

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINING

From Dr.S.Suryan, Ph.D., I.A.S.,
Director of Geology and Mining,
Guindy, Chennai-32.

To
The District Collector,
Kanyakumari.

Lr.No.4022/MM7/2005 dated 24.3.2006

Sir,

Sub: Mines and Minerals - Kanyakumari district -
100% inspection of Garnet sand mining
leases - violation and lapses reported -
further action - reg.

Ref: District Collector, Kanyakumari Lr.No.545/
04 dated 9.1.2006

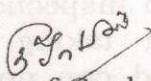
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The request of the District Collector, Kanyakumari to send a senior officer at Joint Director level from the Directorate, Chennai to conduct detailed inspection of the said area and to furnish the correct details for taking further action in the letter under reference first cited can not be complied with for the following reasons that it will not serve the purpose and help the cause of the request of the District Collector, Kanyakumari.

The inspection of the area was conducted and assessment made and the report furnished by the Assistant Director, Mines, Madurai was based on the prevailing situation and the coastal configuration that existed at the time of inspection of the above said officers deputed for the purpose. At the time of inspection by the Assistant Director (Mines), Madurai Thiru Josemathew, Deputy Manager, Mines, IREL, Manavalakurichi, Village Administrative Officers of Midalam, Keelmidalam and Manavalakurichi, Taluks, Deputy Surveyor of Kalkulam and Vilavancode also accompanied in addition to the Assistant Geologist, Nagercoil. Even in normal circumstances in a coastal track there will be constant change in the coastal configuration. Moreover, the placer deposits in the coastal track are replenishable in nature and therefore there will be periodical addition in the deposit due to constant tidal and wave action. It may not be out of point that to mention in that context that after the inspection was made by the above said officer the said area of Tvl.IREL in Kanyakumari district witnessed and

unparallel disaster due to Tsunami on 26-12-2004. Due to this unprecedented Tsunami disaster the entire configuration of coastal stretch particularly in Kanyakumari district has undergone a sea change as a result of which it has been reported that the several of lands which were once part and parcel of the coastal stretch have been engulfed by the tidal action and remains submerged under the sea as of now. In the circumstances of cataclysmic changes in the coastal configuration it is not considered advisable to have another inspection of the same area by any officer however senior individual may be. Besides, such an inspection will not be fruitful and yield any desired result. In the event of any inspection by any senior officer there is bound to be a variation in the technical observation and assessment in which circumstances it will provide technical loophole for any offender to capitalize on such variation in the observation and assessment to their best advantage.

In the light of the above facts you may proceed on the basis of the findings made in the earlier report against Tvl.IREL so as to avoid any revenue loss in terms of principal and interest components to the Government. It is also informed that provisions are available under rule 54 of Mineral Concession Rules 1960 for revision if Tvl.IREL is aggrieved by the orders of the District Collector.


for Director of Geology and Mining.

62
27.3.06