

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE K.VINOD CHANDRAN

TUESDAY, THE 14TH DAY OF JULY 2015/23RD ASHADHA, 1937

WP(C).No. 21114 of 2015 (L)

PETITIONER(S):

**BABU ANDREWS, AGED 43 YEARS,
S/O.ANDREWS, ADVOCATE, VALLIKAVAUNKAL HOUSE,
PUNNAD P.O., IRITTY-67003.**

BY ADV. SRI.RAJU K.MATHEWS

RESPONDENT(S):

**GEOLOGIST,
DEPARTMENT OF MINING AND GEOLOGY,
DISTRICT OFFICE, KANNUR,
KANNUR DISTRICT-670001.**

BY SENIOR GOVERNMENT PLEADER SRI.BIJU MEENATTOOR

**THIS WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION
ON 14-07-2015, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE
FOLLOWING:**

PJ

WP(C).No. 21114 of 2015 (L)

APPENDIX

PETITIONERS' EXHIBITS

- P1: COPY OF THE BUILDING PERMIT NO.BA.739/14-15 DATED 19/3/15**
- P2: COPY OF THE CERTIFICATE NO.58/15 DATED 13/2/15 CERTIFYING THE RECEIPT OF THE INTIMATION**
- P3: COPY OF THE APPLICATION DATED 18/3/15 SUBMITTED BEFORE THE R1**
- P3(A): COPY OF THE RECEIPT EVIDENCING RECEIPT OF P3 APPLICATION**

RESPONDENTS' EXHIBITS

NIL.

/ TRUE COPY /

P.S. TO JUDGE

PJ

K. VINOD CHANDRAN, J

W.P(C) No. 21114 of 2015

Dated this the 14th day of July, 2015

J U D G M E N T

The case of the petitioner is that, on the strength of Ext.P1 building permit, the petitioner levelled the property by removing ordinary earth for construction of a residential building. But when the petitioner approached the respondent/Geologist with a request for issuance of Mineral Transit pass to transport the earth from his property, it was refused to be acted upon.

2. Heard the learned Government Pleader as well.

3. By virtue of Rule 14 of the Kerala Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2015 the persons doing construction of residential building including flats or commercial buildings having a plinth area upto 300 square metres are exempted from obtaining quarrying permit under the Rules, if the owner of the land has obtained a prior valid permit for construction of such

building from the concerned Local Self Government authority.

The said Rule reads as follows:

“14. Quarrying permit for Ordinary earth:

(1) A quarrying permit under these rules shall be obtained for extraction of ordinary earth used for filling or levelling purposes in construction of embankments, roads, railways or buildings in Form N:

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rule (1), no quarrying permit is required under these rules for extraction of ordinary earth in connection with the construction of residential buildings including flats or commercial buildings having a plinth area of 300 square metres if the owner of the land obtained a prior valid permit for construction of such building from the Local Self Government authorities concerned;

Provided that in cases where transportation of ordinary earth is required, the owner shall pay royalty for the quantity to be

transported and shall obtain mineral transit passes under the Kerala State Minerals (Prevention of illegal mining, storage and transportation) Rules, 2015 from the competent authority;

Provided further that the competent authority shall not issue mineral transit passes for removal of ordinary earth exceeding the quantity needed to be extracted, as ascertained by it through a site inspection.”

In the above facts and circumstances, respondent/District Geologist is directed to issue 'Mineral Transit Pass' in Form O(A) of the Kerala Minerals (Prevention of Illegal Mining, Storage and Transportation) Rules, 2015 (for brevity “Prevention Act”], without insisting for 'NOC'/Mining permit; however, the same shall be only on satisfaction of the genuineness of the claim of the petitioner based on the building permit issued by the Local Self Government Institution. It is made clear that the mining passes shall be issued only after the ordinary earth to be

transported is stacked in the property which has to be physically inspected by the Geologist. The Geologist shall also issue as many number of passes as there are vehicles required for transporting the heaped quantity of ordinary earth after ensuring that the entire details required in form O(A) is filled up by the petitioner. The petitioner shall also be liable to surrender the passes after the period expires. It goes without saying that the destination to which the ordinary earth is to be taken has to be specified in the passes, before it is issued by the respondent. The above exercise shall be done immediately on the petitioner approaching the Geologist, at any rate, within a period of two weeks from the date of such application being filed.

Writ petition is disposed of.

Sd/-

(K. VINOD CHANDRAN, JUDGE)

jma

//true copy//

P.A to Judge