CB-CID to investigate into complaint of missing TN environmental activist Mugilan

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Mugilan alias Shanmugham

Chennai: The CB-CID has been entrusted with the investigation and tracing of a Tamil Nadu environmental activist Mugilan alias Shanmugham. Mugilan went missing on February 15 shortly after he claimed involvement of senior police officers in the police firing at anti-Sterlite protesters at Tuticorin on May 22 and 23 last year which claimed the lives of 13 people.

The state government has ordered CB-CID probe following repeated pleas by activists and political parties to trace the missing activist.

Mugilan, who is the coordinator of an environment protection movement, has been active in various protests including the pro-Jallikattu and anti-Sterlite protests. He was last seen by his friends at the Egmore railway station where he was expected to catch a train to Madurai at around 10.30 pm. Earlier that day, he held a press conference wherein he accused senior police officers — Inspector General of Police, South Zone, Sailesh Kumar Yadav and Deputy Inspector General of Police, Tirunelveli Range, Kapil Kumar Saratkar—of their role in the Tuticorin firing.

A habeas corpus petition was meanwhile filed by executive director of Madurai-based People's Watch, Henri Tiphagne in the Madras High Court to trace the activist.

The Egmore police reportedly informed the court that Mugilan did not board the train to Madurai and his mobile phone went off the grid at Guduvanchery near Chennai.