## W.P.No.21701 of 2021

THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE and P.D.AUDIKESAVALU, J.

(Order of the Court was made by the Hon'ble Chief Justice)

The writ petition, filed in public interest, seeks a direction on the respondent authorities to ensure that a tiger, identified as MDT-23, which is perceived to be dangerous to humans, is captured alive and no steps are taken to put the animal to sleep or otherwise kill it.

- 2. It is submitted on behalf of the first respondent Principal Chief Conservator by Mr.P.Muthukumar, learned Government Pleader, that there is no plan to kill the animal or maim it. Efforts are on in the Mudumalai area to capture the animal alive and study its psychology and behaviour to assess what future course of treatment may be adopted.
  - 3. It appears from newspaper reports that the tiger was

Page 1 of 4

spotted yesterday and there is a huge bundobust in the area to capture the animal.

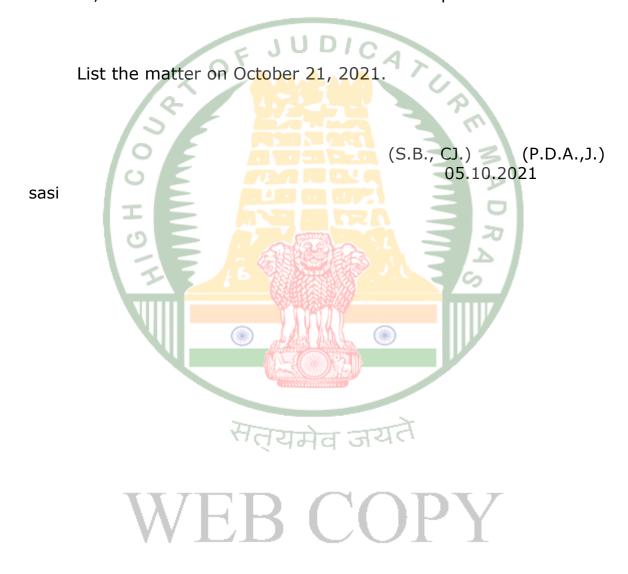
- 4. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests will use his best discretion to ensure that the least number of persons intrude into any forest, since the natural habitat gets destroyed the moment a large posse of humans enter any forest. However, the respondents are left free to deal with the relevant animal for its treatment and for ascertaining its conduct and behaviour.
- 5. All that can be said at the moment is that the other animals in the area should not be disturbed to the extent avoidable for the purpose of tracking down this animal, though some discreet measures may be used for such purpose with the object of ultimately treating the animal and respecting its right to remain wild and free to roam in the forest.

6. A status report should be filed when the matter appears

immediately after the reopening of the court following the ensuing

vacation.

7. Mr.Rajesh Vivekanandan, learned Assistant Solicitor-General, takes notice on behalf of the second respondent.



## THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE and P.D.AUDIKESAVALU, J.

(sasi)



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Page 4 of 4