

Tuticorin firing: HC asks TN why report not implemented

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Chennai: Tamil Nadu government has been asked to explain why no action was taken to implement Justice Aruna Jagadeesan report on the May 22, 2018, police firing at anti-Sterlite protesters, killing 13 people.

A division bench of the Madras high court, comprising Justice Nisha Banu and Justice N Mala, issued an interim order to that effect on Friday, on a plea moved by human rights activist Henri Tiphagne.

Directing the government offer an explanation, the bench then adjourned the hearing to November 17 for the state to file its report.

In his petition, Tiphagne wanted the court to direct the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) to re-investigate the police firing. According to the petitioner, NHRC which commenced a suo motu probe into the incident closed the investigation within five months after the shoot out without recording any reasons.

He further alleged that the Tamil Nadu government had not fully implemented the recommendations of the commission. "Only ₹20 lakh compensation recommended by the commission has been provided to the families of the victims. But the state has not acted against the 17 police personnel who were named by the commission," he said.

The petitioner also wanted the court to direct the state to provide a copy of the report filed by the NHRC if any based on its probe. Responding to the plea, the state government informed the court that they have not received any report from the NHRC.

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