

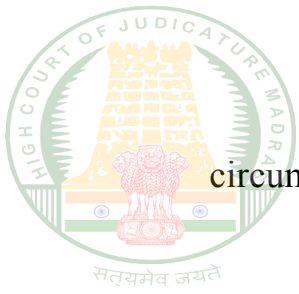
Contempt Petition No.939 of 2024

S.M.SUBRAMANIAM, J.

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Today, Tmt.M.Jothilakshmi, Assistant Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, Krishnagiri/R-16 is present in the Court and filed the Action Taken Report.

2. The Action Taken Report filed by the Assistant Commissioner of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Department is shocking the conscience of this Court, since illegal mining operations in temple properties are made to several hundred crores. It has been mentioned in the Action Taken Report submitted by the Assistant Commissioner of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Department that in Arulmigu Hanumantharaya Swamy Temple, Nagamangalam, Denkanikottai, the value of the stone stolen is roughly Rs.28,51,20,000/- and in Arulmigu Pattalamman Temple Baleguli, Krishnagiri, the value of the stone stolen is roughly about Rs.170,14,08,000/-. Even the officials of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Department are unable to enter into the temple land and unruly elements are preventing the public servants from performing their public duties under law. Such lawlessness in any allocation at no



circumstances be allowed by the Government.

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3. It is brought to the notice of this Court that large scale illegal mining activities are going on in Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri Districts and several hundreds of criminal cases are registered and no progress has been made. There is serious doubt in the mind of the Court that the possibility of collusion between the Police Authorities, Revenue Authorities and other Departmental Authorities, cannot be overruled.

4. In view of the fact that Authorities are unable to initiate appropriate actions against illegal mining activities and such properties belong to Nation. This Court has to step in and to initiate action to protect Nation's wealth. Few greedy men cannot be allowed to loot the Nation's wealth for unjust personal gains.

5. Considering the seriousness found in the Action Taken Report of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowment Department, this Court is inclined to direct the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Salem Range, Salem-636 007/R-13 to be present and submit a Report regarding



illegal mining activities both in temple lands and in other lands in Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri District and furnish details about criminal cases registered, pending and other connected details along with Action Taken Report.

6. The learned Special Government Pleader and the learned Additional Government Pleader are directed to communicate this order to the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Salem Range, Salem-636 007/R-13 immediately over phone or through electronic mode of communication or through the Office of the Public Prosecutor.

7. The Deputy Inspector General of Police, Salem Range, Salem-636 007/R-13 is directed to be present before this Court at 10.30 A.M., on 26.07.2024 along with the Action Taken Report.

19-07-2024

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Office to Note: Issue order copy by today itself.



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