ORDER

Removal of prosopis juliflora throughout the State :

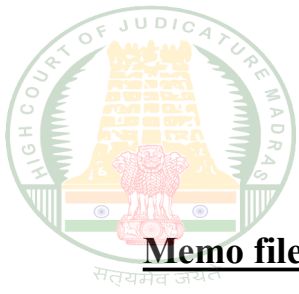
With reference to removal of *prosopis juliflora* in the land belonging to the Southern Railway, Mr.P.T.Ramkumar, learned Standing Counsel, would submit that, after considering the issue, the Chief Engineer/General (BW), had issued a communication to all the divisions to identify the Railway land parcels affected by *prosopis juliflora* and take necessary action for its removal and to comply with the directions of this Court. Let a status report indicating the action taken be filed after two months. Apart from the land parcels, even if invasives are found along the railway track also, let the same be removed.



2. With reference to removal of *prosopis juliflora* throughout the State, as directed by us, the Revenue Secretary/State Level Nodal Officer participated in the Court proceedings virtually and he submitted that all the five directions issued on the last occasion can be implemented by having due discussion with the line Departments. More specifically, with reference to the funds, he submitted that, after having discussions with the concerned Departments, he will come up with his proposals. The learned Additional Advocate General would also submit that, after meeting, they will come up with concrete proposals regarding funding.

3. In the meanwhile, as directed earlier, let a meeting with both the Judge Commissioners and the learned *Amici Curiae* be conducted by the State Level Nodal Officer/Revenue Secretary along with all the District Collectors, within a week. The issue shall be taken up with the urgency it requires and the auction process shall also start simultaneously. The process relating to the creation of dashboard shall also start immediately.

4. After meeting, a report shall be filed before this Court with the proposals on 14.08.2026. Call on 14.08.2026.



Memo filed by Mr.Pannerselvam, learned Advocate :

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5. With reference to the request made by Mr.Pannerselvam, learned Advocate, we feel that, earlier permission was not granted on the condition that, throughout the District, already tender has been given. Later, it turned out that the particular village is not specifically tendered. In view thereof, his request to remove the *prosopis juliflora*, can be favourably considered. The memo filed by him before this Court is already considered and he can also make formal request before the District Collector, Ramanathapuram, who shall pass orders permitting him, within a period of 24 hours from the time of receipt of such request.

6. It is also brought to our notice that several other persons and NGOs are willing to remove. In that regard, in the discussion meeting, one Nodal Officer to whom the request can be addressed can be mentioned and even in the website itself, the email ID or contact number in which those parties can contact can be given which will be helpful for the prospective persons who want to remove. The Government shall also do the needful in that regard.

7. Call on 14.08.2026.

[N.S.K., J.] [D.B.C., J.]
31.07.2026

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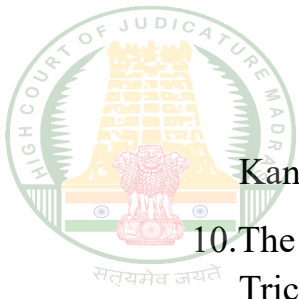


Note :

Registry is directed to communicate the copy of this order to all the District Collectors with a direction to the District Collectors to communicate the same to the Tahsildars and BDOs in their respective jurisdiction; and for the remaining official respondents, let the order copy be sent separately.

To

- 1.The Chief Secretary,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009.
- 2.The Secretary to Government,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Environment and Forest Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009.
- 3.The Secretary to Government,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Public Works Department,
Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600 009.
- 4.The District Collector,
Madurai District, Madurai.
- 5.The District Collector,
Sivagangai District, Sivagangai.
- 6.The District Collector,
Dindigul District, Dindigul.
- 7.The District Collector,
Theni District, Theni.
- 8.The District Collector,
Ramanathapuram District,
Ramanathapuram.
- 9.The District Collector,
Kanyakumari District,



Kanyakumari.

10. The District Collector,
Trichy District, Trichy.

11. The District Collector,
Pudukkottai District, Pudukkottai.

12. The District Collector,
Thanjavur District, Thanjavur.

13. The District Collector,
Karur District, Karur.

14. The District Collector,
Virudhunagar District, Virudhunagar.

15. The District Collector,
Tuticorin District, Tuticorin.

16. The District Collector,
Tirunelveli District, Tirunelveli.

17. The District Collector,
Erode District, Erode.

18. The District Collector,
Thiruppur District, Thiruppur.

19. The District Collector,
Coimbatore District, Coimbatore.

20. The District Collector,
Nilgiris District, Ooty.

21. The District Collector,
Krishnagiri District, Krishnagiri.

22. The District Collector,
Dharmapuri District, Dharmapuri.

23. The District Collector,
Salem District, Salem.

24. The District Collector,
Namakkal District, Namakkal.



25. The District Collector,
Perambalur District, Perambalur.

26. The District Collector,
Ariyalur District, Ariyalur.

27. The District Collector,
Thiruvarur District, Thiruvarur.

28. The District Collector,
Nagapattinam District, Nagapattinam.

29. The District Collector,
Cuddalore District, Cuddalore.

30. The District Collector,
Villupuram District, Villupuram.

31. The District Collector,
Vellore District, Vellore.

32. The District Collector,
Kanjipuram District, Kanjipuram.

33. The District Collector,
Thiruvallur District, Thiruvallur.

34. The District Collector,
Chennai District, Chennai.

35. The District Collector,
Thiruvannamalai District,
Thiruvannamalai.

36. The Chairman,
National Highways Authority of India,
G-5 and 6, Sector-10, Dwarka,
New Delhi – 110 075.

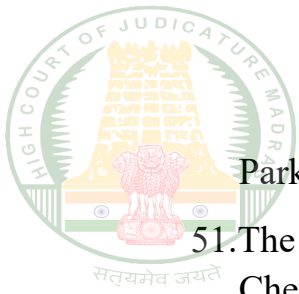
37. The Chairman,
Port of Chennai, No. 1, Rajaji Salai,
Chennai – 600 001.

38. The Joint Chief Engineer (General),
Public Works Department, Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005.



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39. The Joint Chief Engineer (Irrigation),
PWD Superintending Engineer (Procurement Cell),
Iamwaram Project, Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005.
40. The Joint Chief Engineer (Plan Formulation),
PWD, W.R.O.,
Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005.
41. The Joint Chief Engineer (Operation & Maintenance),
PWD, W.R.O.,
Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005.
42. The Joint Chief Engineer (Design, Research and Construction Support),
Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005.
43. The Joint Chief Engineer (State Ground & Surface Water Resources Data
Centre),
Taramani, Chennai – 600 113.
44. The Deputy Chief Engineer,
Chennai Region, Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005.
45. The Deputy Chief Engineer,
Tiruchi Region, Pudukkottai Road,
P.B. No. 803, Subramaniapuram, Trichy – 620 020.
46. The Deputy Chief Engineer,
Pollachi Region, Town Hall,
Coimbatore – 641 001.
47. The Deputy Chief Engineer,
Madurai Region,
Thallakulam, Madurai – 625 002.
48. The Joint Director,
Institute for Water Studies,
Taramani, Chennai – 600 113.
49. The Director, Irrigation Management,
Training Institute, Thuvakudi, Trichy – 620 015.
50. The General Manager, Southern Railways,
General Manager Office, General Branch,
1st Floor, NGO Main Building, Southern Railway,



Park Town, Chennai – 600 003.

51. The Divisional Railway Manager,
Chennai Division, Divisional Railway Manager Office,
DRM Complex, Southern Railway, Park Town, Chennai – 600 003.

52. The Divisional Railway Manager,
Trichy Division, Divisional Railway Manager Office,
DRM Complex, Southern Railway, Tiruchirappalli – 620 001.

53. The Divisional Railway Manager,
Madurai Division, Divisional Railway Manager Office,
DRM Complex, Southern Railway, Madurai – 625 016.

54. The Divisional Railway Manager,
Salem Division, Divisional Railway Manager Office,
DRM Complex, Southern Railway, Salem – 600 005.

55. The Divisional Railway Manager,
Trivandrum Division, DRM (Genl), DRM Complex,
Southern Railway, Thycaud, Trivandrum – 649 914.

56. The General Manager,
Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai – 600 038.

57. The General Manager,
Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli,
Tiruchirappalli – 620 016, Tamil Nadu, India.

58. The General Manager,
Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited,
Trichy – 620 014.

59. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Highways & Minor Ports Department, Fort St. George,
Secretariat, Chennai – 600 009.

60. The Project Director,
Tamil Nadu Road Sector Project – II,
No. 171, Kesavaperumalpuram,
Greenways Road, Raja Annamalaipuram,
Chennai – 600 028.

61. The Director General (I.C.),



Highway Department Integrated Chief Engineers' Office,
HRS Campus, 76 Sardar Patel Road, Guindy, Chennai – 600 025.

62.The Chief Engineer (H),

National Highways, Integrated Chief Engineers' Office,
HRS Campus, 76 Sardar Patel Road, Guindy, Chennai – 600 025.

63.The Chief Engineer (H), Projects,

Integrated Chief Engineers' Office,
HRS Campus, 76 Sardar Patel Road, Guindy, Chennai – 600 025.

64.The Chief Engineer (H), NABARD & Rural Road,

Integrated Chief Engineers' Office,
HRS Campus, 76 Sardar Patel Road, Guindy, Chennai – 600 025.

65.The Chief Engineer (H), Planning, Designs and Investigation,

Integrated Chief Engineers' Office,
HRS Campus, 76 Sardar Patel Road, Guindy, Chennai – 600 025.

66.The Director,

Highways Research Station,
76 Sardar Patel Road, Guindy, Chennai – 600 025.

67.The Chief Engineer (H), Metro,

Integrated Chief Engineers' Office,
HRS Campus, 76 Sardar Patel Road, Guindy, Chennai – 600 025.

68.The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Chennai, Chennai District.

69.The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Chennai, Chennai District.

70.The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Vellore, Thiruvallur District.

71.The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Thiruvallur, Thiruvallur District.

72.The Assistant Commissioner,



HR & CE Department,
Kancheepuram, Kancheepuram District.

73. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Vellore, Vellore District.

74. The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Salem, Salem District.

75. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Dharmapuri, Dharmapuri District and Krishnagiri District.

76. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Salem, Salem District.

77. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Namakkal, Namakkal District.

78. The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Coimbatore, Coimbatore District.

79. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Coimbatore, Coimbatore District and Nilgiris District.

80. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Erode, Erode District.

81. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Tiruppur, Tiruppur District.

82. The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Thanjavur, Thanjavur District.

83. The Assistant Commissioner,



HR & CE Department,
Thanjavur, Thanjavur District.

84. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Nagapattinam, Nagapattinam District (except Sirkali, Mayiladuthurai and
Tharangambadi Taluks).

85. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Thiruvallur, Thiruvallur District.

86. The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Mayiladuthurai.

87. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Kumbakonam–Thiruvidadaimaruthur, Kumbakonam Taluk, Thanjavur
District, and Mayiladuthurai, Sirkali and Tharangambadi Taluks in
Nagapattinam District.

88. The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Villupuram, Cuddalore District.

89. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Cuddalore, Cuddalore District.

90. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department,
Villupuram, Villupuram District.

91. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvannamalai District.

92. The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruchirappalli District.

93. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Tiruchirappalli, Tiruchirappalli District.

94. The Assistant Commissioner,



HR & CE Department, Ariyalur, Perambalur District and Ariyalur District.

95. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Pudukkottai, Pudukkottai District.

96. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Karur, Karur District.

97. The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Madurai, Madurai District.

98. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Madurai, Madurai District.

99. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Dindigul, Dindigul District.

100. The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Sivagangai, Sivagangai District.

101. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Virudhunagar, Virudhunagar District.

102. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Paramakudi, Sivagangai District and Ramanathapuram District.

103. The Joint Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Tirunelveli, Tirunelveli District.

104. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Tirunelveli, Tirunelveli District.

105. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Thoothukudi, Thoothukudi District.

106. The Assistant Commissioner,

HR & CE Department, Nagercoil, Kanyakumari District.

107. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,

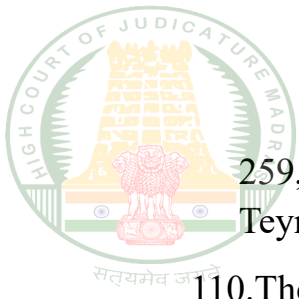
No. 1, Jeenis Salai, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015.

108. The Conservator of Forests,

Chennai Circle, 259, Anna Salai,

DMS Compound, III Floor, Teynampet, Chennai – 600 006.

109. The Wildlife Warden,



259, Anna Salai, DMS Compound, IV Floor,
Teynampet, Chennai – 600 006.

110. The Forest Utilisation Officer,

259, Anna Salai, DMS Compound, III Floor,
Teynampet, Chennai – 600 006.

111. The Assistant Conservator of Forests,

Forest Protection Squad,
259, Anna Salai, DMS Compound, III Floor,
Teynampet, Chennai – 600 006.

112. The Chairman,

Tamil Nadu Forest Plantation Corporation Limited,
30, Gandhimandapam Road, Kotturpuram,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 085.

113. The Director,

Arignar Anna Zoological Park,
Vandalur, Chennai – 600 048.

114. The Guindy National Park Range,

Guindy, Chennai – 600 025.

115. The Special Government Pleader (Forest Cases),

High Court, Chennai – 600 014.

116. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Research),

State Forest Research Institute,
Vandalur, Chennai – 600 048.

117. The Conservator of Forests (Research),

State Forest Research Institute Campus,
Kolappakkam (Via), Vandalur, Chennai – 600 048.

118. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Research),

State Forest Institute Campus,
Kolappam (Via), Vandalur, Chennai – 600 048.

119. The Chief Conservator of Forests (Forest Extension),

State Forest Institute Campus,
Kolappam (Via), Vandalur, Chennai – 600 048.

120. The Deputy Conservator of Forests,



State Forest Institute,
Kolappam (Via), Vandalur, Chennai – 600 048.

121. The Principal Secretary to the Government,
Highways & Minor Ports Department,
Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai – 600 009.

122. The Deputy Chairman,
V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust,
Tuticorin – 600 004.

123. The Chairman,
V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust,
Tuticorin – 600 004.

124. The Regional Executive Director,
South Region, Chennai Airport, Chennai.

125. The Airport Director,
Trichy Airport, Trichy.

126. The Airport Director,
Madurai Airport, Madurai.

127. The Airport Director,
Tuticorin Airport, Tuticorin.

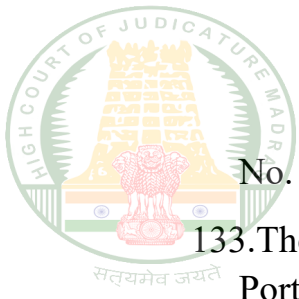
128. The Airport Director,
Coimbatore Airport, Coimbatore.

129. The Airport Director,
Omalur Airport, Salem.

130. The Chief General Manager/OIC,
NABARD Bank,
No. 48, Nungambakkam High Road, Ambal Nagar,
Anna Salai, Nungambakkam, Chennai – 600 034.

131. The Special Director General (SR),
Central Public Works Department,
1st Floor, G Wing, Rajaji Bhavan,
3rd Avenue, Besant Nagar, Chennai.

132. The Defence Estate Officer,
Madras Circle,



No. 306, Anna Salai, Teynampet, Chennai – 600 018.

133. The Naval Port Office,
Port Complex, Rajaji Salai,
Fort St. George, Chennai – 600 009.

134. The Commissioner,
Madurai City Municipal Corporation,
Anna Maligai, Madurai.

135. The Chief Engineer,
Public Works Department,
Thallakulam, Madurai.

136. The Office of the Principal
Chief Conservator of Forests,
Southern Region, Madurai.

137. The Secretary,
Revenue Department,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Secretariat,
Chennai – 600 009.



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AND

D. BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY. J.

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