



W.P.(MD)No.8466 of 2020

**WP(MD) No.8466 of 2020**  
**and W.M.P.(MD) No.7852 of 2020**

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**V.BHARATHIDASAN, J.**  
**AND**  
**N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.**

Today, this writ petition has been again listed under the caption “for being mentioned” at the instance of the learned Amicus Curiae Mr.T.Mohan.

2. Earlier, this Court by an order dated 04.03.2022, allowed the writ petition and in paragraph 49 has directed the authorities not to allow any domesticated cattle to venture into the forest area for the purpose of grazing, throughout the forest area in Tamil Nadu.

3. Mr.T.Mohan, learned Amicus Curiae mentioned before this Court that earlier under Section 16 of the Tamil Nadu Forest Act, some rights have been recognised by the Authorities and those rights cannot be taken away and the authorities may be permitted to allow cattle grazing rights recognized as per Section 16 declaration. That apart, as per the Tamil Nadu Forest Act in other forest areas and reserve forest authorities can in exceptional cases grant permission for grazing cattle. Hence, total ban of cattle grazing in the entire forest area need not be enforced.



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**WEB COPY**4. We have given our anxious consideration to the submissions made by the learned Amicus Curiae and also the relevant provisions of the Act.

5. Accordingly, the order of this Court in para 49 is modified as follows:

*"49. The authorities are directed not to allow any domesticated cattle to venture into the Tiger Reserves, Sanctuaries and National Parks. So far as the Reserve Forest and other forest areas are concerned, if any Statute, enables the authorities to permit domesticated cattle grazing inside the forest, the concerned authority can grant permission in accordance with law. However, before granting such permission, authorities shall take into consideration, the interest of the forest, wildlife as well as other environmental issues. Considering these circumstances, we are inclined to allow this writ petition, accordingly this writ petition is allowed. Consequently, the connected miscellaneous petition is closed. No costs."*

6. The Registry is directed to issue fresh order copy to the parties after



carrying out the above correction.

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**(V.B.D.J.) (N.S.K.J.)**  
**17.03.2022**



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