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Centre for Environmental Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

C.A. WR 291/15

04 August 2015, Colombo. The writ application filed by Centre for Environmental Justice on 15th July, 2015 in respect of unlawful clearing, paving Roads, construction of unauthorized settlements in a vast area approximately 2000 Hectares in the forest complex adjoining Wilpattu National Park, i.e. Northern Sanctuary of Wilpattu National Park and Maraichukkaddi /Karadikkuli Reserved Forest, Madu, Periya Madu and Sannar areas was taken up for support today (04.08.2015) in the Court of Appeal. Counsel for the Petitioner submitted that such unlawful clearance and establishing of settlements has caused extensive and irreparable damage to the whole environment and the Eco system and wildlife habitats.

The Court of Appeal which takes a very stern attitude on environmental matters and responding positively issued notice on the Respondents returnable on 16th August 2015. The Respondents cited in the application are Conservator General- Department of Forest Conservation,, Central Evironmental Authority, Director General of Wild Life, Commissioner General Lands, Commissioner General of Archeological Department, District Secretary of Mannar, Rishad Badiuddeen, Secretary - Ministry of Environment and Attorney General. Petitioner has prayed that a writs of Certiorari and mandamus be issued against the Respondents to take action against the persons responsible for unlawful activities in terms of the law.

The Bench comprised with Justic Vijith Malalgoda – the President Judge of Court of Appeal and H.C.J. Madawala. Senior Counsel Ravindranath Dabare appeared for the Petitioner, with Ms.Nilmal Wickremasinghe.

More Information

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