

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

(Special Original Jurisdiction)

W.P.Nos. 3656, 3660, 3662 & 3663 of 2021

(Public interest litigation)

Rangarajan Narasimhan,
M/50 Sanathana Dharmam
/Sri Vaishnavam
"Arangan Thirumutram"
Kollidam Road, 400m west of
Andavan Ashramam
Srirangam, Trichy - 620 006

... Petitioner

Vs.

1. The Chief Secretary
Government of Tamil Nadu
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009
2. The Secretary, Department of Tourism,
Culture and Religious Endowments,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009
3. The Secretary, Department of Forests
Secretariat, Chennai -600 009
4. The Commissioner, Hindu Religious &
Charitable Endowments Department, 119,
Uthamar Gandhi Salai,
Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 034
5. The Joint Commissioner / Executive Officer
Shri Ranganatha Swamy Temple
Srirangam, Trichy - 620 006

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No. of Corrections: Nil

செ. கண்ணகி பாரதி

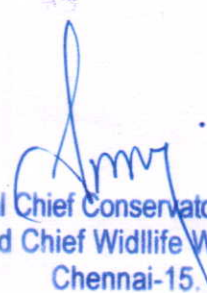
PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE
CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN
CHENNAI 15.

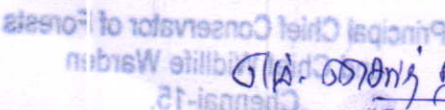

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Chief Wildlife Warden
Chennai-15.

5. Shri U.Ve.Kovil Vedavyasa Bhattar
Sthalathar, Hereditary Trustee,
Shri Ranganatha Swamy Temple,
rep by Shri U.Ve.Kovil Vedavyasa
Senthamarai Kannan Bhattar,
131/33, North Uthara Street,
Srirangam, Trichy - 620 006.
7. Shri U.Ve.Parasara Bhattar
Sthalathar, Hereditary Trustee,
Shri Ranganatha Swamy Temple
rep by Shri U.Ve.Thiruvengada Parasara
Bhattar, 231, South Uthra Street,
Srirangam, Trichy - 620 006.
8. Shri U.Ve.Ko.Ka.Va. Annan Rangachar
Sthalathar, Hereditary Trustee,
Shri Ranganatha Swamy Temple,
rep by Shri.U.Ve.Sudharshana Rangachar
121/70, East Chitra Street, Srirangam,
Trichy - 620006
9. Shri.Uthama Nambi
Sthalathar, Hereditary Trustee,
Shri Ranganatha Swamy Temple,
rep by Mr.Uthama Nambi
28/3, West Uthra Street,
Srirangam, Trichy - 620 006.
10. Mr.Venu Srinivasan
Non-hereditary Trustee, Shri Ranganatha
Swamy Temple, Srirangam, Trichy - 620 006
11. Dr.K.N.Srinivasan,
Non-hereditary Trustee, Shri Ranganatha
Swamy Temple, Srirangam, Trichy - 620 006
12. Mr.S.T.Rangachari
Non-hereditary Trustee, Shri Ranganatha
Swamy Temple, Srirangam, Trichy - 620 006

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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
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13. Mrs. Kavitha Jagadeesan
Non-hereditary Trustee, Shri Ranganatha
Swamy Temple, Srirangam, Trichy - 620 006
14. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests,
Panagal Maaligai, 1, Jennis Road
Saidapet, Chennai 600 015
15. The Chief Conservator of Forests,
Trichy Circle, J.K.Nagar,
Trichy - 620 023.
16. Animal Welfare Board of India
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry
and Dairying, Govt. of India
(Department of Animal Husbandry and
Dairying) NIAW Campus, 42, Mile stone,
Delhi - Agra Highway NH-2
Ballabgarh, Haryana - 121 004.

.. Respondents

STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE 14th RESPONDENT

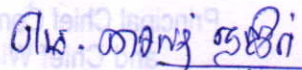
I, Dr. Shekhar Kumar Niraj, Son of Late Dr. Prasad aged about 57 years, employed as Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden, Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet, Chennai-15, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-


2. I am the 14th respondent herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the available records. I am filing the status report in response to the orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras dated: 23.02.2021, 27.04.2021, 30.06.2021 22.07.2021, 03.09.2021 and 24.09.2021.

3. It is respectfully submitted that this Writ Petition has been filed by the petitioner with prayer to issue a Writ of Mandamus or any

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other appropriate writ, order or directions in the nature of Writ of Mandamus directing

(a) the respondents 3 to 13 to allocate a minimum of 10 acres of land/grove for the Elephant Andal and Elephant Lakshmi on the banks of river Kollidam or any other suitable place as this Hon'ble Court deems fit and move Elephant Andal and Elephant Lakshmi to the allotted location.

(b) the respondents 14 to 16, to submit a white paper on the status of the welfare of the elephants, the periodical medical assistance provided to the captive elephants, the processes that are in place to monitor the captive elephants as per the statutory requirements and consequently direct the authorities to enforce the statutory requirements as per law.

(c) the respondents 3 to 13 to re-appoint Mr.Sridharan as mahout of Elephant Andal and Mr.Venkatesan as Mahout of the Elephant Lakshmi as per section 4(4) of the Tamilnadu Captive Elephants (Management and Maintenance) rules, 2011.

(d) the respondents 1 to 3 to allocate at least one male elephant to be housed either in Srirangam or M.R. Palayam Elephant Rescue center, to serve the 11 female elephants (7 in M.R.Palayam camp, 2 in Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, 1 in Sri Jambugeswarar Temple and 1 in Sri Thayumana Swamy Temple) to enable them to reproduce in captivity.

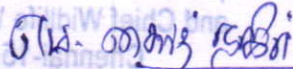
4) In this regard, the Hon'ble High Court, Madras has issued orders on 27.08.2021. The operative portion of the order is as follows:-

"It would be best if the District Level Committees for the welfare of elephants were set up immediately in all districts and the State Level Committee was also constituted with appropriate personnel. At least, the exercise should be commenced, so that

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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
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the relevant committees may be in place a few months down the line”.

As per the order and in dealing with the matter the following, inter alia, are submitted categorically,

5) For compliance of the order, nominations have been called for from the District Forest Officers / Wildlife Wardens and Member Convener, District Level Captive Elephant Welfare Committees and nominations are being received from them. The details are mentioned below.

SI. No.	District	No of Private elephants	No of Temple elephants	No of total Captive Elephants	DLCEWC nominations
1	Kancheepuram	0	2	2	Received
2	Vellore	0	2	2	Not received
3	Tiruvannamalai	0	1	1	Received
4	Salem	0	1	1	Received
5	Coimbatore	0	1	1	Received
6	Erode	2	0	2	Received
7	Trichy	6	4	10	Received
8	Thanjavur	2	3	5	Received
9	Tiruvarur	0	1	1	Received
10	Nagapattinam	0	2	2	Received
11	Dindigul	1	1	2	Received
12	Madurai	5	3	8	Received
13	Sivagangai	0	2	2	Received
14	Ramanadhapuram	0	1	1	Received
15	Virudhunagar	1	1	2	Received
16	Tirunelveli	3	5	8	Not received

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PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE
CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN
CHENNAI-15.

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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Chief Wildlife Warden
Chennai-15.

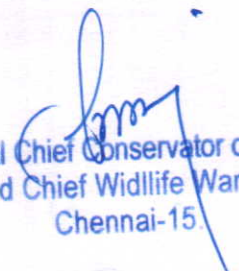
Sl. No.	District	No of Private elephants	No of Temple elephants	No of total Captive Elephants	DLCEWC nominations
17	Thoothukudi	6	1	7	Received
18	Kanniyakumari	6	0	6	Not received
	Total	32	31	63	

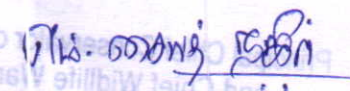
6) That the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden has conducted virtual meeting with all District Forest Officers/Wildlife Warden regarding the constitution of District Level Captive Elephant Welfare Committees. It is also submitted that 15 out of 18 districts where the private and temple elephants are being maintained have sent their nominations for the District Level Captive Elephant Welfare Committee and nominations are awaited from the remaining 3 Districts namely Vellore, Tirunelveli and Kanniyakumari. After receiving nominations from those Districts, proposal will be sent to the Government for re-constitution of District Level Captive Elephant Welfare Committees.

7) The Hon'ble High Court, Madras has also issued orders on 03.09.2021. The operative portion of the order is as follows:-

"10. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests will prepare a catalogue of all captive elephants in this State. Video-recordings of all such elephants, together with complete profile of each elephant, including the age, sex, lineage, if possible, should be indicated. Every Endeavour should be made to indicate how the elephant came to be captured or domesticated. The exercise should be completed by obtaining video-recordings of all the captive elephants in the State and providing the profile features in course of such video-recording or otherwise.

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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
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11. As far as the temple elephants are concerned, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests should assign appropriate officials, along from the relevant areas, to inspect along with doctors from the relevant areas, to inspect the elephants and ascertain the state of their health. This exercise may be conducted for all captive elephants in the State, but beginning with elephants in the temple.

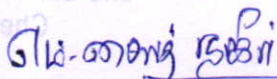
12. The number of elephants available with the forest officials should be indicated with similar profile and the history of how the animal came to be captured or used by forest officials. It is also necessary to ascertain whether any practice continues in which elephants are captured today, if only for the purpose of use by forest officials; and the permissibility thereof.

13. Several aspects of how elephants are treated by forest officials have been indicated in the presentation made by Elsa Foundation. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests should respond to such aspect of the matter by way of a report that may be filed. At any rate, the video-recordings as sought by this order should also be accompanied by a small report detailing how the video-recording was prepared, so that an element of accountability and authentication is evident.


14. The appropriate departments of the State Government, be it the Animal Welfare or Animal Husbandry or the like department, should extend all cooperation. The Animal Welfare Board of India and if there is any State level corresponding body should be kept informed of the matters for rendering science based assistance in the conduct of this matter and the treatment of elephants and in particular and wildlife in general.

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8) The Hon'ble High Court, Madras has also issued orders on 03.09.2021. The operative portion of the order is as follows:-

"2. Mr.C.Harsha Raj, learned counsel appearing for the State, submits, on instructions, that there are 32 elephants in temples in the State and 31 elephants privately held, in addition to the 64 elephants under the custody of the Forest Department.

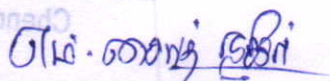
3. According to Elsa Foundation, which has been permitted to intervene in the present proceedings, the State had furnished details of 86 captive elephants to the Ministry of Environment and Forests in 2019, excluding the elephants with the Forest Department. It is submitted that the figures indicated in court today would reveal that at least 23 elephants are no longer available between 2019 and now.

4. The State should produce the statements, if any, furnished to the Ministry of Environment and Forests over the last five years regarding the number of elephants and other material connected to elephants.

5. The State should ensure that no further elephant is taken into captivity except for the purpose of treatment of such elephants if found unable to support itself in the wild. No private person may capture any elephant or keep the same except those already existing".

9) That in compliance of the orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court, Madras in W.P. Nos. 3656, 3660, 3662 & 3663 of 2021, I have submitted the statements on Captive Elephants furnished to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change for submitting

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before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. Writ Petition (Civil)

No. 743 of 2014 as on 31.05.2015 as follows:

ABSTRACT

Details of Estimated number of Captive Elephants in Tamil Nadu as on 31.05.2015								
Sl. No.	Name of the Circle	Name of the District	Classification of captive elephants					Total
			Temple	Private	Circus	Forest Camp	Zoo	
1	Chennai	Chennai	1	0	0	0	0	1
		Thiruvallur	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Kancheepuram	4	0	0	0	0	4
2	AAZP	Kancheepuram (part)	0	0	0	0	4	4
3	Vellore	Vellore	2	0	0	0	0	2
		Tiruvannamalai	1	1	0	0	0	2
4	Villupuram	Villupuram	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Cuddalore	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Salem	Salem	2	0	0	0	1	3
		Namakkal	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Karur	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Krishnagiri	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	1	1	0	2	0	4
		Thiruppur	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Nilgiri (part)	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	ATR	Coimbatore (part)	0	0	0	22	0	22
9	MTR	Nilgiri (part)	0	0	0	25	0	25
10	STR	Erode	1	2	0	0	0	3
11	Trichy	Trichy	3	6	0	0	0	9
		Thanjavur	5	2	0	0	0	7
		Pudukottai	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Nagapattinam	4	0	0	0	0	4
		Thiruvarur	1	0	0	0	0	1
		Ariyalur	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Madurai	Madurai	4	5	0	0	0	9
		Theni	0	1	0	0	0	1
13	Dindigul	Dindigul	1	2	0	0	0	3
14	Virudhunagar	Virudhunagar	2	1	0	0	0	3
		Ramnad	1	0	0	0	0	1
		Sivaganga	3	0	0	0	0	3
15	Tirunelveli	Tirunelveli	4	0	0	0	0	4
		Tuticurin	0	7	0	0	0	7
		Kanyakumari	0	8	0	0	0	8
16	KMTR	Tirunelveli	2	3	0	0	0	5

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G. S. Manjiv

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[Signature]
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Chief Wildlife Warden
Chennai-15.

17	Circus		0	0	6	0	0	6
	Total		42	39	6	49	5	141

10) It is submitted that the above details were provided to Thiru. Ramesh AS, Chennai through Right to Information Act, 2005 by the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (Project Elephant Division) mentioned as details of Captive Elephant as on 30.01.2019 vide F. No. 25-4/2021-PE, dated: 27.05.2021 and the same was presented by the Elsa Foundation before this Hon'ble Court.

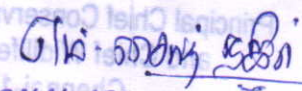
11) That since 31.05.2015, the following changes occurred in the list of Captive Elephants. After furnishing details to the Government of India, the following Temple Elephants died on account of various illnesses.

Sl. No.	Name of the Captive Elephant	Detail of maintenance of the Captive Elephant	Microship Number	Age	Sex	Remarks
1.	Vedha nayagi	The Executive Officer, Arulmigu Sangameswar Temple, Bhavani, Erode	000688C710	38	F	The elephant died on 29.11.2019 due to multi organ failure owing to chronic ailments.
2.	Rajeshwari	Assistant Commissioner/ Executive officer, Arulmigu Sugavaneshwarar Temple, Salem -636001	000659B41D	38	F	The elephant died on 21.04.2018 due to diseases.
3.	Perinayagi	Arunakrishewarar Swamy Thirukovil, Thiruppanandal	Nil	65	F	The elephant died on 04.06.2015 due to diseases.
4.	Fathima Beevi	The Managing Trusty, Nagore Dargah, Nagore	00065E73D9	48	F	Elephant "Fathima Beevi" died on 15-12-2015

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5.	Chooligamba 1	Treasurer, Agnishwarar, Thirukoil, Thirupugaloor	000658DC5A	62	F	The elephant died on 21.10.2019 due to age related issues
6.	Madhuravalli	Executive Director/Assistant Commissoner, Kudalalagar Temple , Madurai	00065E7C72	49	F	The elephant died on 27.05.2016
7.	Sivagami	Hereditary Trustee, A/m Thiruthalanathaswamy Temple, Thirupathur, Sivaganga	00065F1A39	53	F	The elephant died on 19.08.2021 due to illness
8	Valli	Arulmigu llanji Kumara Kovil, Courtallam, Tirunelveli District	0006590FBF	14	F	The elephant died on 23.04.2019 due to suffer of abdomen tumour
9	Rukku	Assistant Commissioner / Executive Officer, Arulmigu Arunachaleswarar Temple, Tiruvannamalai	000658CCDB	27	F	The elephant died on 22.03.2018 due to illness.

12) That the following elephants maintained by private persons died due to variety of causes, as mentioned below.

SI. No	Name of the Captive Elephant	Detail of maintenance of the Captive Elephant	Microship Number	Age	Sex	Remarks
1.	Gulabi	N.Baskaran, No.24,SakthiNagar,Sriranga m,Trichy	000658D8CF	56	F	The elephant died on 17.03.2019 during Transport due to age factor.
2.	Geethavalli	Thiru.B.Chikkandar Rowther,No .13-1/27,West Maque Street,Paraiyur,Madurai- 625027.	00065F18E4	55	F	The elephant died on 12.12.2018 due to illness
3.	Ammu	Thiru.A.Ramasamy Muthaliar,4 Anjugathammal Street,Palani-	00065867D1	48	F	The elephant died on 15.04.2016 due to multiple organ failure.

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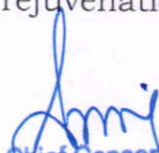
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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
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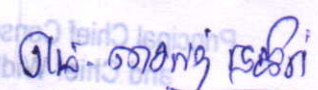
4.	Sulochana	President, Virudhunagar Hindu Nadar Devotees Committee, Virudhunagar	000658B828	35	F	The elephant died on 22.03.2016
5.	Indhira	V.Premannair S/O Velayutham Nair,20-231 Suma Vihar, Thiruparappu,Kanyakumari District	00065DF830	42	F	The elephant died on 05.05.2019
6.	Durga @ Joymola	Dr.C.K.Velayutha Nair S/O K.V.Krishnan Nair and Dr.Rema nair W/O Dr.C.K.Velayuthan Nair, Mookambigai Medical College, Kulasekaram, Kanyakumari District	961001000 004627	13	F	The elephant died on 23.01.2018
7.	Bhavani	Thiru. Mohammed Ansari, Kariyar Street,Kulasekarapatinum, Thiruchendur Taluk, Thoothukudi District	L.NO 32-BK-02	41	F	The elephant died on 20.08.2021 due to illness.
8.	Indira	Shiek Mydeen , S/o Abdul Kareem, 6/148, South Street, Pottalpuhur.	00064FQB42	58	F	The elephant died on 26.03.2019 due to illness.

13) That the Tamil Nadu State had started Elephant Rescue and Rehabilitation centre in M.R. Palayam near Trichy. It was a pioneering initiative of the State Government that Captive elephant requiring special care and rehabilitation would be kept in Rescue and Rehabilitation centre at Trichy and Vandalur zoo. The rescue centre has been established at high cost with due permission of the Central Zoo Authority. The spirit and intention is to rescue and take care of sick and helpless Captive elephant which is also a heritage of the country. These rescued elephant, specially injured elephant belonging to private individual / temple / private institutions and circus will be given veterinary care and after giving full treatment and rejuvenation

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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Chief Wildlife Warden
Chennai-15.


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CHENNAI-15,

they will be returned to the owners. After furnishing details to the Government of India, the following Temple and private elephants were translocated to Elephant Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, M.R. Palayam, Trichy.

SI. No.	Name of the Captive Elephant	Detail of maintenance of the Captive Elephant	Microship Number	Age	Sex	Remarks
1.	Malachi	Tmt.S.Indira H/o K.Lakshmanan.4 5B,Pandia Vallalar Street, 1ST Lane, Madurai-625001	000659BB2D	30	F	The elephant was shifted to M.R. Palayam for medical treatment on 14.06.2019 in compliance of the Hon'ble High Court, Madras orders issued in WP No. 11500/2018, W.P. (MD) No. 13445/2018, 8216,8626/2019, dated: 12.06.2019
2.	Indhu	Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt, Jagadguru Sri Sankaracharia Swamigal Srimatam Samashanam,Ka ncheepuram-631502	00063D11B7	38	F	The elephant was shifted to M.R. Palayam for medical treatment on 24.09.2019 in compliance of the Hon'ble High Court, Madras orders issued in WP No. 6030 of 2019, dated 19.09.2019
3.	Sandhya	Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt, Jagadguru Sri Sankaracharia Swamigal Srimatam Samashanam,Ka ncheepuram-631502	00065S40EC	46	F	The elephant was shifted to M.R. Palayam for medical treatment on 24.09.2019 in compliance of the Hon'ble High Court, Madras orders issued in WP No. 6030 of 2019, dated 19.09.2019
4.	Jayanthi	Sri Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt, Jagadguru Sri Sankaracharia Swamigal Srimatam	NIL	24	F	The elephant was shifted to M.R. Palayam for medical treatment on 24.09.2019 in compliance of the Hon'ble High Court, Madras orders issued in WP No. 6030 of

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Thirumangalambal

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE
CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN
CHENNAI-15.

Imai
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Chief Wildlife Warden
Chennai-15.


		Samashanam, Kancheepuram-631502				2019, dated 19.09.2019
5.	Gomathy	Arulmigu, Mahalingaswami, Devasthanam, Thiruvaidaimarthur	00065E8FC1	55	F	The elephant was shifted to M.R. Palayam for medical treatment on 07.01.2020 in compliance of the Hon'ble High Court, Madras orders issued in WMP No. 15802 of 2018 in W.P.No. 28793 of 2013, dated 17.12.2019
6.	Jameela	Syed Mohideen (A) Thangappa, S/o Shiek husaian, Pillaiyar Kovil Street, Pottalpudhur.	0006598499	61	F	The elephant was shifted to M.R. Palayam for medical treatment on 09.03.2020 in compliance of the Hon'ble High Court, Madras orders issued in WMP No. 15802/2018 in W.P. No. 28793/2013, dated: 06.03.2020

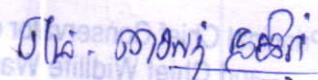
14) That a Captive Elephant by name "Andal" maintained in Kurumbapatti Zoological Park, Salem was transferred to Kozhikamuthi Elephant Camp, Anamalai Tiger Reserve for better care and maintenance. Besides two other Captive Elephants were being maintained in Sadivayal Elephant Camp, Coimbatore and in that one elephant named "Sujai" was transported to Theppakadu elephant camp, Mudumalai Tiger Reserve and another one named "Pari" was transported to Anamalai Tiger Reserve elephant camp. The Captive Elephants were taken care in Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur were also transferred to the Forest Department run camps for further maintenance.

15) That the following Departmental elephants died due to illness after 31.05.2015.

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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Chief Wildlife Warden
Chennai-15.


PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE
CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN
CHENNAI-15,

Sl. No.	Camp elephant name	Camp	Sex	Age	Microchip No.	Date of death
1.	Ranga	Mudumalai Tiger Reserve	M	4	00065EA9B9	The elephant died on 09.01.2016
2.	Bharathi	Mudumalai Tiger Reserve	F	23	00065F3B56	The elephant died on 26.12.2016
3.	Narmatha	Mudumalai Tiger Reserve	F	7	00065EFD53	The elephant died on 01.12.2016
4.	Kalpana	Anamalai Tiger Reserve	F	35	0006599B4D	The elephant died on 21.09.2020 due to illness

16) That the following elephants were captured / rescued as per the orders of the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden.

Sl. No.	Camp elephant name	Camp	Sex	Age	Microchip No.	Date of death
1.	Srinivas	Mudumalai Tiger Reserve	M	4	Yet to be fixed.	The elephant was captured from Cherambady Range of Gudalur Division on 04.04.2016 due to its menace and extreme Human elephant conflict in that area.
2.	Raghu	Mudumalai Tiger Reserve	M	5	Yet to be fixed.	It is a Orphan calf rescued by Forest Department on 26.05.2017 in Mudumalai Tiger Reserve. Despite the efforts taken by the Forest Department, the reuniting the calf with mother was not succeeded and hence the calf was taken to the camp.
3.	Bommi	Mudumalai Tiger Reserve	F	5	Yet to be fixed.	It is a Orphan calf separated from its mother and it was rescued by Forest Department on 26.09.2019 in Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve.

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No. of Corrections: Nil

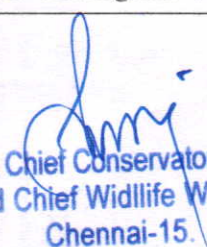
Principa Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden
சென்னை
 PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE
 CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN
 CHENNAI-15.

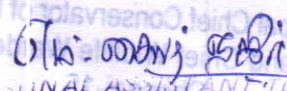
Principa Chief Conservator of Forests and Chief Wildlife Warden
 Chennai-15.

						Efforts have been taken for reuniting the calf with its mother. Since it is unable to find the mother elephant, the calf was taken to the Mudumalai Tiger Reserve elephant camp.
4.	Newly captured elephant from Gudalur (not yet named)	Mudumalai Tiger Reserve	M	35	Yet to be fixed.	The elephant was captured from Cherambadi area of Gudalur Division on 12.02.2021 due to its menace and extreme Human elephant conflict in that area.
5.	Chinnathambi	Anamalai Tiger Reserve	M	24	Yet to be fixed.	Chinnathambi elephant was captured on 25.01.2019 in Coimbatore Division and was Radio-collared and released back into the Forests and monitored. Due to increase of crop raiding and property damages and as per the expert advise the elephant was captured on 15.02.2019 and translocated to the camp.
6.	Muthu	Anamalai Tiger Reserve	M	20	Yet to be fixed.	The elephant was Captured from Arthanaripalayam in Pollachi range of Anamalai Tiger Reserve on 14.11.2019 due to human animal conflict in that area. The elephant was locally called as "ArisiRaja".
7.	Sanjeev	Anamalai Tiger Reserve	M	7	Yet to be fixed.	The orphaned elephant calf was approached the two camp elephants namely Selvi and Vijayalakshmi foraging in the camp and was not left the camp. Hence, it has been decided to maintain the calf in the camp itself.
8.	Fohini	Anamalai Tiger Reserve	F	20	0006596B 45	The elephant was transported from Rajapalayam and is being taken care in the Anamalai Tiger Reserve elephant camp as per the High Court directions.
9.	Fohini (rescued elephant)	Arignar Anna Zoological Park	F	7	00065E8 DFE	The calf elephant was translocated from Anamalai Tiger Reserve to Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur for veterinary care and is being maintained there.
10.	Frakruthi	Arignar Anna	F		00040623	The orphaned calf was brought to the Arignar Anna Zoological Park

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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
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Chennai-15.

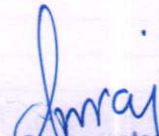

PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT TO THE
CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN
CHENNAI-15,

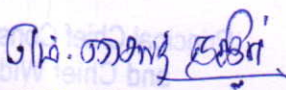
		Zoological Park		3198	from Gudalur Division for veterinary care and is being taken care in Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur.
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17) That four wild elephants were captured from various places after 31.05.2021 to reduce the human animal conflicts and 5 orphaned calf elephant were rescued and one private elephant was translocated to the Forest Department run camps. It is also submitted that several other injured/ diseased elephants were captured for treatment and after providing treatment, they were released back into the wild. It is respectfully submitted that the elephants are only captured on extreme human elephant conflict situations and for treating the injury / disease and they are not captured for the sake of capturing.

18) That the captured or rescued elephants are maintained with high quality medical care and food at departmental camps and no such elephants are gifted or sold to the private persons or temples. Only the diseased / ill treated temple and private elephants are brought to the Elephant Rescue and Rehabilitation center, M.R. Playam, Trichy for proper veterinary care and maintenance. Hence it is submitted that the Forest Department has not traded any Captive Elephants against the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and guidelines issued by the Government of India. As per the act in force, ownership of the Captive Elephant can only be by inheritance or acquisition by Government agencies by captive transfer, etc.,

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Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
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19). That the State of Tamil Nadu possesses 127 Captive Elephants. Out of which 64 Captive Elephants being maintained in Forest Department camps and rescue centers. 32 elephants are maintained in Temples and 31 elephants are maintained by the private individuals. A unique identity number called microchip has been implanted in most of the elephants in the State of Tamil Nadu and each microchip is digitally numbered as follows:

Details of Estimated number of Captive Elephants in Tamil Nadu as on 20.10.2021								
Sl. No.	Name of the Circle	Name of the District	Classification of captive elephants					Total
			Temple	Private	Circus	Forest Camp	Zoo	
1	Chennai	Chennai	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Thiruvallur	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Kancheepuram	2	0	0	0	0	2
2	AZP	Kancheepuram (part)	0	0	0	0	2	2
3	Vellore	Vellore	2	0	0	0	0	2
		Tiruvannamalai	1	0	0	0	0	1
4	Villupuram	Villupuram	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Cuddalore	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Salem	Salem	1	0	0	0	0	1
		Namakkal	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Karur	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Dharmapuri	Dharmapuri	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Krishnagiri	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Coimbatore	Coimbatore	1	0	0	0	0	1
		Thiruppur	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Nilgiri (part)	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	ATR	Coimbatore (part)	0	0	0	28	0	28
9	MTR	Nilgiri (part)	0	0	0	28	0	28
10	STR	Erode	0	2	0	0	0	2
11	Trichy	Trichy	4	6	0	6	0	16
		Thanjavur	3	2	0	0	0	5
		Pudukottai	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Nagapattinam	2	0	0	0	0	2
		Thiruvarur	1	0	0	0	0	1
		Ariyalur	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Dindigul	Dindigul	1	0	0	0	0	1
13	Madurai	Madurai	4	4	0	0	0	8
		Theni	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Virudhunagar	1	2	0	0	0	3
		Ramnad	1	0	0	0	0	1
		Sivaganga	2	0	0	0	0	2

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No. of Corrections: Nil

(Signature)
PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO THE
CHIEF WILDLIFE WARDEN
CHENNAI-15.

(Signature)
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
and Chief Wildlife Warden
Chennai-15.