WEB COPY

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 07.07.2025

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE S.M.SUBRAMANIAM
AND
THE HONOURABLE DR.JUSTICE A.D.MARIA CLETE

W.P(MD)Nos.21041, 20976, 21374 and 18561 of 2018
and
W.M.P.(MD) Nos.19234, 18844, 16420 and 19631 of 2018

W.P.(MD) No.21041 of 2018:

E.Natarajan ... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The District Collector,
Tirunelveli District.

2.The Superintendent of Police,
Tirunelveli District.

3.The Deputy Director,
Department of Geology and Mining,
Kokavakulam, Tirunelveli.

4.The Superintending Engineer,
Public Works Department,
WRO, Thamirabarani Basin Division,
Tirunelveli.

5.The Block Development Officer,
Palayamkottai Union,
Tirunelveli District.

6.M.Chella Chitra

7.M.Murugaiah

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

8.C.Palthurai ... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this Court to issue a Writ of Mandamus, to direct respondents 1 to 5 to take immediate action to prevent the indiscriminate removal of sand from the Thamirabarani Basin in Thirumalai Kolunthupuram by considering the petitioner's representations dated 21.05.2018 and 01.10.2018.

For Petitioner	:	Mr.S.Rajasekar
For RR1 & 3 to 5	:	Mr.P.Thilakkumar Government Pleader
For R2	:	Mr.T.Senthilkumar Additional Public Prosecutor
For R6	:	Mr.C.Susikumar
For RR7 & 8	:	No appearance

W.P.(MD) No.20976 of 2018:

S.Murugan ... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The District Collector,
Tirunelveli District,
Tirunelveli.

2.The Assistant Director,
Geology & Mines Department,
Tirunelveli.

3.The Superintendent of Police,
Tirunelveli District,
Tirunelveli.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

4.M.Chellachitra ... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this Court to issue a Writ of Mandamus, to direct respondents 1 to 3 to stop the quarry operations being done by the 4th respondent at Survey Nos.208/20 D, 209/05, 209/1A, 210/1A 3E situated at Tirumalai Kulunthupuram Village, Palayamkottai Taluk, Tirunelveli District with immediate effect and further direct the first respondent to conduct a detailed enquiry on the basis of the representation given by the petitioner dated 19.09.2018 and to take appropriate action against the fourth respondent.

For Petitioner	:	Mr.A.R.Kannappan
For RR1 & 2	:	Mr.P.Thilakkumar Government Pleader
For R3	:	Mr.T.Senthilkumar Additional Public Prosecutor
For R4	:	Mr.C.Susikumar

W.P.(MD) No.21374 of 2018:

V.Nallamuthu ... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The District Collector,
Tirunelveli District,
Tirunelveli-627 009.

2.The Assistant Director (Minerals),
Department of Geology and Mining,
District Collectorate Campus,
Tirunelveli.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

3.The Tahsildar,
Tirunelveli Taluk,
Tirunelveli.

4.The Chairman,
State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority,
III Floor Panagal Maligai,
No.1, Jeenis Road,
Saidapet, Chennai-600 015.

5.M.Chellachithra ... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this Court to issue a Writ of Mandamus, to direct the 1st respondent to take necessary action against the 5th respondent for violation of the conditions in quarrying the land in S.Nos.208/20D, 209/5, 209/1A, 210/1A3E in violation of the Rules and to cancel the lease agreement granted in favour of the 5th Respondent.

For Petitioner : Mr.T.Antony Arul Raj

For RR1 to 3 : Mr.P.Thilakkumar
Government Pleader

For R4 : Mr.N.Dilipkumar

For R5 : Mr.C.Susikumar

W.P.(MD) No.18561 of 2018:

V.Sudalai ... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The District Collector,
Tirunelveli District,
Tirunelveli-627 009.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

2.The Assistant Director,
Geology and Mining,
Tirunelveli.

3.The Tahsildar,
Tirunelveli Taluk,
Tirunelveli.

4.The Superintending Engineer,
Public Works Department,
Water Resource Organisation,
Tamirabarani Division,
Tirunelveli District-627 002.

5.The Executive Officer,
Arulmigu Nachiaramman Kovil,
Tirumalaikolundhupuram,
Palayamkottai Taluk,
Tirunelveli District.

6.Chidamparam

7.Mutiah

8.Chella Chithra ... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying this Court to issue a Writ of Mandamus, to direct the 1st to 3rd respondents to cancel the quarry license given to the respondents 6 to 8 and consequently, forbear the 6th to 8th respondents from quarrying sand in S.No.208/20, 209/1, 209/5, 210/1A3 and in 206/16, 207/1A, 210/1A3A, 208/20B, 209/1C, 210/1A3C, 210/1A3G situated in Tirumalaikolundhupuram, Palayamkottai Taluk, Tirunelveli District based on petitioner's representations dated 09.07.2018 and 06.08.2018.

For Petitioner : Mr.S.Rajasekar
For M/s.T.Lajapathi Roy Associates

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

For RR1 to 4	:	Mr.P.Thilakkumar Government Pleader
For R5	:	Mr.R.Sethuraman
For R6	:	Mr.C.Susikumar
For RR7 & 8	:	No appearance

COMMON ORDER

[Order of the Court was made by S.M.SUBRAMANIAM, J.]

The learned Government Pleader would submit that river sand mining operations are completely stopped.

2. However, if any illegal mining operations are identified, any person may give a complaint to the competent authority and on receipt of such complaint or information, the authorities concerned are bound to initiate action and prevent illegal river sand mining operations and in the event of any failure on the part of the authority, they must be subjected to criminal proceedings and prosecution.

3. The learned Additional Public Prosecutor would submit that criminal cases are registered and trial is pending.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

4. In view of the submissions made by the learned Government Pleader and the learned Additional Public Prosecutor, these Writ Petitions are disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

[S.M.S., J.] [A.D.M.C., J.]

07.07.2025

Index:Yes
Internet:Yes/No
NCC:Yes/No

abr

To

1.The District Collector,
Tirunelveli District.

2.The Superintendent of Police,
Tirunelveli District.

3.The Deputy Director,
Department of Geology and Mining,
Kokavakulam, Tirunelveli.

4.The Superintending Engineer,
Public Works Department,
WRO, Thamirabarani Basin Division,
Tirunelveli.

5.The Block Development Officer,
Palayamkottai Union,
Tirunelveli District.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

S.M.SUBRAMANIAM, J.
and
DR.A.D.MARIA CLETE, J.

abr

6.The Assistant Director (Minerals),
Department of Geology and Mining,
District Collectorate Campus,
Tirunelveli.

7.The Tahsildar,
Tirunelveli Taluk,
Tirunelveli.

8.The District Collector,
Tirunelveli District,
Tirunelveli-627 009.

W.P(MD)Nos.21041, 20976, 21374 and 18561 of 2018

07.07.2025

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis