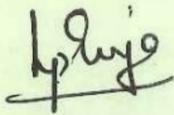


**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
Original Application No.69 of 2021(SZ)**

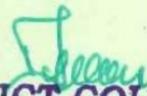
Tribunal on its own motion-SUO MOTU Based on the
News item in Dinamalar Newspaper, Chennai Dated
05.02.2021, "Landslide in Uthiramerur Stone
Quarry: one killed". ... Applicant(s)

Versus

1. The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600 009.
2. The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment & Forests,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600 009.
3. The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Industries Department,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu-600 009.
4. Department of Geology and Mining,
Rep. by its Commissioner,
Alandur Road, Guindy Industrial Estate,
Guindy, Chennai - 600 032.
5. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
No.76, Anna Salai, Guindy,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 032.
6. The District Collector,
Kancheepuram District,
First Floor, Collectorate,
Kancheepuram - 631 501.
7. Uthiramerur Town Panchayat,
Rep. by its Executive Officer,
Periyannarasam Pettai Street,
Uthiramerur,
Kancheepuram - 603 406.
8. Mr. Muthu,
Aged 60 years,
Madhur Village,
Uthiramerur Panchayat Union,
Kancheepuram - 603 406. ... Respondent(s)



**Deputy Director
Geology and Mining
Kancheepuram.**



**DISTRICT COLLECTOR
KANCHEEPURAM.**

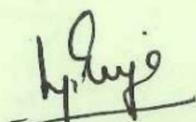
**STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE 6TH RESPONDENT -
DISTRICT COLLECTOR, KANCHEEPURAM.**

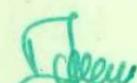
I Mageswari Ravikumar, I.A.S., W/o. Ravikumar, Hindu, aged about 46, residing at Collectors Bungalow, Kancheepuram do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1) I am the 6th respondent and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the records. I am filing this clarification petition.

2) It is submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, southern Zone in its order dated 17.02.2021 received by this office on 27.02.2021 by mail has inert-alia in para 7 of the order directed by "*appointing Joint committee comprising of 1) The District Collector, Tiruvallur District, 2) a Senior Scientist from Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) as designated by its Chairman 3) The Geologist from the Department of Geology and Mining, Chennai to inspect this area in question and submit a factual as well as action taken report, if there is any violation found along with the steps already taken by them when they came to know about the incident. If there is any violation of the conditions imposed, either in the mining lease or in the other permission granted and not providing any safety measures or excess mining or unscientific manner in which mining has been conducted, if that be the cause for the incident, suggest further precautionary methods to be taken for the purpose of considering the question of future course of action as to whether any further permission for quarrying in such areas can be granted taking into account the geological formation of the stones, its feasibility and strength and risk that is likely to be caused in future, if it is continued to be quarry. The committee may also assess the environmental compensation, if there is any violation found and excess mining done and submit a report to this Tribunal on or before 31.03.2021 by e-filing in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF along with necessary hard copies to be produced as per rules.*"

3) It is further submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, southern Zone by order dated 17.02.2021 in para 8 also directed "*the committee to consider the question of cost required for restoring the damage caused to the environment and the remedial measures to be taken, while submitting the report.*"

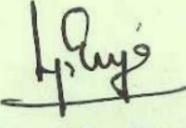

**Deputy Director
Geology and Mining
Kancheepuram.**

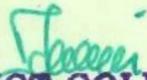

**DISTRICT COLLECTOR
KANCHEEPURAM.**

4) It is submitted that on 04.02.2021 at 9.00 A.M the foot wall of the Eastern side of the quarry wall in the Roughstone quarry granted in S.F.No.325/4,109/1A1 and 109/1A2 of Sirudhamur Village, Uthiramerur Taluk, Kancheepuram District had Collapsed due to weak zone beneath it leading to a massive slump of earth and stone to the quarry floor. As a result, multi-axle vehicles and excavators which were involved in the daily maintenance and fuel filling were trapped in the collapsed mass. In the incident one labourer named Manikandan was injured in the incident and had died on the spot. One other was injured by name Sona Ansari had died in the hospital in spite of the intensive treatment. Another quarry labourer by name S. Suresh who was injured in the said incident was given treatment and had recovered from the injuries. Post the incident, FIR was registered on the quarry owner, Manager and Supervisor in Salavakkam Police Station vide complaint No.17/2021. The District Collector had initiated all the rescue operations in co-ordination with revenue, police and TNFRS (Tamil Nadu Fire & Rescue Force). The rescue operation was carried out on a war footing basis and all the collapsed debris were removed. Further it is submitted that on the due instruction of the District Collector, compensation of each five lakhs Rupees (two persons total ten lakhs) has been given by the quarry owner to the family of the deceased labourer's in the presence of the District Collector Kancheepuram. The authority relating to maintenance of safety measures in the quarry is Director General of Mines safety, under the guidance of DGMS all the precautionary safety measures like Helmet, Goggles, Safety shoes, Dust mask, Ear muffs etc., have been maintained in the quarry site and provided to the quarry laborers.

5) The quarry has been granted extracting Roughstone boulders for manufacturing aggregates. As such terrain is predominantly a hard rock terrain with irregular joint and fracture pattern. The foot wall which had collapsed had weak zone beneath it which had led to the collapse of all the material above it. Thus the incident itself is a natural accident owing to certain geological parameters like joints and fractures.

6) It is submitted that in Joint committee, (as per para 7 of the order) the Hon'ble NGT appointed the District Collector, Tiruvallur as a committee member and directed to file report to this Tribunal on or before 31.03.2021 by e-filing in the form of searchable PDF/OCR Support PDF and not in the form of Image PDF along with necessary hard copies to be produced as per rules.


**Deputy Director
Geology and Mining
Kancheepuram.**


**DISTRICT COLLECTOR
KANCHEEPURAM.**

7) It is further submitted that the unexpected land slide was happened in Kancheepuram District but the Hon'ble NGT has directed the District Collector, Tiruvallur to file report. The present District collector Kancheepuram is the District Collector at the time of incident happened. Therefore, it is humbly prayed that the Hon'ble NGT may permit the District Collector Kancheepuram to file joint Committee Inspection report instead of District Collector Tiruvallur.

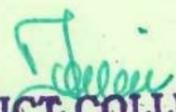
8) It is further submitted that the District Collector, Tiruvallur and Kancheepuram are engaged in election work of the Tamil Nadu State Assembly Election 2021 under the control of the Election Commission of India. The code of conduct of Election Commission of India is in force.

9) Tamil Nadu Assembly Election 2021 Schedule is submitted as follows: -

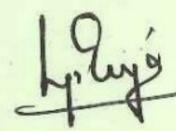
Issue of Notification	12 th March 2021
Last date of Nomination	19 th March 2021
Scrutiny of Nomination	20 th March 2021
Last date of Withdrawal Candidature	22 nd March 2021
Date of Polling	06 th April 2021
Date of Counting	02 nd May 2021

10) It is further submitted that in respect of Kancheepuram District, four assembly Constituencies viz., Kancheepuram, Uthiramerur, Sriperumbudur (Spl) and Aalandur are under the Control of District Collector / District Election Officer, Kancheepuram.

Therefore, it is humbly prayed that 4 week's time from the date of receipt of the modified order of the Hon'ble NGT and permit to file Joint committee inspection report as directed after lifting the code of conduct of Election Commission of India.


**DISTRICT COLLECTOR
KANCHEEPURAM.**

BEFORE ME


**Deputy Director
Geology and Mining
Kancheepuram.**

VERIFICATION

I, MageswariRavikumar, W/o. Ravikumar, working as District Collector, Kancheepuram District do hereby verify that the contents of above report are true to the best of my knowledge through records.

Verified at Kancheepuram on this day of March 2021.

Swami
**DISTRICT COLLECTOR
KANCHEEPURAM.**