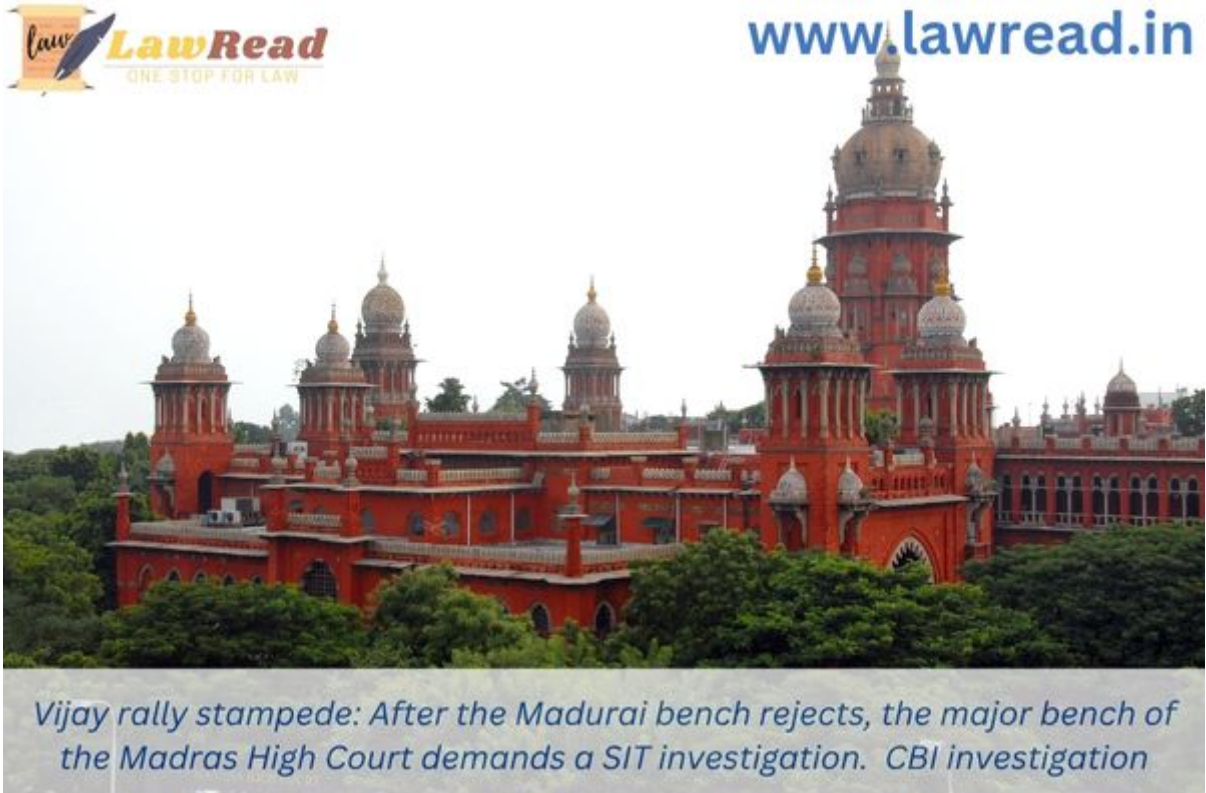


News

Vijay rally stampede: After the Madurai bench rejects, the major bench of the Madras High Court demands a SIT investigation. CBI investigation



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According to reports, Justice N Senthilkumar made the ruling at the hearing of a petition asking why Vijay was left out of the criminal case that was filed following the rush.

According to reports, the Madras High Court on Friday ordered a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to look into the stampede that occurred on September 27 at a **Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam** (TVK) event in Karur. The stampede claimed 41 lives when throngs gathered to hear actor-turned-politician and TVK founder Vijay speak.

In response to a petition asking why Vijay was not named in the criminal complaint filed following the stampede, Justice N **Senthilkumar** issued the ruling, according to a report from

The Hindu.

According to reports, the Court also criticized the TVK leadership for its handling of the situation.

Remarkably, a Division Bench of the Madurai-based High Court earlier today declined to direct the Central Bureau of inquiry (CBI) to look into the case, stating that the State's inquiry was still in its early stages.

Awaiting order copy.

Vijay was campaigning on September 27 when a stampede broke out at a TVK party gathering in Veluswamypuram, Karur district.

Numerous people were hurt in the rush, and at least 41 people—including women and children—died.

An FIR was filed after the event against a number of TVK employees, with the exception of Vijay, on allegations of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, failing to maintain safety, and misrepresenting the anticipated number of attendees and venue setup.

Two TVK employees charged in the FIR filed anticipatory bail pleas, and a single-judge bench in the court's Madurai seat also reserved its decision this afternoon.