



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA  
PRADESH :: AMARAVATI [ 3446 ]  
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

WEDNESDAY ,THE FOURTEENTH DAY OF FEBRUARY  
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY FOUR

PRESENT

HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE R RAGHUNANDAN RAO

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION NO: 37 OF 2024

Between:

1. D. Swaminathan

... PETITIONER(S)

AND

1. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. by its Prl. Secretary, Mines and Geology Department, Sri Anjaneya Towers, D.No. 7-104, B-Block, 5th and 6th Floors, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada, NTR District, A.P.
2. The Director, Mines and Geology Department, Sri Anjaneya Towers, D. No. 7-104, B-Block, 5th and 6th Floors, Ibrahimpatnam, Vijayawada, NTR District, A.P.
3. The District Mines and Geology Officer, Mines and Geology Department, Plot No. 3, 2nd Main, Industrial Estate, Puttur Road, Chittoor, Chittoor District, A.P.
4. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. by its Prl. Secretary, Revenue Department, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravathi.
5. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. by its Prl. Secretary, Water Resources Department, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravathi.

6. The Engineer in Chief, Water Resources Department, Vijayawada, NTR District, A.P.
7. The District Collector, Chittoor District, Chittoor.
8. The Superintendent of Police, District Police Office, Prasanth Nagar, Chittoor, Chittoor District, A.P.
9. The Revenue Divisional Officer, Chittoor Revenue Division, Ashoka Puram, Kondamitta, Chittoor, Chittoor District, A.P.
10. The Tahsildar, Chittoor Mandal, Chittoor District, A.P.
11. Jaiprakash Power Ventures Limited, Rep. by its Chairman and Managing Director, Complex of Jaypee Nigrie Super Thermal Power Plant, Nigrie, Tehsil Sarai, Singrauli District, Madhya Pradesh State.
12. Prathima Infrastructure Limited, Office at D. No. 54-15-4D, 2nd Floor, Indira Arcade, Srinivasa Nagar, Bank Colony, Vijayawada, N.T.R. District, A.P.

... **RESPONDENT(S)**

pleased to issue a Writ Order or Direction, more particularly one in the nature of writ of Mandamus directing the Official Respondent authorities to take stringent action against the Unofficial Respondent Nos. 11, 12 for illegal mining and extraction of sand on the bed of River Neeva in an extent of Ac. 120.00 cents in Survey No. 1/1 of SettiappamThangal Village, Ananthapuram Panchayat of Chittoor Mandal, Chittoor District and transporting the same by lorries, tractors and tippers and further direct the Official Respondents to do regular checkups when the extraction of sand is being continued in River Neeva bed by the Unofficial Respondent Nos. 11, 12 and order the Official Respondent authorities to recover the amount from the Unofficial Respondent Nos. 11, 12 who extracted the sand on the bed of River Neeva with machinery by violating G.O.Ms.No. 20 dated 15.01.2016, G.O.Ms.No. 70 dated 04.09.2019, WALTA Act and The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and pass

**IA NO: 1 OF 2024**

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to pass an interim order by directing the Official Respondent authorities to stop the illegal mining, excavation and transportation of sand in the Neeva River bed in an extent of Ac. 120.00 cents in Survey No. 1/1 of SettiappamThangal Village, Ananthapuram Panchayat of Chittoor Mandal, Chittoor District taken up by the Unofficial Respondent Nos. 11, 12, until disposal of the above writ petition, and pass

**Counsel for the Petitioner(s):SRI SRINIVASA RAO NARRA**

**Counsel for Respondent Nos.1 to 3: GP FOR MINES AND GEOLOGY (AP)**

**Counsel for Respondent Nos.4 & 7,9 & 10: GP FOR REVENUE**

**Counsel for Respondent Nos.5 & 6: GP FOR IRRIGATION**

**Counsel for Respondent No.8: GP FOR HOME**

**The Court made the following:**

The present public interest litigation has been filed highlighting the inaction of the Mines and Geology Department as also the other agencies to check the illegal sand mining being conducted by unscrupulous elements in the River Neeva in Chittoor District and particularly in SettiappamThangal Village, Ananthapuram Panchayat. The illegal sand mining is stated to be conducted by respondent Nos.11 & 12.

Notice service waived by learned Government Pleader for the Mines and Geology Department for respondent Nos.1 to 3, learned Government Pleader for the Revenue Department, for respondent Nos.4,7,9 & 10, learned

Government Pleader for the Irrigation Department for respondent Nos.5 & 6 and learned Government Pleader for the Home Department for respondent No.8.

Objections be filed.

Notices be issued for service upon respondent Nos.11 & 12.

Personal notice on respondent Nos.11 & 12 is permitted.

List on 13.03.2024.

In the meantime, respondent No.7 - The District Collector, Chittoor District, is directed to ensure that no illegal sand mining is permitted in the absence of any permission/license granted to the concerned. A status report be also filed with regard to the action taken.

**DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR, CJ**

**R. RAGHUNANDAN RAO, J**

Vjl