

# Submissions made against police action

TNN | Jul 28, 2018, 01:33 IST

Madurai: For the second continuous day, the first bench of the Madras high court comprising Justices C T Selvam and A M Basheer Ahmed heard submissions made in connection with the incidents preceding and after the police firing in Tuticorin. Senior counsel Ajmal Khan and Henri Tiphagne of the NGO People's Watch made their submissions. Ajmal Khan cited several supreme court judgments to argue that the multiple FIRs registered by the police against the protesters for the same incident and similar charges were invalid. Tiphagne submitted before the court the United Nations (UN) guidelines on crowd control and said that the state police had failed to adopt their own guidelines while dealing with the protesters on May 22.

He further argued that while the state had been proactive in booking protesters in multiple cases, it had not taken any action on the complaints by the victims' families who wanted murder case to be registered against the policemen who opened fire. "It has been more than 60 days since the incident and there has been no relief for the families from the various commissions who visited Tuticorin," Tiphagne said seeking judicial intervention into the issue.

The bench adjourned further hearing on the case to Monday when the state's counsel is expected to make counter arguments. On Thursday, additional advocate general Arvinth Pandian had made his submissions before the bench defending the detention of certain protesters under the National Security Act (NSA) after which he submitted intelligence reports pertaining to the 99 days of protest.