

Thoothukudi shooting.. Whether action was taken against the officers or not?- The court again shook the dust!

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The Madras High Court has directed the CBI to explain whether action was taken or abandoned against the officials in the Thoothukudi shooting incident.

Human rights activist Henry Tiphagne had filed a case in the Madras High Court against the order of the National Human Rights Commission, which had closed the case on its own initiative regarding the Thoothukudi shooting incident. The case came up for hearing again before a bench comprising Justices Nisha Banu and Mala. Then, a report was filed by the CBI. In it, it was stated that the government has been recommended to take action against the officials including District Collector, Deputy Collector.

On behalf of the petitioner, Henry Diben, “The special CBI court in Madurai has rejected the charge sheet filed by the CBI against a single police officer. Accepting the report given by Judge Aruna Jagadeesan, who investigated the incident, the government has only taken disciplinary action against the officials involved. He argued that criminal action should also be taken against them.

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He further requested that the CBI should not be allowed to re-investigate this case without proper investigation and that the Tamil Nadu government should form a special investigation team and order to conduct the investigation. At that time, the judges questioned the CBI side as to how the charge sheet was filed against only one police officer and how the other police officers were given proof.

Responding to this, the CBI lawyer explained that since the special court has rejected the charge sheet, the case will be re-investigated and there is no mistake in the CBI investigation. The CBI lawyer said that if the CBI points

out the flaws in the investigation, an investigation will be conducted on those aspects.

The judges said it would take ten years to re-investigate and file a chargesheet, and directed the CBI to explain whether action was taken or abandoned against the officers identified by the Justice Aruna Jagatheesan commission that probed the shooting. Further, the judges ordered to provide a copy of the report filed by the CBI to the petitioner and adjourned the hearing of the case to the 19th.

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