

**GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU**

Sub: Mines and Minerals – Mining Lease – Garnet, Ilmenite and Rutile –  
Thoothukudi District – Formation of Special Team to inspect all the six  
lease areas of major minerals in Thoothukudi District – Visit of the Team -  
Regarding

Ref: G.O. Ms. No.156, Industries (MMD.1) Department, Dated 8-8-2013.

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In the reference cited, the Government have ordered to form a special team headed by Secretary, Revenue Department to inspect and verify whether there is Illicit Mining in the 6 leases of minerals-Garnet, Ilmenite and Rutile in Thoothukudi District. It has been ordered that the team will consist of officers from the Departments of Revenue, Environment and Forests and Geology and Mining.

2. Accordingly, it is proposed to take up simultaneous inspection of all the 6 lease sites in Thoothukudi District through Teams of senior officials of the Departments concerned. It is hereby ordered that each team inspecting a lease area will consist of a Senior Deputy Collector, an Assistant Director of Survey (along with Inspector of Survey and Staff), an Assistant Director of Mines or Assistant Geologist from the Department of Geology and Mining and a Divisional Environmental Engineer of Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, as nominated by the Secretaries of the concerned Departments. The above teams will take up the simultaneous inspection of mining leases from 12.8.2013 to 14.8.2013 and then from 19.8.2013 to 20.8.2013. The district and local officials of Thoothukudi district will assist the inspecting teams by furnishing necessary records and providing assistance.

3. In order to assist the Secretary, Revenue Department, a core team consisting of a senior District Revenue Officer, a Joint Director of Survey, Joint Director, Geology & Mining and an Additional Chief Environmental Engineer will coordinate the inspections of the 6 leases in Thoothukudi District.

4. After the field inspections, the Secretary, Revenue Department will again visit Thoothukudi District between 22.8.2013 and 24.8.2013 for making any further enquires as may be required in order to finalise the report before a period of one month from the date of issuance of Government Order as stipulated.

5. The District Collector, Thoothukudi District is instructed to furnish all the necessary records, reports and other materials for the conduct of the inspections and inquiries by the Special Team. The District Collector, Thoothukudi District should also depute the local officials to assist the Teams in the conduct of the inspections.

**Issued By:-**

**DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai - 9.**