



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 29-07-2026

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THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE N. ANAND VENKATESH

CONT P No. 962 of 2026

S.Raja Contractor
Proprietor Concern, Rep by its Sole
Proprietor, S.Raja, Office at No.1/22,
Main Road, Mazhavarayanallur,
Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu.

Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. Piyush Goyal, I.A.S.,
Secretary to the Government, Ministry
of Coal and Mines, Union of India,
New Delhi.

2. Indra Dev Narayan,
Chairman-cum-Managing Director,
Mineral Exploration and Consultancy
Ltd. (MECL), Dr. Baba Saheb
Ambedkar Bhavan, Seminary Hills,
Nagpur - 440 006, Maharashtra.

3. Divvali Santhosh Kumar,
Buyer, Mineral Exploration and
Consultancy Ltd. (MECL) Dr. Baba
Saheb Ambekdar Bhavan, Seminary
Hills, Nagpur-440 006, Maharashtra.

4. K. Vanathu Antony,
Project Manager, MECL, Sikkal
Project, No.1/245, North Street, Near
Bharat Mahal, Devipattinam,
Ramanathapuram District, Tamil Nadu.

Contemnor(s)



Contempt Petition filed under Section 11 of the Contempt of Courts Act, to initiate contempt proceedings against the respondents for wilful disobedience of the order dated 20.08.2025 in W.P. No.13383 of 2025 and punish the respondents in accordance with law.

For Petitioner(s): Mr.P.R.Thiruneelakandan

For Contemnor(s): Mr.M.Ramamoorthi
Central Government Senior
Panel Counsel

ORDER

This contempt petition has been filed to punish the respondents for the disobedience of this Court order dated 20.08.2025 made in W.P.No. 13383 of 2025.

2.When the matter was taken up for hearing, the affidavit of the respondents was filed and the relevant portions are extracted hereunder:

5. It is submitted that following the cancellation of the said contract, no fresh contract has been awarded to any contractor. Any fresh engagement of a contractor can only be undertaken through a transparent tender process in accordance with the applicable procurement rules and procedures governing M/sMineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL), which is a Public Sector Undertaking.

6. It is further submitted that, before initiating any fresh tender, the the Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MEL),



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is required to assess the actual operational requirement of contractual manpower with reference to the volume of work available. Such assessment is an essential administrative exercise and forms the basis for any decision regarding outsourcing of work.

7.It is submitted that M/s Mineral Exploration and Consultancy fited (MECL), is a Central Public Sector Enterprise functioning under the Ministry of Mines, Government of India, and is required to act prudently in financial and administrative matters. Accordingly, any proposal for engagement of contractual manpower has to be based upon economic casibli, operational necessity and public interest. A fresh tender cannot be floated merely as a matter of course without first determining the actual requirement.

8. It is respectfully submitted that, as on date, no decision has been taken to initiate a fresh tender process, since the present assessment does not indicate any immediate operational requirement warranting such action.

9. It is further submitted that even if, upon future assessment, a decision is taken to outsource the work through a fresh contractor, the process of preparing tender documents, obtaining administrative approvals, publishing the tender on the Government e-procurement platform, evaluating bids and finalising the tender would ordinarily require a minimum period of four to five months.

3.It is clear from the above that the tender is issued only based on the actual operational requirement of contractual man power with reference to the



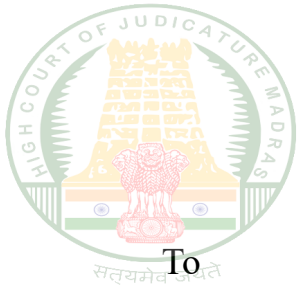
volume of work available. Hence, it is undertaken that as and when such situation arise, the tender will be called for and it will require four to five months for finalisation.

4. Recording the same, this contempt petition is closed.

29-07-2026

Index: Yes/No
Speaking/Non-speaking order
Internet: Yes
Neutral Citation: Yes/No

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To

Piyush Goyal, I.A.S.,
Secretary to the Government, Ministry
of Coal and Mines, Union of India,
New Delhi.



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6

CONT P No. 962 of 2026



N.ANAND VENKATESH J.

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CONT P No. 962 of 2026

29-07-2026