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Law and court come to the aid of senior citizen

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The aged man had filed a case seeking protection from his son.

A property dispute between an aged father and his son hailing from Nagercoil in Kanyakumari district and the consequent humiliations suffered by the senior citizen have come to an end, thanks to the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 and the intervention of the Madras High Court Bench here.

Justice R. Sudhakar disposed of a writ petition filed by J. Roby, seeking protection for him as well as his properties from his son Anitter Alwin, after recording his submission that the dispute had been resolved amicably pursuant to the filing of the writ petition and the interim direction given to the police to provide security to the petitioner.

The judge also recorded the statement made by the petitioner's son who appeared in court in person and promised that he would take good care of his father as well as mother and treat them with respect, besides, ensuring that no untoward incident takes place between them in the future.

In order to ensure that the continuance of the present scenario and considering the need to protect senior citizens, the judge directed the Kanyakumari Superintendent of Police to strictly comply with the requirements of Rule 21 (2) of the Tamil Nadu Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Rules, 2009.

As per Rule 21 (2), every police station should maintain an up-to-date list of senior citizens, especially those who were living by themselves without the aid of any other young individual, within its jurisdiction. A representative of the police station and a social worker should visit such senior citizens at regular intervals of at least once a month. Police should also visit the aged as quickly as possible on receipt of a request of assistance from them. Complaints or problems of senior citizens should be attended to by the local police promptly and one or more volunteers' committee must be formed in every police station .