



W.P.(MD)No.13060 of 2023

**BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT**

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**DATED : 16.06.2023**

**CORAM:**

**THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR  
AND  
THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY**

**W.P.(MD)No.13060 of 2023**

**and**

**W.M.P.(MD)Nos.11057, 11060, 11061 & 11063 of 2023**

Rabecca Joseph

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and  
Chief Wildlife Warden, Tamil Nadu,  
No.1, Jeenis Salai Panagal Building,  
Saidapet,  
Chennai – 600 005.

2.The Additional Chief Secretary,  
Environment, Climate Change and Forests,  
Government of Tamil Nadu,  
Namakkalkavigner Maaligai,  
Fort St. George,  
Chennai – 600 009.

3.The Chief Conservator of Forest and Field Director,  
Srivilliputhur Megamalai Tiger Reserve,  
Madurai.

... Respondents



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**PRAYER:** Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the 1<sup>st</sup> respondent to modify the site to which Arikomban be translocated mentioned in his order issued vide Proc.No.WL1/14072/2023 dated 27.05.2023 to the Tamil Nadu Forests bordering the Mathikettan Shola National Park in Kerala, a place where the elephant knows since his usual movement pattern and life revolved around Chinnakanal, Anayirangal Dam and Mathikettan Shola National Park in Kerala rather than being taken further away in unknown territory which is the known path of Arikomban.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Rajaraman  
For Respondents : Mr.Veera Kathiravan,  
Addl. Advocate General  
Assisted by Mr.P.Thilakkumar,  
Government Pleader

## **ORDER**

**N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.**  
**AND**  
**D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.**

This Writ Petition has been filed directing the first respondent to modify the site to which Arikomban be translocated mentioned in the order issued vide proceedings No.WL1/14072/2023 dated 27.05.2023. The Writ Petition has been proceeded as if the forest officials after capturing the elephant viz., Arikomban,



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were trying to translocate the same to the area where no sufficient food and water is available and also sought for a relief to modify the circular issued by the Chief Conservator of Forest.

2. A status report has been filed by the third respondent viz., the Chief Conservator of Forest, Madurai. We peruse the same.

3. A perusal of the Status Report reveals that after capturing, the elephant has been translocated to Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve and now the elephant is adopting the said climate. Such view of the matter, the question of releasing the elephant in Mathikettan Shola National Park does not arise at all and also sufficient steps have been taken by the Forest Department to monitor the movement of the elephant. Therefore, the relief sought for in this Writ Petition has become infructuous.

4. With regard to the interim relief of direction to implement the so called circular relating to the publication in the media is concerned, it is well open to the petitioner to file an appropriate writ petition by impleading the Press Council of India.



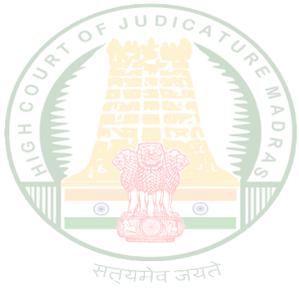
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**WEB COPY** 5. With the above observations, this Writ Petition stands closed. No Costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

**(N.S.K.,J.) (D.B.C.,J.)**  
**16.06.2023**

NCC : Yes/No  
Index : Yes/No

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