

NGO seeks invoking of SC/ST Act in Vedaranyam violence

People's Watch, a Madurai based NGO, has condemned the violence in Vedaranyam and demanded the invoking of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 2018. The violence had resulted in the defacement of Ambedkar's statue on August 25.

The NGO said that though it was appreciated that the district administration had managed to prevent escalation of violence by installing a new Ambedkar statue, it had failed to invoke Sections 3(1)(t), 3(1)(u) and 3(1)(v) of the Act, that deals with destroying, damaging, defiling any object generally known to be held with high esteem by members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Not invoking the relevant sections of the Act showed lack of adequate training to senior officials in the rank of Collector, Superintendent of Police, Deputy Inspector General of Police, Inspector General of Police and Secretary to the government, it said.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Madurai/ngo-seeks-invoking-of-scst-act-in-vedaranyam-violence/article29281111.ece>