## PRESS NOTE

## SPECIAL TAHSILDAR AND POLICE PERSONNEL WERE ARRESTED FOR DEMAND AND OBTAINMENT OF BRIBE Rs.3,00,000/- FOR EVICT THE ENCROACHMENT OF ADJACENT GOVERNMENT LAND

The Complainant Tr.Pon Thangavel is the social activist, he has taken steps to evict the encroachment of Government land in his area. Officials concerned have not taken any steps. So he filed a WP in the Hon'ble High Court and the Court ordered the Corporation officials to evict the encroachment and file a report compliance. He has taken the High Court order to the Assistant Commissioner, Chennai Corporation, Zone 15 but no steps were taken. So, the complainant met the Regional Deputy Commissioner South Tr. M.P.Amith, IAS., and he assured to evict within 3 days and also instructed to Tmt. Saroja, Tahsildar to follow up. But, Tmt. Saroja, called the complainant and said that, if we evict the encroachment, your land value will be increased, so you collect the money from the land owner whose land is adjacent to the encroachment and give 1 crore to me. Complainant was shocked and left the place. Later the Tmt. Saroja called the complainant to her house and demanded 20 lakhs and to give 5 lakhs as advance and after the eviction remaining amount to be paid. Complainant again requested Tmt. Saroja to reduce the initial amount to Rs. 3 lakhs. Tmt. Saroja agreed and demanded the complainant to bring 3 lakhs to her office on 14.05.2024 (today). Complainant is not willing to give bribe, so he lodged a complainant.

While reaching the office of the Assistant Commissioner, Chennai Corporation at Adyar, Tmt. Saroja directed one police M.Arunkumar, Mount Crime PS to get it from the complainant and handed over to her husband Praveen HC 37173, Mount Armed Reserve Police. Complainant refused to give to him but the Police Arun Kumar convinced him that I am also from Madurai and trust me. So complainant handed over the Trap money of Rs. 3 lakhs to him. After that he tried to take the money in his bike but the Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, Chennai City-1 detachment secured Police Arun Kumar and taken him to Tmt. Saroja's room along with the official witness. On the confession of the Police Arun Kumar, Tmt Saroja, Special Tahsildar is also arrested and both the accused were sent to Judicial Custody.