

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 226 of 2024 (SZ)

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news items published in 'The Times of India', Chennai edition dt.31.07.2024, titled "This is why Western Ghats need to be tagged eco-sensitive area" and "Rain and roads: Both spell landslides for Nilgiris, says study" and in 'Dinamalar' Tamil Newspaper, Chennai edition dated 31.07.2024, titled "Danger awaits Nilgiris".

Versus

MoEF&CC, New Delhi and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED BY THE 2nd RESPONDENT
THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR, DINDIGUL

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Through

Dr. D. Shanmuganathan

Standing Counsel of Tamil Nadu

National Green Tribunal

Southern Zone, Chennai

DATE:09.01.2025

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No.226 OF 2024 (SZ)

In the matter of:

Suo Motu

Versus

1. The Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
 2. The Chief Secretary to Government, State of Tamil Nadu.
 3. Principal Secretary to Government, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests.
 4. Principal Secretary to Government, Revenue and Disaster Management Department.
 5. Chairman - Tamil Nadu State Pollution Control Board.
 6. District Collector - The Nilgiris District
 7. District Collector - Coimbatore District
-Respondents

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE RESPONDENT -
THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR, THE DINDIGUL**

I, **M.N.Poongodi, I.A.S.**, W/o. Kalaiarasu, aged 55 years, residing at Collector Bungalaw, Camp Office, A.M.C.Road, Dindigul, discharging duties as the District Collector, Dindigul do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I submit that I am the Respondent in the above Original Application.
2. I further submit that I have gone through the order of the Honourable National Green Tribunal passed on 17.10.2024 in the above Original Application. The Honourable National Green Tribunal has directed the District Collector of Dindigul to file a detailed report as similar exercise of Nilgiris District in para 2 of that order.
3. In continuation of this writ, I submit that all the measures to prevent landslides in the Kodaikanal, Dindigul District with a view to safeguard loss of life and property are taken from time to time. I beg to file the following detailed report in compliance the orders dated 17.10.2024 passed by the Honourable National Green Tribunal with particular reference to points contained in para 2 of the order.

y/poongodi
**Personal Assistant (General)
to the Collector,
Dindigul,**

LW 1/20
**COLLECTOR,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.**

(A) In Dindigul District, the Eco-Sensitive Zone (ESZ) for the Kodaikanal wildlife sanctuary has been notified as per the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Notification: 380, New Delhi dated 23.01.2020 and formal notification of the Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ) in Western Ghat has been declared an ESZ in the Dindigul District. S.O. 412(E)- a Draft Notification was published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, vide notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment, Forest on the 22.11.2018. Eco Sensitive Zone Monitoring Committee has also been formed.

5 Vulnerable locations has been identified due to landslide in respect of the Kodaikanal Taluk, Dindigul District.

Extent and boundaries of Eco – Sensitive Zone – (1)

The Eco- Sensitive Zone shall be to an Extent of 0.0 (Zero) to 1.0 Kilometre around the boundary of Kodaikanal Wildlife sanctuary and the area of the Eco – Sensitive Zone 106.78 Square Kilometres (Zero Extent of Eco – Sensitive Zone is due to border with Kerala and presence of a Town Ship)

LIST OF VILLAGES COMING UNDER ECO-SENSITIVE ZONE OF KODAIKANAL WILDLIFE SANCTUARY ALONG WITH GEO-COORDINATES

S. No	Division and Taluk	Name of the Villages	Geo – Coordinates	
			Latitude	Longitude
1	Kodaikanal Division / Kodaikanal Taluk	Andipatty	10°26' 13.2"	77°22' 42.96"
2		Velayudampalayampudur	10° 15' 44.78"	77° 15' 11.88"
3		Pappampatty	10° 15' 44.12"	77° 14' 33.39"
4		Kavalpatty	10° 15' 43.63"	77° 15' 14.99"
5		Annanagar	10°23' 9.97"	77° 32' 28.12"
6		Adukkam	10° 14' 16.98"	77° 33' 08.21"
7		Kodaikanal	10° 14' 16.07"	77° 29' 20.85"
8		Kookal	10° 17' 09.23"	77°21' 48.04"
9		Poomparai	10° 15' 23.10"	77°24' 28.13"
10		Thandikudi	10° 18' 35.32"	77° 38' 35.11"
11		Pannaikadu	10° 16' 43.47"	77° 37' 42.81"
12		Poolathur	10° 13' 27.03"	77° 39' 56.51"
13		Vellagavi – Periyar	10° 9' 26.54"	77°26' 26.95"
	Vellagavi - Chinnur	10° 11' 50.49"	77° 29' 59.70"	

(Signature)
Personal Assistant (General)
to the Collector,
Dindigul.

(Signature) 2/20
COLLECTOR,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.

(B) Whether the mining activities, involving blasting are permissible in the Dindigul District and the hill area of Kodaikanal. In case they are permissible, whether any special conditions are imposed for granting permission. In case quarrying has been banned, since when the ban was imposed?

Geology and Mining

I submit that quarrying operation has been prohibited since from 2003 and no quarrying/ mining is permitted as on date in Kodaikanal Hill area.

(C) Whether permissions are being granted for the establishment of Thermal Power Projects or expansion of existing units after the year 2010. If yes, the number and capacity of the Thermal Power Plants established may be furnished.

No permission has been granted for the establishment of Thermal Power Projects in Kodaikanal, Dindigul District.

(D) What are all the regulation in place to prevent the high-rise structures and massive concrete buildings (exceeding 20,000 sq Meters) in the Kodaikanal and hill areas of Dindigul District?

HACA Area in Kodaikanal :

i. For Planning Area in HACA:

- a. Zoning regulations and planning parameters of Kodaikanal modified Master Plan applicable for Kodaikanal Planning Area and the extent of the Kodaikanal Local Planning Authority is 21.21 sq.km. The Master plan approved under section 28 of Town and Country Planning Act 1971 vide G.O.(ms) No: 47 Housing and Urban Development (UD4(2) Department Dated : 06.03.2024).
- b. The area of 200m around the boundary of Kodaikanal lake and 100m around the boundary of Gymkhana Ground is prohibited for building development
- c. In the Planning area, the maximum height of the building is allowed or building height shall not exceed 10m (or) three floors and no other type of roof other than gable roof is permissible in the upper most floor of the buildings


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- d. To obtain planning Permission the NOC has to be obtained from
- District Forest Officer
 - Assistant/Deputy Director of Geology and Mining
 - Revenue Divisional Officer

ii. For Non Planning Area in HACA :

- a. In Dindigul District, all villages in Kodaikanal Taluk and some of the villages in Dindigul East, Dindigul West and Palani Taluk are identified as HACA area vide G.O.Ms No : 49 Housing and Urban Development (UD2(2)) Department dated : 24.03.2023. Development of Hill area conservation Authority as identification of actual Hill villages exclusion of villages in Plain Areas
- b. In the Hill station areas, Tamil Nadu District Municipalities (Hill stations) Building Rules 1993 are applicable and Rule 11(3) of HSBR states that the height of a building shall not exceed seven metres and the top floor shall be with slopped roof.
- c. To obtain planning Permission the NOC has to be obtained from
- District Forest Officer
 - Assistant/Deputy Director of Geology and Mining
 - Revenue Divisional Officer
 - Joint Director, Agriculture

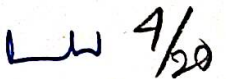
To Prevent Massive Concrete Structures above 20000 Sq.m in Kodaikanal, Dindigul District:

In HACA Areas for (both planning and Non-Planning Area)

- a. As per the direction, secretary to Government municipal Administration and water supply Department secretariat Chennai-9 vide letter No : 17718/ MA1 /99-2 dated : 20.07.1999, the Presidents of the villages panchayats in the panchayat Union have been empowered to accord permission for construction (or) reconstruction of buildings which do not exceed 250 Sq.mt of the area under their jurisdiction in accordance with the provision of the Tamil Nadu District Municipalities Act 1920.



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**COLLECTOR,
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b. The area exceeding 250 Sq.m in the non planning area, the application shall be placed in the Architectural and Aesthetics Aspects committee (AAA) upto 15,000 Sq.ft and area exceeds 15,000 Sq.ft has to be forwarded to the Hill Area conservation Authority (HACA) for obtaining the planning permission with the following NOC :

- District Forest Officer
- Assistant/Deputy Director of Geology and Mining
- Revenue Divisional Officer
- Joint Director, Agriculture (additionally for non-planning area only)

In HACA Areas:

In the Tamil Nadu District Municipalities Act 1920-Building Regulation in Hill stations Rule 217 J 1(a) to 1(e), the Executive Authority has the power to stop work, for the construction (or) reconstruction of the building (or) part there of the user of the building (or) land (or) the user of any agricultural land for Non agricultural purpose (or) the carrying out of the buildings, engineering, mining (or) other allied operations is in contravention of any of the provisions of this Act and in particulars.

GO (Ms)No: 289 H&UD (UD 4-1) Department dated :16.12.2010. Declaration of powers of enforcement actions for curtailing unauthorized construction specified in section 56 & 57 of Town and Country Planning (Amendment) Act 2008 to the commissioner of corporation/Municipalities and Executive officers of Town Panchayats in addition to member secretary of composite Local Planning Authorities. New town Development Authorities and Regional Deputy Directors of Town and Country Planning Department.

Sl. No.	Type of Building	Building built up area limit	Type of clearance required	Approval Authority
01.	Residential Building	up to 1500 sq.ft	Assistant Director, Geology and Mining Department	After obtaining clearance from the Building Plan approval Committee at the district level, under the chairmanship of the District Collector, approved by the concern local bodies.
02.	Residential Building	1500 sq.ft to 250 sq.m	1) Assistant Director, Geology and Mining Department, 2) District Forest Officer, Forest Department	After obtaining clearance from the Building Plan approval Committee at the district level, under the chairmanship of the District Collector, approved by the concern local bodies


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03.	Residential building	Above 250 sq.m to 15000 sq.ft	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Assistant Director, Geology and Mining Department 2) District Forest Officer, Forest Department (If built up area within 300 sq.m) 3) PCCF, Forest Department (If built up areas exceeds 300 Sq.m) 4) Revenue Divisional Officer, 5) Joint Director, Horticulture Department, (If proposal falls Non Planning Area), 6) Fire & Rescue Services, (Based on Type of Building) 7) Public works Department, (If any existing buildings, any other matters related to PWD), 8) Water resource Department, (If required, any major stream, river, channel, dam, etc.,) 9) Environmental Clearance, (If total built up area exceeds 20000 Sq.m and Land developments exceeds 50 Hectares) 10) Indian Railway (If proposal falls within 30 m any railway boundary) 11) Tea board of India (If required) 12) National Highways (If required). 	<p>After obtaining clearance from the Architectural and Aesthetic Aspects Committee at the district level, under the chairmanship of the Additional Collector (Development), Technical Concurrence issued by the Assistant Director, District Town and Country Planning and final approval issued by the concern local bodies.</p>
	All other Type of buildings (Commercial, Industrial, Institutional, Public building etc.,)	Upto 15000 Sq.ft		
04.	All other Type of buildings	Above 15000 Sq.ft		<p>After obtaining clearance from the Architectural and Aesthetic Aspects Committee at the district level, under the chairmanship of the Additional Collector (Development), Proposal submitted to Director of Town and Country Planning for obtaining Hill Area Conservation Authority Clearance, After obtaining clearance from the HACA, Technical Concurrence issued by the Director of Town and Country Planning and final approval issued by the concern local bodies.</p>

J. P. Rao
Personal Assistant (General)
to the Collector,
Dindigul.

L. W. 6/20
COLLECTOR,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.

The regulations are governed by Hill Area Conservation Authorities and AAA Committee and Environmental Protection act 1986.

(E) What measures were initiated for afforestation and how much area has afforested since 2010?

Afforestation measures have been initiated through various programs. These measures include plantation of native species, restoration of degraded lands. In respect of Kodaikanal Fores division 4623.13 have been afforested since 2010.

Kodaikanal Forest Division

Plantation details in Kodaikanal Forest Division from the year of 2010-2024

Sl. No.	Range	Year of raising	Area in Ha.	Name of the Species	Escapement (Mtr.)	No. of Seedlings Planted
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Berijam	2010	20.00	fodder	5x5	5000
2	Berijam	2010	50.00	Agave	3x3	25000
3	Berijam	2010	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
4	Kodaikanal	2010	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
5	Kodaikanal	2010	20.00	Shola	3x3	5000
6	Kodaikanal	2010	50.00	Agave	3x3	25000
7	Poombarai	2010	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
8	Poombarai	2010	20.00	fodder	5x5	5000
9	Poombarai	2010	50.00	Agave	3x3	25000
10	Mannavanur	2010	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
11	Mannavanur	2010	20.00	Shola	3x3	5000
12	Mannavanur	2010	50.00	Agave	3x3	25000
13	Perumpallam	2010	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
14	Perumpallam	2010	20.00	Shola	3x3	5000
15	Perumpallam	2010	50.00	Agave	3x3	25000

Opson
Personal Assistant (General)
 to the Collector,
 Dindigul.

LW 7/20
COLLECTOR,
 Dindigul District,
 Dindigul.

16	Devathanapatty	2010	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
17	Devathanapatty	2010	20.00	Shola	3x3	5000
18	Devathanapatty	2010	50.00	Agave	3x3	25000
19	Berijam	2012	5.00	Shola	3x3	1000
20	Kodaikanal	2012	5.00	Shola	3x3	1000
21	Kodaikanal	2012	50.00	Shola	3x3	10000
22	Poombarai	2012	5.00	Shola	3x3	1000
23	Poombarai	2012	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
24	Mannavanur	2012	5.00	Shola	3x3	1000
25	Mannavanur	2012	50.00	Shola	3x3	10000
26	Perumpallam	2012	5.00	Shola	3x3	1000
27	Perumpallam	2012	25.00	Misc	3x3	5000
28	Devathanapatty	2012	5.00	Shola	3x3	1000
29	Devathanapatty	2012	5.00	Misc	3x3	500
30	Devathanapatty	2012	25.00	Misc	3x3	5000
31	Berijam	2013	2.50	Irambulai	3x3	500
32	Berijam	2013	5.00	Naval	3x3	1000
33	Berijam	2013	2.50	Pura thinnai	3x3	500
34	Berijam	2013	5.00	Fodder species	5x5	1000
35	Berijam	2013	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
36	Kodaikanal	2013	2.00	Naval	3x3	400
37	Kodaikanal	2013	4.50	Vellai jathi	3x3	900
38	Kodaikanal	2013	2.50	Soluvam	3x3	500
39	Kodaikanal	2013	5.00	Fodder species	5x5	1000
40	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000
41	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000
42	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000

Prasanna
Personal Assistant (General)
to the Collector,
Dindigul.

LW 8/20
COLLECTOR,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.

43	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000
44	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000
45	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000
46	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000
47	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000
48	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000
49	Kodaikanal	2013	25.00	Fodder	5x5	5000
50	Poombarai	2013	2.50	Irambulai	3x3	500
51	Poombarai	2013	1.25	Naval	3x3	250
52	Poombarai	2013	5.00	Fodder species	3x3	1000
53	Poombarai	2013	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
54	Mannavanur	2013	2.50	Naval	3x3	500
55	Mannavanur	2013	2.50	Erumpuli	3x3	500
56	Mannavanur	2013	2.50	Kambuli vetti	3x3	500
57	Mannavanur	2013	10.00	Fodder species	5x5	2000
58	Mannavanur	2013	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
59	Palani	2013	50.00	NAP	3x3	10000
60	Perumpallam	2013	1.38	Teak	3x3	275
61	Perumpallam	2013	5.00	Fodder species	5x5	1000
62	Perumpallam	2013	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
63	Devathanapatty	2013	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
64	Berijam	2014	40.00	Shola	3x3	4000
65	Berijam	2014	5.00	Shola	3x3	5100
66	Kodaikanal	2014	40.00	Shola	3x3	4000
67	Kodaikanal	2014	30.00	Fodder	5x5	6000
68	Kodaikanal	2014	40.00	Shola	3x3	2550
69	Poombarai	2014	40.00	Shola	3x3	4000

[Signature]
Personal Assistant (General)
to the Collector,
Dindigul.

[Signature]
COLLECTOR,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.

70	Poombarai	2014	5.00	Shola	3x3	4950
71	Mannavanur	2014	5.00	Shola	3x3	4950
72	Mannavanur	2014	5.00	Shola	3x3	2000
73	Mannavanur	2014	40.00	Shola	3x3	4000
74	Perumpallam	2014	5.00	Shola	3x3	1000
75	Perumpallam	2014	5.00	Misc	3x3	4700
76	Devathanapatty	2014	5.00	Misc	3x3	2500
77	Berijam	2015	15.00	Shola	3x3	3000
78	Kodaikanal	2015	5.00	Shola	3x3	2550
79	Mannavanur	2015	10.00	Shola	3x3	2000
80	Devathanapatty	2015	5.00	Misc.	3x3	1500
81	Devathanapatty	2015	2.50	Misc.	3x3	500
82	Berijam	2016	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
83	Berijam	2016	25.00	Shola	3x3	2000
84	Berijam	2016	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
85	Kodaikanal	2016	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
86	Poombarai	2016	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
87	Poombarai	2016	10.00	Shola	3x3	2000
88	Mannavanur	2016	25.00	Medicinal Plants	3x3	2000
89	Mannavanur	2016	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
90	Palani	2016	1.50	Palmyra	3x3	3750
91	Perumpallam	2016	25.00	Misc	3x3	2000
92	Perumpallam	2016	25.00	Misc	3x3	10000
93	Devathanapatty	2016	5.00	Medicinal	3x3	2000
94	Devathanapatty	2016	25.00	Misc.	3x3	5000
95	Devathanapatty	2016	1.00	Misc	3x3	300
96	Perumpallam	2016	25.00	Misc	3x3	5000

P. P. P.
Personal Assistant (General)
to the Collector,
Dindigul.

COLLECTOR,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.

10/20

97	Perumpallam	2016	25.00	Misc	3x3	5000
98	Palani	2017	4.00	Palmyra	3x3	3500
99	Palani	2017	2.00	Teak	3x3	2200
100	Palani	2017	0.48	Medicinal	3x3	10000
101	Devathanapatty	2017	2.50	Tamarind	3x3	500
102	Kodaikanal	2018	1.50	Shola	3x3	300
103	Devathanapatty	2018	0.30	Palmyra	3x3	3000
104	Devathanapatty	2018	5.00	Medicinal	3x3	1000
105	Devathanapatty	2018	25.00	Medicinal	3x3	5000
106	Kodaikanal	2019	1.00	Shola	3x3	200
107	Kodaikanal	2019	5.00	Shola	3x3	1000
108	Kodaikanal	2019	16.50	Shola	3x3	3300
109	Poombarai	2019	5.00	Shola	3x3	1000
110	Poombarai	2019	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
111	Mannavanur	2019	25.00	Shola	3x3	5000
112	Mannavanur	2019	16.50	Shola	3x3	3300
113	Palani	2019	11.00	Teak	3x3	2200
114	Palani	2019	11.00	Teak	3x3	2200
115	Palani	2019	25.00	Bamboo	5x5	2500
116	Devathanapatty	2019	25.00	Bamboo	5x5	2500
117	Palani	2020	11.00	Teak	3x3	2200
118	Palani	2020	25.00	Bamboo	5x5	2500
119	Palani	2020	4.00	Palmyra	3x3	3000
120	Kodaikanal	2021	7.50	Shola	3x3	1500
121	Devathanapatty	2021	10.00	Misc.	3x3	1000
122	Palani	2021	11.00	Teak	3x3	2200
123	Berijam	2022	0.46	Native Shola	3x3	200

P. Prasad
Personal Assistant (General)
to the Collector,
Dindigul,

LW
COLLECTOR,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul,

11/20

124	Berijam	2022	25.00	Native Shola	3x3	12350
125	Berijam	2022	25.00	Native Shola	3x3	12350
126	Kodaikanal	2022	1.00	Shola	3x3	200
127	Kodaikanal	2022	50.00	Shola	3x3	24700
128	Mannavanur	2022	1.00	Shola	3x3	200
129	Devathanapatty	2022	2.00	Teak, Vembu	3x3	200
130	Devathanapatty	2022	50.00	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	5000
131	Devathanapatty	2022	35.98	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	7195
132	Devathanapatty	2022	20.00	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	4000
133	Devathanapatty	2022	7.50	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	1500
134	Devathanapatty	2022	25.00	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	5000
135	Devathanapatty	2022	7.50	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	1500
136	Devathanapatty	2022	25.00	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	5000
137	Devathanapatty	2022	6.00	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	1200
138	Devathanapatty	2022	5.00	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	1000
139	Devathanapatty	2022	15.00	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	3000
140	Devathanapatty	2022	15.00	Tamiarind, Teak, Neem	3x3	3000
141	Devathanapatty	2022	400.00	Teak, Eluppai, Tamarind, Neermaruthu, Elavam, Nettilingam, Jack Fruit, Thani, Nelli, Narielli, Poorasu, Mahakani, Moongil	3x3	40000
142	Devathanapatty	2022	240.00	Teak, Tamarind, Jack Fruit	3x3	24000
143	Devathanapatty	2022	80.00	Teak, Tamarind, Elavam, Nelli, Padam, Poovarasu	3x3	8000
144	Devathanapatty	2022	296.00	Teak, Tamarind, Pungan, Thungamunji vagai, vembu, kodikkapuli, Vagai, Athi, Poovarasu	3x3	29600


Personal Assistant (General)
to the Collector,
Dindigul,


COLLECTOR,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.

145	Devathanapatty	2022	664.00	Teak, Tamarind, Pungan,Thungamunji vagai, vembu, kodikkapuli, Vagai, Athi, Poovarasu.	3x3	66400
146	Palani	2022	11.35	Misc.	3x3	5610
147	Poombarai	2022	120.00	Shola species Plantation	3x3	40000
148	Mannavanur	2022	55.00	Shola	3x3	27500
149	Kodaikanal	2023	7.50	Shola	3x3	3500
Total			4352.19	--	--	870480

Tami Nadu Pollution Control Board, Dindigul

TNPCB Dindigul is actively engaged in promoting afforestation by implementing Kurungadugal Scheme with a goal to achieve 1000 Kurungadugal in the state of Tamilnadu by involving the pro-active participation of industries.

(F) What measures were initiated to prevent the land slides in the Dindigul District and hill areas?

National Highways

Dindigul Division

- 1) It is submitted that no major earth slips or landslides in Kodaikanal Taluk in the last three years resulting in traffic disruptions.
- 2) In order to avoid Landslides at various locations such as Km 18/6, 23/2, 23/4, 33/2 of Periyakulam – Kodaikanal (via) Adukkam Road(non bus plying route), Soil stabilization work using soil nailing method was administratively sanctioned for Rs.2.00Cr. under CRIDP 2024-2025 scheme and Tender called for.
- 3) Also it is submitted that Technical Expert Committee has been constituted by the District Collector of Dindigul District. The Kodaikanal Division comprising of One Head and Six members to study the prevention of landslides and soil erosion. The Technical Expert Committee has submitted their recommendations. Based on the recommendations necessary protective works will be taken by the Highways department.


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4) The existing damaged, in adequate carriage way, culverts are identified and reconstruction of culvert works has been proposed and executed every year .

Culverts vent cleaning work is carried out periodically to avoid overflow of storm water which cause land slip.

Locations which need protective works are identified and proposal has been sent and constructed every year.

5) In Kodai Ghat Road at Km 16/0- 18/0 protective works will be proposed in the next financial year.

Palani Division

1) It is submitted that no major earth slips or landslides in Kodaikanal Taluk pertaining with Palani Highways Division in the last three years resulting in traffic disruptions.

Kodai-Palani Ghat road is an important Major District Road in Dindigul District connecting Hill station Kodaikanal and Palani Pilgrim centre.

The stretch at KM 25/0-39/6 of the above road is being maintained by Palani (H) C&M, Division. The Entire stretch is located in Hills.

Due to frequent rain falls, number of small Earth slips are occurring frequently. thereby disturbing the vehicular traffic. The earth slips are cleared immediately using available local mazdoors, Departmental gangs and hired machineries.


To prevent the landslides on Hill ride earthern, drains are periodically cleared for smooth flow of water. Also the vent way of the culverts are cleared.

Much importance have been given to prevent the water crossing over the BT road.

The landslide Prone locations at KM 28/6, 38/2. 38/4 have been identified and necessary precautionary measures have been taken.

(ii) Patchalur – Vadakadu and on to Oddanchatram road (M341) is an important Major District Road in Dindigul District connecting the Hill station Patchalur to Oddanchatram and also K.C.Patty, Adalur.

The stretch at KM 0/0-31/6 of the above road being maintained by Palani (H) C&M, Division, Oddanchatram (H),C&M, Sub Division. The stretch at km0/0-31/4 of the above road is situated in Hills.


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Due to the frequent rain falls, some of small Earth slips are occurring frequently. Thereby disturbing the vehicular traffic. The earth slips are cleared immediately using available local mazdoors, Departmental Gangs and JCB Machineries.

To prevent the landslides, Hill side earthen drains are already cleared for free flow of water. Also the vent way of the culverts are cleared.

Also much important have been given to prevent the water crossing the BT road.

The landslides Prone locations at KM 3/2-7/0. KM 11/4 and KM 25/8 – 29/8 have been identified and necessary precautionary measures have been taken.

In order to avoid Landslides at various locations such as Km 18/6, 23/2, 23/4, 33/2 of Periyakulam – Kodaikanal (via) Adukkam Road, Soil stabilization work using soil nailing method was administratively sanctioned for Rs.2.00Cr. Now estimate preparation are in progress.

State Highways

It is submitted that no major earth slips or landslides occurred between Vathalagundu to Kodaikanal in the last three years resulting in traffic disruptions.

Also it is submitted that Technical Expert Committee has been constituted by the District Collector of Dindigul District. The Kodaikanal Division comprising of One Head and Six members to study the prevention of landslides and soil erosion. The Technical Expert Committee has submitted their recommendations. Based on the recommendations necessary protective works will be taken by the respective departments.

Disaster Management

1. Zonal teams consisting of 503 various department officials have been formed for round the clock monitoring during monsoons.
2. The Early Warning committee has been instructed to establish a system to alert people in vulnerable areas by keeping an eye on weather forecasts, soil, moisture level and ground moment
3. Evacuation Committee has been formed to develop and communicate evacuation routes and assembly points.
4. Local bodies have been instructed to regularly clear drains and culverts to ensure proper water flow.


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5. The Highways department have been instructed to plant vegetation, install retaining walls or use geo-grid materials during highway works
6. The Fire and Rescue Services have been instructed to regularly update and practice response plans.

Additionally the following measures have been carried out by the District administration:

1) Team deputed to study post Landslide activities done during Wayanad landslides 2024

Team comprising officials from Revenue, Highways, Local Bodies, Health, Agri. Engineering, etc., visited Wayanad district on 18.10.2024 to study the post landslides activities carried out in Wayanad district during Wayanad landslides 2024.

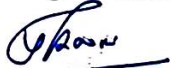
The purpose of this study was to assess the effectiveness of response to the landslide and identify areas for improvement including the rescue and relief efforts, damage assessment, and rehabilitation measures.

Accordingly, training was imparted to the officials concerned and preparedness measures based on the above study is being carried out in The Nilgiris District.

2) Appointment of Expert Committee to study 5 Landslide locations

As per G.O. G.O.(Ms) No.782 Revenue and Disaster Management (D.M.II) Department, Dated: 19.12.2020 and G.O. G.O.(Ms) No.454 Revenue and Disaster Management (D.M.II) Department, Dated: 17.09.2022 an expert team comprising

- 1) Revenue Divisional Officer,
Kodaikanal
- 2) Assistant Director,
Geotechnical Centre,
Kodaikanal.
- 3) Assistant Director,
Mines and Minerals
Dindigul.
- 4) Executive Engineer
Agri Engineering
Dindigul.
- 5) Divisional Engineer,(C&M)
Highways Dindigul/Palani


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6) Executive Engineer,
Rural Development,
Dindigul.

7) The Tahsildar,
Kodaikanal.

3) Vulnerable Locations in Kodaikanal Taluk.

The Kodaikanal Taluk of Dindigul District is prone to landslides due to Rain falls in both South West Monsoon and North East Monsoon. Based on the past history of landslides and inundation of Water, the following number of places has been identified as vulnerable locations in Kodaikanal taluk.

Sl. No	Name of the location	Name & Type of local body (Village Panchayat/Town Panchayat/Municipality and corporation	Reasons for Vulnerability
I.High Vulnerability			
1.	Savarikkadu, H/o. Vadagouchi, Kodaikanal Taluk	Vadagouchi Village Pt.,	Landslide
2.	Dumdum Parai near, H/o.Poolathur, Kodaikanal Taluk	Poolathur Village Panchayat	Landslide
3.	Palani Road near PL Set	Vadakavunchi Village.	Landslide due to heavy rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
4.	Gurusadi -1	Pannaikadu Village	Landslide due to heavy rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
5.	Gurusadi -2	Pannaikadu Village	Landslide due to heavy rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
6.	Pethuparai , Kodaikanal Taluk	Vilpatti Village	Extreme Rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
7.	Manjampatti	Mannavanur Village	Extreme Rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
8.	Keelamalai Kulam	Poondi Village	Extreme Rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
9.	Wate way No 38.	Vadakavunchi	Extreme rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
10.	Kallakinaru Odai	K.C Patti	Flood due to heavy rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
11.	Malaiyakadu	Kamanur	Flood due to heavy rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
12.	Pallankikombai	Vilpatty	Extreme Rainfall during the Gaja cyclone

[Signature]
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13.	Kadalkodai	Vilpatty	Extreme Rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
14.	Chinnapallam	Vilpatty	Extreme Rainfall during the Gaja cyclone
15.	Clubindiapoomparai	Poomparai	Extreme Rainfall during the Gaja cyclone

4) Technical Expert Committee

As per section 28 of the Disaster management Act, 2005, the Technical Expert Committee has been formed to make a detailed study with respect to the following.

- Impact on the soil structure & Stability during road expansion works.
- Remedial measures to be taken up for any damages made due to road expansion.
- Suggestion of improved / advanced techniques to be used in future cases of road expansion.
- The members of the Technical Expert Committee are as follows.

S.No.	Name and Designation	Position
1.	Revenue Divisional Officer, Kodaikanal.	Head
2.	Assistant Director, Geo-technical Centre, Kodaikanal.	Member
3.	Assistant Director, Mines and Minerals, Dindigul.	Member
4.	Executive Engineer Agri Engineering, Dindigul	Member
5.	Divisional Engineer,(C&M) Highways Dindigul/Palani	Member
6.	Executive Engineer, Rural Development, Dindigul.	Member
7.	The Tahsildar, Kodaikanal.	Member

All projects relating to widening of roads can be carried out by the Highways department and Local bodies only after the approval of the above committee.


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(G) The number of encroachments identified in the Dindigul district as on date and the number of encroachments removed from the year 2010 are as below:

Encroachment/ Eviction Details upto 31.12.2024

Category of Encroachment	No of Encroachment	Total Encroachment (in Hec.)	No of Encroachment Evicted up to Previous month 30.11.2024	Evicted up to Previous month 30.11.2024 (Hec)	No of Encroachment Evicted During the Month upto 31.12.2024	EVICTED During the Month upto 31.12.2024 (Hec)	No of Encroachment Evicted so far	Total Evicted	No of Encroachment to be Evicted	Balance to be Evicted
Water Body	83	0.32.20	68	0.27.08		0.00.00	68	0.27.08	15	0.0512
Meikkal	13	0.10.50	9	0.04.28		0.00.00	9	0.04.28	4	0.0622
Highways	5	0.06.40	3	0.04.70		0.00.00	3	0.04.70	2	0.0170
Temple		0.00.00	0	0.00.00		0.00.00	0	0.00.00	0	0.0000
Forest		0.00.00	0	0.00.00		0.00.00	0	0.00.00	0	0.0000
Other Objectionable	243	23.10.50	149	19.88.31	0	0.00.00	149	19.88.31	94	3.2219
Un Objectionable	205	49.12.05	202	49.12.05	0	0.00.00	205	49.12.05	0	0.00.00
Kodaikanal Division Total	549	72.71.65	431	67.77.28	0	0.00.00	434	67.77.28	119	4.94.32

In Kodaikanal taluk 549 encroachments have been identified, out of 549 encroachments. 434 encroachments an extent of 67.77.28 Hec. have been evicted up to 31.12.2024. Balance 01.01.2025 are to be evicted

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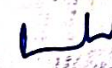
Highways (C& M)– Kodaikanal Division

Approximately 60Nos of temporary and permanent encroachments are removed in hill areas by Kodaikanal Highways Construction & Maintenance, sub-Division.

It is also submitted that action has been taken to measure and identify encroachment in SH and MDR roads with the support of local administration.

24 Nos of encroachments identified and removed for Palani area of Palani by Divisional Engineer (H) C&M Division.

Solemnly affirmed at Ootacamund
on this the 27th day of December 2024,
and signed his name in my presence.


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COLLECTOR,
Dindigul District,
Dindigul.


Personal Assistant (General)
to the Collector,
Dindigul.