

Sand Mining Deaths & Violence in South India between April 2022 and February 2023

A tabular report by SANDRP

TAMIL NADU

District	Date	River	Details	Remark
Trichy	08 May 2022		<p><u>2 killed, 9 injured by sand truck</u> In an accident, two women were killed and nine others injured when a sand-laden truck crashed into a minivan near Thiruvanaikoil in the wee hours of Sunday (May 08). The van, which had a group of villagers from Kumbakonam in Thanjavur district, was on its way to a temple near Viralimalai in Pudukottai district. All the 11 people in the minivan were heading toward Kovilpatti near Viralimalai with Kalaiyaran behind the wheel.</p> <p>As they were approaching Panayapuram village on Kallanai-Trichy main road, a truck carrying m-sand from Karur and heading toward Thanjavur collided head-on with the minivan, killing the two women on the spot. In the impact, the sand-laden truck toppled and fell into an irrigation canal. No 1 Tollgate police rushed to the spot and sent the bodies to the MGMGH and shifted the injured to the hospital. Meanwhile, some villagers of Panayapuram blocked roads demanding construction of speed breakers or setting up of barricades to avert accidents on the stretch. Police and revenue officials assured the villagers that steps would be taken to lay speed breakers. https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/madurai/six-killed-in-two-accidents-14-injured/articleshow/91426119.cms (09 May 2022)</p>	2 woman killed, 9 other injured after sand laden truck crashed into a minivan.
Tirunelveli	14 May 2022		<p><u>6 workers trapped in stone mine</u> Six workers were trapped under a boulder after it rolled over following a landslide in a private stone quarry located at Adaimithipankulam near Munneerpallam during midnight hours (May 14). The license holder of the quarry Sankara Narayanan has been detained and police are in search of the two owners of the quarry. This quarry has been functioning since 2018 and the lease ends in 2023, and the depth and mining plan will be investigated, he added. Six quarries have been closed in the past seven months, especially the quarries located near Western ghats. Action has also been taken regarding the overloading complaints reported and the border is also monitored, the collector further said. https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2022/may/15/tamil-nadu-six-workers-trapped-beneath-a-boulder-following-landslide-in-tirunelveli-stone-quarry-2453843.html (15 May 2022) https://ndtv.in/india/4-workers-trapped-in-300-feet-deep-mine-in-tamil-nadu-chopper-reached-for-rescue-operation-2977225 One more worker died inside a quarry (or an open-pit mine), raising the death count to two after six of them were trapped due to falling boulders. Of the six workers, two remain trapped at a depth of 300 feet for over 60 hours while two others have been rescued. An official said the workers got trapped in the Muneer Pallam area of Tirunelveli district on Saturday (May 14) night after boulders rolled down from the top and a giant stone fell</p>	3 stone workers died in rockslide mishap at a stone mine site.

		<p>into the quarry. https://www.ndtv.com/tamil-nadu-news/2-dead-2-still-trapped-for-over-60-hours-in-tamil-nadu-quarry-2983299 (17 May 2022) The three fatalities in the stone quarry mishap could have been avoided if workers' concerns had been addressed, say the two survivors of the incident in Adaimithipankulam in Tirunelveli district. One person is yet to be found. "Just about 20 days ago, a rock fell due to a landslide in the quarry. But when we informed the senior staff, we were simply told to return to work," says M Murugan (31), a crane operator from Thoothukudi. There were not many people at the site at that time. If the mishap had occurred in the morning, many more people would have died," says Murugan, who has been working in the quarry for four years. Vijayan, who's been employed there for nearly seven years, points out all six people at the quarry at the time ended up being trapped. https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2022/may/20/tirunelveli-quarry-mishap-similar-mishap-occurred-20-days-earlier-says-eye-witness-2455677.html (20 May 2022)</p> <p>Those at the site say the accident could have been prevented had leaseholders mined as per lease approval. The quarry was permitted to mine 450,000 cubic metres for five years. "But as per our calculations after the accident, they have mined 1.7 million cubic metres," says an official at the site, not wishing to be identified. "That's almost three times additional mining. And they have gone in really deep for this. The permitted depth is 50 metres, but they have gone in 110 metres. The design of the quarry is also wrong. It was a man-made accident," he says, adding that it does not follow the Directorate General of Mines Safety rules.</p> <p>The quarry is where Charnockite is mined, which is crushed to make M Sand for construction work. "M Sand is like gold in Tirunelveli as river sand mining is banned," says a local activist. Enquiries are yet to ascertain how many people work in the quarry as several are casual labourers. The quarry's licence was valid till 2023, which has now been suspended. Investigation officer Rajat Chaturvedi who formed three special teams, nabbed the absconding owners of the private stone quarry K Selvaraj (80) and his son A S Kumar (52) in Mangaluru, Karnataka on May 20.</p> <p>The district collector V Vishnu has suspended the assistant director (AD) of the district mines department, Vinodh Tamilarasan. "They've brought in another who is already in charge of two other districts (Kanyakumari and Nagercoil). How will one person have the time to inspect all the quarries? Tirunelveli alone has 100 large quarries and 300 small quarries. He will only have time for paperwork," says one of the experts at the site, adding, "The government has to appoint an AD for each district, an assistant geological expert and staff." https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/hurdles-in-8-day-rescue-at-man-made-tirunelveli-quarry-accident-101653419840185.html (25 May 2022)</p>	
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Cuddalore	05 June 2022	Gedilam	<p><u>Factors behind preventable tragedy</u> The drowning of seven young girls - aged between 10 and 19 - near a check dam built across the Gedilam river on Sunday, June 5 has raised questions about the dangers of over-mining sand from river beds. The girls had gone to bathe in some water accumulated near the river, and some environmental activists believe that they might have been unaware of a deeper pit that was left behind due to the neglect of sand miners who did not bother to refill it once they were done mining. While two girls drowned first, the rest of the girls died while trying to rescue them, police say.</p> <p>TNM spoke with several activists, environmentalists, and local people to understand the factors that potentially led to this mishap. While some blame the lack of proper sanitation and toilet facilities that compelled the girls to go to the river, activists suggest that illegal sand mining may have made them more vulnerable to drowning. Some of the local residents revealed that apart from the companies that come to mine sand there, some of the people residing in the nearby villages also depend on the river and river sand for livelihood. While M-sand or manufactured sand (artificially made by crushing hard stones) is being used in some places as an alternative to river sand, the former has not fully replaced the latter in construction. https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/7-girls-drown-cuddalore-river-factors-behind-preventable-tragedy-164740 (07 June 2022) CPM state secretary Balakrishnan insisted the government initiate action against the officials, who failed to fill the pits after mining sand in the dried river for constructing a check dam. The deep pits were filled up in the recent rains and these seven people reached one of the deep pits and drowned, said Balakrishnan. https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/pm-leaders-condole-death-of-seven-who-drowned-in-river/articleshow/92049334.cms (07 June 2022)</p>	7 girls died after drowning in sand mine pit.
Coimbatore	24 June 2022		<p><u>Two boys drown in quarry</u> Two school students drowned in a water-filled stone quarry pit at Kaliyapuram near KG Chavadi on Friday (24 June 2022). The deceased were identified as A Sanjay Kumar, 17, and R Sanjay, 17, both from VOC Street at Chavadipudur. Both were class XII students of a private school at Town Hall in the city. Police said the duo bunked off school and went to Kaliyapuram with their four friends to bathe in a stone quarry pit filled with water. As both did not know how to swim, they drowned in the 15 feet deep pit. https://www.arcattoscana.org/city/coimbatore/two-boys-drown-in-quarry/articleshow/92447471.cms (25 June 2022)</p>	2 students died after drowning in stone quarry pit.
Karur	10 Sept. 2022		<p><u>Activist, who fought illegal quarries, run over by truck</u> An activist, who had been demanding the closure of illegal stone quarries, was allegedly run over by a truck belonging to a quarry, at Kuppam near K. Paramathi on Saturday (Sept. 10) evening. The incident occurred a day after a quarry situated near Kalipalayam, where activist R. Jaganathan lived, was closed by the Department of Geology and Mining on complaints that it was being operated illegally.</p>	Activist murdered for exposing illegal stone mining activities.

		<p>According to local sources, a truck reportedly belonging to the Annai Stone Quarry knocked down Jaganathan when he was riding a two-wheeler. After confirming that he was dead, the occupants of the truck were said to have enacted a farce by alerting an ambulance service to conjure up a semblance of a road accident. Jaganathan was declared brought dead at the Government Medical College Hospital. Incidentally, in 2019, Jaganathan had a narrow escape when a group of persons attacked him with lethal weapons for opposing the functioning of the quarry. Selvakumar and Ranjith Kumar were cited as accused in that case too. E. Sundaravathanam, Superintendent of Police, Karur, told The Hindu that according to preliminary inquiries, there was a prima facie indication that Jaganathan had been murdered for filing a complaint against a stone quarry. Further details would be known only after a detailed investigation.</p> <p>https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/activist-who-fought-illegal-quarries-run-over-by-truck-in-karur/article65879537_ece (12 Sept. 2022)</p>	
Salem	17 Sept. 2022	<p>6 killed, 2 injured as truck rams into omni bus Six people, including three members of a family were killed as a speeding truck rammed into a stationary omnibus on Saturday (17 Sept. 2022) night. Police said G Thirunavukarasu, 61, his wife Vijaya, 60, son T Ravikumar, 41, their relatives T Senthilvelan, 46, Subramani, 40 and Deepan, 24, the bus cleaner died as the sand laden lorry hit the Chennai-bound bus on Salem-Chennai National Highways near Vazhapadi around 11.55 pm. Five died on the spot, while Vijaya succumbed to injuries on the way to hospital.</p> <p>Two others, Madeswari, 60 and her son Jayaprakash, 40 were admitted to Salem Government Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College and Hospital. As the private bus was on halt at the Pethanaickenpalayam Town Panchayat office, passengers were loading their luggage in the storage area on the right side of the bus, when the mishap happened. Police said Thirunavukarasu, his family members and relatives were heading to Chennai to attend a family function, while the truck laden with sand was heading to Attur from Salem.</p> <p>https://www.dtnext.in/tamilnadu/2022/09/18/six-killed-two-injured-as-truck-rams-into-omni-bus (18 Sept. 2022) "The accident took place when the cleaner of the bus, S Dheepan, 25, was loading the luggage. The tipper truck, loaded with m-sand and heading to Attur, rammed the bus from behind," Vazhapady DSP N Shwetha. The Ethapur police registered a case and initiated an inquiry. They have launched a search for the tipper truck driver.</p> <p>https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/coimbatore/six-killed-as-tipper-truck-rams-private-bus-near-salem/articleshow/94291694.cms (19 Sept. 2022)</p>	6 killed, 2 injured after speeding sand truck rammed into a stationary omnibus.
Villupuram	17 Dec. 2022	<p>Man attacked for raising issue of 'illegal' sand mining A man who raised posters portraying locations in his area used for illegal sand mining was brutally attacked. Sadiq Hussain used Google images of the region for the posters he held high, claiming that authorities took no action. When reporters asked Hussian to show the region he claimed illegal sand mining had been happening, he took them to the spot, where a group of men began attacking him brutally on camera. "I took</p>	Man brutally attacked for raising the issue of illegal sand mining.

		<p>reporters to the location when a group of 20 men attacked me on Saturday (Dec. 17) evening. Panchayat head Munwar, his brother Athar Basha, and his sons Liyaqat Ali and Asgar Ali attacked me along with their relatives", stated Sadiq Hussain, further adding, he said that he was forced to raise an issue as being a farmer, his land was under encroachment threat. https://www.indiatoday.in/cities/story/man-tamil-nadu-viluppuram-attacked-raising-issue-illegal-sand-mining-2310647-2022-12-18 (18 Dec. 2022) The son of a panchayat president on Saturday (Dec. 17) allegedly assaulted men from his village for exposing to media his family's involvement in sand mining at Meenambur near Gingee. The incident was recorded by a few local reporters who visited the village to interview the whistleblowers.</p> <p>On Friday (Dec. 16) night, posters declaring Basha's involvement in sand mining were pasted on walls of houses in the village and the collectorate complex here. They read, "Tamil Nadu government must take action against Meenambur panchayat president and his family, for illegally mining sand in the village lake area. The sand in the lake is being stolen, and the district collector, Gingee tahsildar and block development officer are not taking any action." A few mobile numbers were also printed on these posters. https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2022/dec/19/sand-mining-panchayat-presidents-son-held-for-bashing-villagers-in-tamil-nadu-2529565.html (19 Dec.2022)</p>	
Thoothukudi	04 Feb. 2023	<p><u>Farmer threatened by sand mafia supplying gravel for windmills</u> Tamilaga Anaithu Vivasayigal Sangam appealed to the district administration to control windmill operators from allegedly damaging water bodies and government poramboke lands and ensure the safety of the agriculturists who have been lodging complaints against illegal transportation of gravel required for installing windmills.</p> <p>In a complaint, the Sangam's district secretary SK Arumai Raj of Keelaparaipatti said he caught two lorries that were illegally excavating gravel at a water body at Ottudanpatti village in Kayathar taluk, along with a few other farmers belonging to his Sangam on January 9. He also said he handed them over to the respective Revenue Inspector Pichaiya and VAO Paramasaivan for further action. Though an FIR was registered two days later at Kadambur station, the police and revenue had relieved the seized vehicles with the intention to protect their owners, he alleged.</p> <p>Arumai Raj said the machinery was illegally mining gravel from the water body in Ottudanpatti village only to make a pathway to the hinterlands and to install the windmill turbines on private lands. "Meanwhile, two men in camouflaged identities, suspected to be part of the sand mafia, threatened the Sangam's Kayathar union secretary K Ayyapparaj at his house in Vadakku Vandhanam. They threatened to behead him if he complained about the illegal sand mining activity for setting up the windmill industry", he said while demanding adequate safety for the agriculturists.</p>	Farmer leader face threats for opposing illegal mining; blame police for inaction.

			https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2023/feb/05/farmer-threatened-by-sand-mafia-supplying-gravel-for-windmills-2544447.html (05 Feb. 2023)	
Karur	15 Feb. 2023	Cauvery	<p>4 girls go for bathing in Cauvery river Four girl students of a government middle school at Iluppur in Pudukottai district drowned in the Cauvery river around noon on Wednesday (15 Feb. 2023) when they were taking bath in the Mayanur barrage. The girls had come to Trichy to participate in an inter-school sports competition organized in connection with Republic Day celebrations. According to the police, a football team comprising 15 girl students from the Pilipatti panchayat union school had arrived at a private engineering college in Elurpatti near Thottiam accompanied by two teachers for the competition. After completion of their event, they decided to visit the Mayanur barrage across the river Cauvery. Once they reached the barrage, the students went to Chellandi Amman temple on the south banks of the river downstream of the barrage.</p> <p>All the girls ventured into the water for taking bath. Police said that after sometime seven girls got stuck in a swirl. Fortunately, one of the students, Keerthana, managed to rescue three of them. However, the four others were washed away. N Shanmugam, coordinator of Movement for Anti-Illegal Stone Quarries in Karur, blamed the incident on sand mining in and around the barrage. "Excessive mining of sand on the river bed of Cauvery has created pits 10 feet to 15 feet deep. Even a person who knows to swim will not survive if he accidentally slips into the water. Government should not allow sand mining within 15 km radius of the barrage," he told TOI. https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/four-students-drown-in-cauvery-while-bathing-in-tamil-nadu/articleshow/97962016.cms (16 Feb. 2023)</p> <p>The deceased were identified as V. Sofia, 12; R. Tamilarasi, 13; M. Iniya, 11; and P. Lavanya, 11. The bodies were taken to the Government Medical College Hospital in Karur for a post-mortem. The kin of the four deceased girl students resorted to a road roko in front of the school and refused to receive the bodies after post-mortem, demanding that the headmaster and the teachers who had accompanied the students provide an explanation about the incident. They were agitated as the students were taken to Mayanur to take bath in the Cauvery without permission from the parents. The Revenue Divisional Officer of Ilupur along with the Tahsildar, District Development Officer of Viralimalai and Deputy Superintendent of Police, Ilupur assured the relatives of a proper inquiry into the incident and appropriate action based on the findings, police sources said. https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/four-schoolgirls-from-pudukottai-drown-in-river-cauvery-at-karur/article66512480.ece (15 Feb. 2023) As they stood near the river bank, one of the students jumped into the river and was sucked into a vortex. The water current in the river at the time was strong. On seeing their friend struggling, three more students jumped into the river but they too were caught in the vortex. All four of them drowned in the river. https://www.news9live.com/state/tamil-nadu/tamil-nadu-four-girl-students-drown-in-cauvery-river-</p>	4 girls drown to death in Cauvery river.

			while-returning-from-sports-meet-in-karur-au385-2053063 (15 Feb. 2023) Karur collector Dr T Prabhushankar and superintendent of police Sundaravathanam, who inspected the rescue operation, said the students entered the waters ignoring a warning board put up by the PWD instructing people to refrain from venturing into the river as it was highly dangerous with many deep spots. Meanwhile, parents and relatives of the girls staged a protest in Pudukkottai and refused to receive the bodies saying that they were neither informed nor their permission was sought for carrying out the autopsy. Mayanur police have filed a case and a probe is on. https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2023/feb/15/four-girl-students-drown-in-cauvery-river-in-tamil-nadus-karur-2547738.html ; https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2023/feb/16/fourgirl-students-drown-in-cauvery-in-tns-karur-district--2547921.html (15 Feb. 2023)	
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KARNATAKA

District	Date	River	Details	Remark
Mangaluru	24 July 2022		A 21-year-old youth drowned in a water-logged stone quarry on Sunday (July 24). The deceased is identified as Shiyab from Jokatte. Shiyab and his friends were playing cricket at Ulaibettu Kayarapadav ground. After playing he went to take a bath in the Water-logged stone quarry and drowned. https://www.daijiworld.com/news/newsDisplay?newsID=982408 (24 July 2022)	21 year old died after drowning in stone mine pit.
Bengaluru Rural	25 July 2022		Reversing sand truck crushes elderly woman to death A 60-year-old woman died in an accident in front of her house in Kithaganur near Hosakote Taluk on Monday (July 25) night. She was crushed to death between a truck and a compound wall. The deceased, Rathamma, is a former member of the taluk panchayat. Rathamma's husband Chikkamuniyappa was a former member of the Bengaluru Urban Zilla Panchayat. According to the jurisdictional Avalahalli police, the incident happened around 7 pm when Rathamma was standing outside her house and watching a truck reversing to unload sand dust into her neighbour's property. The truck's rear wheels on the right got stuck in the soak pit of Rathamma's house. The truck tilted towards the right side and crashed on Rathamma. The villagers managed to pull her out and rush her to a nearby hospital, where she was declared brought dead. Rathamma is survived by her husband and three sons. Her body was handed over to the family after post-mortem. The police have seized the vehicle and a case has been filed against the driver. https://www.deccanherald.com/city/bengaluru-crime/reversing-sand-truck-crushes-elderly-woman-to-death-in-bengaluru-1130445.html (27 July 2022)	Elderly died under overturned sand truck.
Belagavi	02 August 2022		Sand-laden truck mows down girl A sand-laden truck mowed down a college girl on Fort Road on Monday (Aug. 02) morning. The accident happened close to an old vegetable market here. Residents protested as the bar on heavy vehicles entering the city from 6 am to 6 pm is not	College student

			<p>implemented strictly. A case has been registered in the Market police station. The truck driver surrendered to the police after the accident. In 2015, then city police commissioner TG Krishna Bhatta banned the movement of heavy vehicles during the daytime in the city after an engineering student, Anushka Joshi in Belagavi, was hit by a truck on Congress Road.</p> <p>After Bhatta's transfer, heavy vehicles again started moving in the city. This claimed another life, that of Sadia Shabbir Ahmed Palegar (16), a resident of Ashok Nagar. Police sources said that the accident happened at 7.30 am when Sadia was on her way to college on a scooter. She came under the tyres after the truck hit the scooter from the rear. Sadia was in her first year at Bharatesh PU College. The college announced a holiday as condolence. Residents raised the demand for the heavy-vehicle bar imposition on social media. https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hubballi/sand-laden-truck-mows-down-girl/articleshow/93286537.cms (02 Aug. 2022)</p>	mowed down by sand truck.
Kalaburagi	08 Feb. 2023		<p>2 dead as sand tipper overturns on them Two people, including a 12-year-old boy, were killed after a tipper overturned after getting stuck in a drain at Wadi in Chittapur taluk on Wednesday (08 Feb. 2023) night. The tipper was carrying sand for the construction of a house in Kalakamb Layout. It overturned while reversing to unload the sand as the slab on the drain gave way. Mukund (12) and Saleem (66) were crushed under the truck and died. https://english.publictv.in/2-dead-as-tipper-overturns-on-them/ (09 Feb. 2023)</p>	2 people killed due to overturning of sand tipper during unloading.

TELANGANA

District	Date	River	Details	Remark
Wanaparthy	02 July 2022		<p>A tribal woman, Sridevi, from Madanapur mandal was brutally attacked for opposing illegal sand mining. It is learnt that she was mercilessly beaten with sticks and the goons even tried to disrobe and snatched her taali, using filthy language. According to Diddi Praveen Kumar, a social activist from Nenusaitam Social Organization, though the incident occurred two (02 July 2022) days ago, it came to light only on Monday (04 July 2022). The police instead of acting on her complaint allegedly threatened to foist false case on her and asked to withdraw the complaint. Diddi Praveen demanded that a SC and ST atrocity case be registered immediately against the sand mafia. "We have been fighting against very powerful sand mafia, who are hand in glove with not only the police, revenue but also with political leaders of ruling party. But we will not lose hope nor will fear any one and will continue to fight for justice. If the local cops do not act, we will take the issue to the notice of higher-ups and seek justice," he asserted. https://www.thehansindia.com/teLANGANA/sand-smugglers-attacks-fro-officials-tries-to-set-them-ablaze-752002 (05 July 2022)</p>	Tribal woman attacked by illegal sand miners.

Kothagudem	04 July 2022		<u>Suspected members of sand mafia try to attack FRO</u> A woman forest officer escaped unhurt after suspected members of sand mafia allegedly tried to attack her and set ablaze her jeep during a surprise check to prevent illegal mining and transportation of sand in Tirumalakunta reserve forest area in Aswaraopeta mandal on Monday (04 July 2022) night. The incident occurred when Venkatalakshmi, the in-charge Forest Range Officer (FRO), Dammapeta, along with the government jeep driver rushed to Bandarugumpu, a remote village on the fringes of forest, around 8.30 pm to intercept a tractor suspected to be involved in illegal sand transportation. A group of persons believed to be members of sand mafia allegedly made a vain bid to attack them and tried to set their jeep on fire, sources added. However, the FRO and the jeep driver managed to escape from the spot. https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/suspected-members-of-sand-mafia-try-to-attack-fro/article65602110.ece (05 July 2022)	Woman forest ranger escaped attack by illegal sand miners.
Kurnool	07 July 2022	Krishna	<u>Illegal sand mafia attack on woman VRA</u> Illegal sand mafia attacked a woman VRA in Mollachintapalli, Kolhapur mandal. Mollachintapalli, an area of the Nallamala forest, has plenty of sand due to the presence of the Krishna River. By selling sand illegally, mafia extorts money. The victim VRA expressed his grief that a man attacked the woman VRA who was doing her duties. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PuonGahCBq0 (07 July 2022)	Woman VRA attacked by illegal sand mafia.
Adilabad	05 Nov. 2022		<u>2 drivers killed after container lorry hits tipper lorry</u> Two drivers were killed and another person sustained injuries when a tipper lorry fell off a bridge after colliding with a container truck at Kupti village in Neradigonda mandal on Saturday (05 Nov. 2022). Neradigonda In-charge Sub-Inspector P Uday Kumar said the victims were Usha Reddy (55), a driver from Borigaon in Echoda and Rajeshwar (45), a driver from Adilabad. The injured person was Ashok of Kupti. Usha Reddy and Rajeshwar died on the spot after the tipper lorry fell off the bridge due to the impact of the collision with the container truck. They were carrying gravel to Boath from Echoda, while the container truck was heading towards Hyderabad. https://telanganatoday.com/two-drivers-killed-after-container-lorry-hits-tipper-lorry-in-adilabad (05 Nov. 2022)	2 drivers killed, 1 injured due to collision between tipper and container truck.
Kothagudem	20 Nov. 2022		<u>Unidentified man crushed to death by sand lorry</u> An unidentified person was crushed to death by a speeding sand lorry at Sarapaka in Burgampad mandal on Sunday (20 Nov. 2022). The body was so damaged and scattered that the face of the victim could not be identified. The incident occurred when the man was crossing the road. ASI Ramana Reddy engaged the local panchayat staff to collect the body parts, which were then shifted to the local government hospital. https://telanganatoday.com/unidentified-man-crushed-to-death-by-sand-lorry-in-kothagudem (20 Nov. 2022)	Unidentified crushed to death by sand lorry.
Narayanpet	26 Feb. 2023	Pedda-vagu	<u>2 factions of sand mafia engage in turf war</u> Two groups of Sand Mafia entered into heated arguments and later exchanged blows against each other for exhibiting their upper hand to dig illegal sand at Workur Reach in Maganoor mandal. Going into the details, it is learnt that the government had permitted a contractor to dig 30 tippers of sand from 'Workur Reach' on Pedda Wagu, in Maganoor mandal for the construction of a government hospital. In fact, earlier the	Infighting among rival sand groups.

			<p>government had banned mining of sand from this reach, as complaints of illegal mining were reported, however as the government needed sand for the construction of the government hospital, a contractor was given permission for digging the sand. And on his behalf, some other person had been digging the sand with the JCB. Learning this, the locals from Maganoor and Warkur, reached to the Sand Reach and demanded that their machinery be employed for digging the sand and for loading into the tippers. Under this pretext they can load extra tippers and tractors with sand load and can earn extra bucks selling the illegal sand. To this, the group belonging to the original contractor entered into an altercation with the group from the local sand mafia. Almost 5-6 persons from each group entered into heated arguments and altercations and later they even exchanged physical blows against each other, and the entire scene was recorded in the mobile cameras. https://www.thehansindia.com/telangana/two-factions-of-sand-mafia-engage-in-turf-war-784949 (26 Feb. 2023)</p>	
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ANDHRA PRADESH

District	Date	River	Details	Remark
BR Ambedkar Konaseema	30 July 2022		<p>Dalit activist assaulted A 35-year-old Dalit activist was allegedly physically assaulted by MLA Rapaka Varaprasad, also a Dalit, his gunman and other police. Chevukula Venkateswara Rao, a Dalit RTI activist and environmentalist from Chintalamarri village was also arrested by the Malikipuram police. A case has been registered against him under Sections 341 (wrongful restraint), 353 (assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty), 332 (voluntarily causing hurt to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) of the Indian Penal Code. In the incident, which took place on Saturday, July 30, the activist suffered injuries to his eyes, nose, hands and thighs.</p> <p>Describing the incident, the activist said that he had stopped his bike on the roadside after receiving a call. "A friend who saw me parked his bike next to me and we started chatting. This is when a car stopped near us." "Hurling abuses at me, the MLA got down from the car and charged at me. He immediately slapped me. As I was on the edge of the road, I fell down along with my vehicle. Then the gunman also came and beat me up. I got punched on the nose and eyes. The MLA then called up the Sub Inspector who visited the spot with ASI and beat me up with their lathis without even asking for any explanation," Venkateswara told TNM. "The MLA has a grudge against me for the work I do. I have filed numerous complaints against illegal sand mining done by him and his associates. In the past, he has threatened me several times. He even gave me death threats. As nothing has worked, he has used this incident as an excuse, attacked me and filed a false complaint against me," he claimed. https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/dalit-activist-andhra-assaulted-and-arrested-allegedly-behest-mla-166503 (04 Aug. 2022)</p>	Dalit activist reportedly attacked by MLA for filing complaints against illegal sand mining.

Chittoor	18 August 2022		<p><u>Sand mafia kills innocent</u> An innocent youngster was brutally killed at Ellapalle Village, Gangadhar Nellore mandal. The victim was identified as A. Kishan, aged 33 of the same village, whose dead body was found at a sand mining area at the village. According to the locals, when Kishan tried to prevent the illegal sand mining and stop their activities at the agricultural lands, he was killed by the sand mafia.</p> <p>Raghu, a local resident, alleged that the sand mafia was responsible for the death of Kishan. He explained that the villagers multiple times asked the sand mafia to stop mining there, which was negatively impacting their agriculture fields. He added that, despite their repeated requests, the concerned Mandal Tahsildar did not take any action against the illegal sand mining and sand mafia. The sand mafia not only mined the sand, but also took away the water pipes of farmers in the agriculture fields, he added. He further added that, the entire village and Panchayat opposed the mining, but the mafia did not stop it and now this murder happened for questioning them. https://www.telugu360.com/sand-mafia-kills-innocent-for-questioning-illegal-mining-in-chittoor-of-ap-2/ (19 Aug. 2022) The ASI clarified that family members have not identified any suspect. To a query, Ramesh said sand mining in the village is legally permitted but certain villagers are opposing it, saying their bore wells are getting affected badly due to mining in the area. Meanwhile, Raghu, a farmer from Ellapalle, has alleged that sand mafia is responsible for the death of Kishan. He said though the entire village opposed the sand mining, nothing had been done to stop it. The inaction has led to the murder,” he stated. https://www.deccanchronicle.com/nation/crime/210822/death-of-youngster-in-chittoor-triggers-politics.html (21 Aug. 2022)</p>	Illegal sand miners blamed for death of a youth.
Annamaiya	06 Dec. 2022		<p><u>Sand mafia attacked forest officials</u> In Tarigonda under Madanapalle mandal sand mafia attacked the forest officials who tried to stop the smuggling of sand. Forest Beat Officer Subbalakshmi, Assistant Forest Beat Officer Raja Reddy when they tried stop illegal sand mining. Raja Reddy was injured in the attack. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1yvXkO2RS4c (06 Dec. 2022)</p>	Forest officials attacked by illegal sand miners.

KERALA

District	Date	River	Details	Remark
Ernakulam	16 June 2022		<p><u>College girl assaulted, threatened for filming illegal</u> A college girl who filmed illegal sand mining near her home in Muvattupuzha faced the wrath of land mafia. Akshaya, a degree student of Nirmala College, was allegedly beaten and threatened by Ansari for filming illegal sand mining in Marady. https://english.mathrubhumi.com/news/kerala/college-girl-assaulted-threatened-for-filming-illegal-sand-mining-near-her-home-1.7613521 (17 June 2022)</p>	College student attacked by illegal miners.

Kozhikode	19 Oct. 2022		<u>Migrant worker killed under overturned truck</u> Munna Alam, a migrant worker from West Bengal was killed when a sand-laden truck overturned at Kattangal near Chathamangalam on Sunday (09 Oct. 2022). The man met with the accident while loading sand onto the truck in the morning. He reportedly fell under the vehicle when it accidentally moved forward and overturned along the road. He was declared dead at Kozhikode Medical College Hospital. https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/kozhikode/migrant-worker-killed-under-overturned-truck-at-kattangal-in-kozhikode/article65988135.ece (09 Oct. 2022)	Migrant sand worker killed due to mishap during loading of sand.
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