

# 'Cops acting as enforcers in Thoothukudi'

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

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ALLEGING that the police, in the name of maintaining peace, are engaged in harassing Thoothukudi people, including the family members of those who were killed during an anti-Sterlite protest in 2018, the People's Watch has filed a petition at the Madurai Bench of Madras High Court here on Tuesday seeking directions to the police not to harass the people in the guise of inquiry.

The petition comes a day before the first death anniversary of the victims of Thoothukudi police firing that is to be observed today. The petitioner S Mohan, who is the Joint Director of People's Watch, submitted that the sub-collector of Thoothukudi, in the name of maintaining law and



order, has issued summons to several residents under Section 107 (security for keeping the peace) and 111 (order to be made) of The Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). He stated that summons had been served to one Fathima Babu, who would be conducting a homage meeting for the deceased on May 22, and one Jenarose, sister of one of the deceased Gladson, and several others who have been involved in anti-Sterlite movements.

It has been stated in the summon that "mere participation in the anti-Sterlite agitation is an offence" and the participants have been termed as "offenders", Mohan claimed. He prayed the Court to prohibit the sub-collector and police officials from continuing the above process.

