

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
(SOUTHERN ZONE) AT CHENNAI**

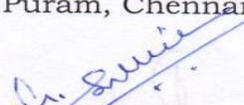
Application No. 102 of 2021

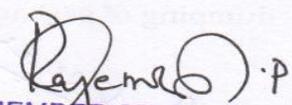
S. Kumaradasan,
Vice-President, Velachery Eri Pathukappu Iyakkam,
Velachery, Chennai – 600 042.

... Applicant

Versus

1. The Government of Tamil Nadu,
Represented by its Chief Secretary,
Secretariat, Chennai.9
2. The Secretary to Government,
Department of Public Works,
Secretariat, Chennai.9
3. The Secretary to Government,
Dept. of Municipal Administration and Water Supply,
Secretariat, Chennai.9
4. The Director,
Department of Environment,
Saidapet, Chennai.15
5. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
Guindy, Chennai.32
6. The Greater Chennai Corporation,
Rep. by the Commissioner,
Ripon Building, Chennai.3
7. The Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,
Rep. by its Managing Director,
RA Puram, Chennai.2


Forest Range Officer,
Green Squad,
Department of Environment,
Chennai - 600 015.


MEMBER SECRETARY,
TAMIL NADU STATE COASTAL ZONE
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY,
CHENNAI - 600 015.

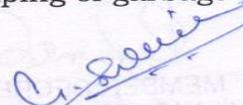
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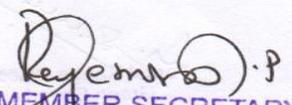
8. The Tamil Nadu Water Resources Organization,
Rep. by its Engineer-in-Chief, PWD,
Chepauk, Chennai.9

REPLY AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE 4th RESPONDENT

I, P.Rajeswari, W/o B.Singaiah, Aged about 57 years and having office at Department of Environment, Ground Floor, Panagal Building, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015 do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows;

1. I humbly submit that I am the Director of Environment and I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from the records available and I am filing this reply in my official capacity as 4th respondent.
1. I humbly submit that I have gone through the averments contained in the affidavit filed by the Applicant and I deny all the averments except those that are specifically admitted herein and the Applicant is put to strict proof of the same.
2. I humbly submit that the applicant has stated that the real estate development in the last two decades has resulted in the shrinking of the water body (Velachery lake in Chennai city) from 265 acres to 55 acres and the lake has never been desilted and also the water contamination level is very high.
3. I humbly submit that the applicant has requested the Hon'ble Tribunal to direct the 6th and 8th respondent to de-silt the Velacherry Lake and to direct the 8th respondent to strengthen the bunds of the Velacherry Lake by planting Palm trees. It is also requested to direct the 5th and 6th respondents to take necessary steps to stop the discharge of sewage and dumping of garbage into the Lake.


Forest Range Officer,
Green Squad,
Department of Environment
Chennai - 600 015.

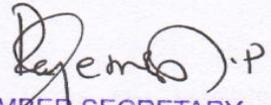

MEMBER SECRETARY,
TAMIL NADU STATE COASTAL ZONE
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY,
CHENNAI - 600 015.

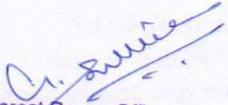
.3.

4. I humbly submit that desilting and strengthening the Velacherry Lake is to be carried out by the Public Works Department (Respondent 8)/ Greater Chennai Corporation (Respondent 6).
5. I humbly submit that implementing the provisions for issuing Environment Clearance under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 are within the purview of the TNPCB and the implementation of Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling Rules) 2000 is within the purview of the Municipal Administration & Water Supply Department.

It is therefore humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to record the above mentioned facts and pass such further order or orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the interest of justice.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai
This the day of February 2022
and Signed his name in presence


MEMBER SECRETARY,
TAMIL NADU STATE COASTAL ZONE
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY,
CHENNAI - 600 015.
BEFORE ME


Forest Range Officer,
Green Squad,
Department of Environment
Chennai - 600 015.