



Cont.P.(MD)No.3017 of 2024

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

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DATED: 24.01.2025

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THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE G.R.SWAMINATHAN
and
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE B.PUGALENDHI

Cont. P(MD)No.3017 of 2024

in

W.P.(MD)No.13887 of 2024

A.Palanivelu

... Petitioner

Vs.

Aruna,
The District Collector cum Chairman,
District Level Task Force,
District Collectorate,
Pudukkottai.

... Respondent

Prayer: Contempt Petition filed under Section 11 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, to punish the contemnor / 2nd respondent herein for the deliberate and willful disobedience in implementation of the order made in W.P.(MD)No. 13887 of 2024, dated 29.08.2024.

For Petitioner :Mr.M.Mahaboob Athiff

For Respondent :Mr.M.Balasubramani
Special Government Pleader



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Cont.P.(MD)No.3017 of 2024

ORDER

Contending that the direction passed by us in W.P.(MD)No.13887 of 2024 has not been complied with. The present contempt petition came to be filed.

2. The District Collector, Pudukkottai has filed the compliance report.

The compliance report reads as follows:-



Cont.P.(MD)No.3017 of 2024

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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS MADURAI
BENCH**

(Contempt jurisdiction)

Contempt Petition (MD) No. 3017 of 2024

in

W.P.(MD) No 13887 of 2024

A.Palanivelu,
S/o Adaikan,
Sathanur, Karaiyur Post,
Ponnamaravathy Taluk,
Pudukkottai District

.... Petitioner/Petitioner

Vs

Tmt. Aruna,
The District Collector cum Chairman,
District Level Task Force,
District Collectorate,
Pudukkottai

....2nd Respondent / Contemnor

**COMPLIANCE REPORT FILED BY THE CONTEMNOR/2nd
RESPONDENT**

I M.Aruna W/o Senthil Murugan, aged 46 yrs, working as the District Collector, Pudukkottai, Pudukkottai District, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Contemnor/ 2nd Respondent in the above contempt petition. I have gone through the averments contained in the affidavit filed in support of the Contempt Petition and I deny the entire allegations except those that are specifically admitted herein.
2. I submit that the petitioner filed this contempt petition against the 2nd respondents for alleged disobeying the Order in W.P.(MD) No 13887 of 2024 dated 29.08.2024 of this Hon'ble Court. I respectfully

Page.No.1
Corrns: Nil



Cont.P.(MD)No.3017 of 2024

submit that, I have great respect to the order of this Hon'ble Court and I never willfully disobeyed the order of this Hon'ble Court as alleged by the petitioner. However I am seeking unconditional apologies if this Hon'ble Court felt that I have committed offences of contempt. The Hon'ble Court in their order dated 29.08.2024 in W.P.(MD).No.30030 of 2023 has ordered in Para: 4 " xxx The District Collector, Pudukkottai District to appoint an independent team with a specific mandate to determine the extent of illegal quarrying in Sathani Kanmoi and the petition mentioned lands in Sathanur revenue village, Ponnamaravathy Taluk, within a period of two weeks from the date of receipt of copy of this order. we issue such a positive direction so that the District Collector shall fix responsibility on the concerned officials. The officials of Ponnamaravathy Taluk shall not be a part of the team to be constituted by the District Collector. The said team will carry out this inspection and submit its report to the District Collector within a period of two weeks thereafter. The District Collector is mandated to pass an appropriate order by taking into account the report of the independent team as well as that of the Advocate Commissioner within a period of two weeks from the date of submission of the report by the team,

3. I respectfully submit in Obedience to the orders of the Hon'ble court, the independent team comprised with following officials were appointed in Collector's Proceedings No.627/2021(G&Mn), dated 30.09.2024 with directions to inspect and the specific mandate to determine the extent of illegal quarrying in Sathani Kanmoi and the petition mentioned lands in Sathanur revenue village, Ponnamaravathy Taluk, The said team will carry out inspection and submit its report to the District Collector within a period of two weeks.

1. Special District Revenue Officer (L.A)(CVG) - Team Leader
2. Revenue divisional Officer, Illuppur - Member



Cont.P.(MD)No.3017 of 2024

The team report along with the report of the Advocate Commissioner were taken for consideration before passing final order by the District Collector, Pudukkottai in her proceedings No.627/2021(G&MN) , dated 14.12.2024 wherein directions have been issued to the Revenue Divisional Officer, Illuppur to take further action under Section 36(A) of Mines and Minerals Rules , 1959 to fix the offenders and to impose fine and Seigniorage fees for the illicit quarry of sand excavated in Santhanur Village, Ponnamaravathy Taluk. Further, the Revenue Divisional Officer, Illuppur has been instructed in this office letter No. 627/2021/G&M], dated 11.01.2025 to expedite action to recover the loss of revenue occurred due to illicit quarry of sand and submit his report before 20.01.2025.

5. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Illuppur in his proceedings No. RC-E-2532707/2024/A1 dated 21.01.2025 has imposed cost of gravel, Seigniorage rate, etc for the illicit quarry in SF.No.24/1 quantity of 157.85 cubic meter, total fine amount of Rs. 49,625/- imposed on to Thiru Adaikan Poosai and 3 others. In respect of SF.No.27/2A1A quantity of 733.05 cubic meters, total fine amount of Rs. 1,39,356/- imposed on to Thiru Muthukaruppan @ sekkappa chetti and 7 others. In respect of SF.No.75/2 quantity of 1122.353 cubic meters, total fine amount of Rs. 2,00,087/- imposed on to Thiru Palanivel and 11 others. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Illuppur has initiated disciplinary proceedings against the formerly Village Administrative Officer, sathanur and show cause notice issued in his memo No.RC.E-2532707/2023/A1, dated 22.01.2025.

I respectfully submit that the orders of the Hon'ble Court has been complied with and instructions were issued to all Tahsildars in this district to be vigilant in illicit quarry activities of the offenders by



Cont.P.(MD)No.3017 of 2024

implementing the monitoring committees in each taluk and submit monthly report on the action taken in this regard.

For the reasons stated above it is prayed that this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to pass necessary or other orders as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the above case and thus render justice

3. We direct the respondent to ensure that disciplinary action against the concerned VAO is taken to its logical conclusion within a period of four months. With the aforesaid direction, the contempt petition is closed.

[G.R.S., J.] [B.P., J.]
24.01.2025

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

The District Collector cum Chairman,
District Level Task Force,
District Collectorate, Pudukkottai.



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G.R.SWAMINATHAN, J

and

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