WEB COPY

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 05-11-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE P.T. ASHA

WP No. 45169 of 2026
CNR:{HCMA012579272026}

Case QR

K.Sundararaj

..Petitioner(s)

Vs

1. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government
   Natural Resources Department,
   Secretariat, Chennai- 600 009.

2. The Director of Geology and Mining
   Department of Geology and Mining,
   Thiru.Vi.Ka.Industrial Estate,
   Guindy,Chennai- 600 032.

3. The District Collector
   Coimbatore District,
   Coimbatore- 641 018.

4. The Assistant Director
   Department of Geology and Mining,
   Coimbatore District,
   Coimbatore- 641 018.

..Respondent(s)

Prayer: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus to direct the 1st respondent to dispose off the appeal dated 19.08.2025 and pass final orders regarding the petitioners proposed quarry lease for the patta lands situated at S.F. Nos.799/1, 800 and 802/3 with an extent of 1.03.50 Hectares in Karamadai

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

WEB COPY

Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District within a time frame stipulated by this court.

For Petitioner(s): Ms.I.Buvanashri
for Mr.G.Vignesh

For Respondent(s): Dr.R.Gowri

Order

The writ petition has been filed seeking a direction to the 1st respondent to dispose of the appeal dated 19.08.2025 and pass final orders regarding the petitioner's proposed quarry lease for the patta lands situated at S.F. Nos.799/1, 800 and 802/3 measuring an extent of 1.03.50 Hectares in Karamadai Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District within a time frame stipulated by this court.

2. The case of the petitioner is that he submitted an application dated 27.12.2021 to the 4th respondent seeking a lease for quarrying rough stone and gravel in his patta lands comprised in S.F.Nos.799/1, 800 and 802/3, measuring 3.96 hectares, situated at Karamadai Village, Mettupalayam Taluk, Coimbatore District. Pursuant to the application, the Village Administrative Officer, Tahsildar and Revenue Divisional Officer inspected the site and recommended grant of the lease. Accordingly, a

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

WEB COPY

Precise Area Communication was issued on 24.02.2022, followed by Terms of Reference from SEIAA on 28.07.2022. A public hearing was conducted on 20.12.2022, during which no objections were raised or recorded. The petitioner thereafter submitted the final EIA and EMP reports.

3. It is the further case of the petitioner that, despite the initial approval of the mining plan, the 4th respondent rejected his quarry lease application by order dated 08.09.2023, relying upon public complaints and the recommendation of the SEAC dated 26.04.2023. According to the petitioner, the complaints were belated and were not raised during the public hearing. Aggrieved by the same, the petitioner preferred a first appeal under Rule 36-C(2) of the Tamil Nadu Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 1959, before the 2nd respondent on 28.08.2024. However, the same was rejected on 30.07.2025 as time-barred, citing a delay of 11 months, without considering the merits. Thereafter, the petitioner preferred a second appeal before the 1st respondent on 19.08.2025, which was received on 20.08.2025. Though the 3rd respondent, by proceedings dated 24.12.2025, requested the 2nd respondent to pass appropriate orders after considering the chronological history of the case, the appeal has not been

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

WEB COPY

disposed of so far. Hence, the present writ petition seeking a direction to the 1st respondent to dispose of the appeal.

4. Heard the learned counsels on both side and perused the materials available on record.

5. Considering the limited scope of the present writ petition, this Court, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case, directs the 1st respondent to consider the petitioner's appeal dated 19.08.2025 and pass appropriate orders on merits and in accordance with law, after affording an opportunity of hearing to the petitioner, within a period of one month from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. No costs.

05-11-2026

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

SRN

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

WEB COPY

To

1. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government
   Natural Resources Department,
   Secretariat, Chennai- 600 009.

2. The Director of Geology and Mining
   Department of Geology and Mining,
   Thiru.Vi.Ka.Industrial Estate,
   Guindy,Chennai- 600 032.

3. The District Collector
   Coimbatore District,
   Coimbatore- 641 018.

4. The Assistant Director
   Department of Geology and Mining,
   Coimbatore District,
   Coimbatore- 641 018.

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

WEB COPY

P.T.ASHA J.

SRN

WP No. 45169 of 2026

05-11-2026

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