

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN RE: ISSUE RELATING TO DEFINITION OF ARAVALLI HILLS AND RANGES

I.A. NO.105701 OF 2024 (CEC REPORT NO.03 OF 2024)

IN

WRIT PETITION(S)(CIVIL) NO(S). 202/1995

IN RE : T.N. GODAVARMAN THIRUMULPAD

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

RESPONDENT(S)

Date : 20-11-2025 This petition was called on for hearing today.

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1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India, pronounced the judgment of the Bench comprising His Lordship, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Vinod Chandran and Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.V. Anjaria

2. In terms of the judgment, the Court passed the following

order:-

- (i) We accept the recommendations made by the Committee with regard to the definition of Aravali Hills and Ranges given by MoEF&CC;
- (ii) We further accept the recommendations with regard to the prohibition of mining in core/inviolate areas with exception as carved out in paragraph 7.3.1 of the Committee's Report;
- (iii) We also accept the recommendations for sustainable mining in Aravali Hills and Ranges and the steps to be taken for preventing illegal mining in Aravali Hills and Ranges;
- (iv) We, however, direct the MoEF&CC to prepare a MPSM through ICFRE for the entire Aravalis, i.e., understood as the continuous geological ridge extending from Gujarat to Delhi on the lines of the MPSM for Saranda and the MPSM must:
  - a. Identify permissible areas for mining, ecologically sensitive, conservation-critical and restoration-priority areas within the Aravali landscape where mining shall be strictly prohibited or permitted only under exceptional and scientifically justified circumstances;
  - b. Incorporate a thorough analysis of cumulative environmental impacts and the ecological carrying

capacity of the region; and

c. Include detailed post-mining restoration and rehabilitation measures.

(v) We further direct that till the MPSM is finalised by the MoEF&CC through ICFRE, no new mining leases should be granted;

(vi) We further direct that upon the MPSM being finalised by MoEF&CC in consultation with the ICFRE, mining would be permitted as per the MPSM only in those areas wherein sustainable mining could be permitted; and

(vii) In the meantime, the mining activities in the mines which are already in operation would be continued in strict compliance with the recommendations made by the Committee in paragraph 8 of its Report."

(NARENDRA PRASAD)  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

(ANJU KAPOOR )  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

(Signed "Reportable" Judgment is placed on the file)