

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

IN

Original Application No. 110 of 2021

SuoMotu – Based on the News item in the
Dinamalar, Chennai Edition dated 09.04.2021,
“Will the Mambalam Canal be cleaned?”

...Applicant

-Vs-

1. The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Govt Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu and others

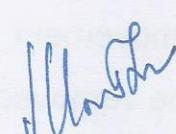
...Respondents

Status Report filed by Greater Chennai Corporation the 8th

Respondent

I, S.Baskaran, son of S.Singaravelu, Hindu, aged 55 years, Superintending Engineer, Storm Water Drain Department Greater Chennai Corporation, having office at Greater Chennai Corporation, Ripon Building, Chennai – 600 003, do hereby solemnly and sincerely state and affirm as follows:-

2. I am the 8th respondent herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case through available records. I am filing the status report on behalf of Greater Chennai Corporation.


**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
STORM WATER DRAIN DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION**

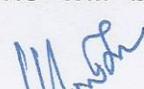
3. I respectfully submit that this Hon'ble Tribunal has taken a Suo Moto case on the article in a publication in O.A. No. 110 of 2021 (SZ) and has passed orders on 20.05.2022 to file a status report by the Respondents.

4. I respectfully submit that, Improvements to Mambalam Canal including Construction of Flood protection retaining wall, canal lining, shared pathway, Cycle Track and Green Pockets has been sanctioned under Smart City Fund in two phases for an amount of Rs.106.85 Crore. I tender my unconditional apology for any delay in the submission of the status report.

5. I respectfully submit that, in Phase-I, LOA has been issued for five packages for carrying out the improvement works in Mambalam Canal from the starting point of the canal near Vidyothaya Main Road to Sir Theagaraya Road in Pondy Bazaar. In Phase-2, LOA has been issued to 2 packages from Theagaraya Road to Venkatnarayana Road.

6. I respectfully submit that, in order to carry out the improvement works in the Mambalam Canal and since the canals is fully slushy and have no access for the vehicles to move and hence for free movement of the RMC Lorries, the canal was filled in with building debris for executing the works. It is submitted that improvement works in the canal was carried out in short stretches and in each of the packages about 5% of the total length only was commenced. The debris will be removed immediately after the completion of that stretch.

7. I respectfully submit that, in order to carry out the improvement works in the Canal for having access to the canal, building debris was filled in the canal for the movement of heavy vehicles. It is submitted that, this building debris will be removed after completion of that particular stretch and finally in the entire stretch the building debris will be removed on


SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
STORM WATER DRAIN DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

completion of the works and free flow of rain water will be ensured. The contractor will not be paid for the way formed for the movement of vehicles using building debris. The contractors will be carrying out this work at their cost.

8. I respectfully submit that, during the Monsoon 2021, rain water has stagnated at G.N. Chetty road and surrounding areas of T.Nagar. Hence, the Contractors of each of these packages were instructed to remove the building debris immediately. As per the instructions of GCC, the contractors have removed the building debris in all the five packages and free flow of rain water was ensured and thereby stagnation of rain water is prevented at G.N. Chetty Road and surrounding areas of T.Nagar. Payment was not made for the removal of the building debris to the contractors and the same were carried out at the contractor's cost.

9. I respectfully submit that, the photos showing the status of the Mambalam Canal near G.N. Chetty road where the building debris has been removed has been submitted to the Hon'ble Green Tribunal during the Monsoon period 2021.

10. It is submitted that CCTV camera has been installed in Mambalam canal near CIT Nagar for watching any illegal dumping of debris and free flow of rain water has been ensured.

11. I respectfully submit that, during the monsoon 2021 itself the building debris filed in the canal has been removed fully from the Mamabalam Canal and was restored to its original status and the free flow of rain water is ensured.

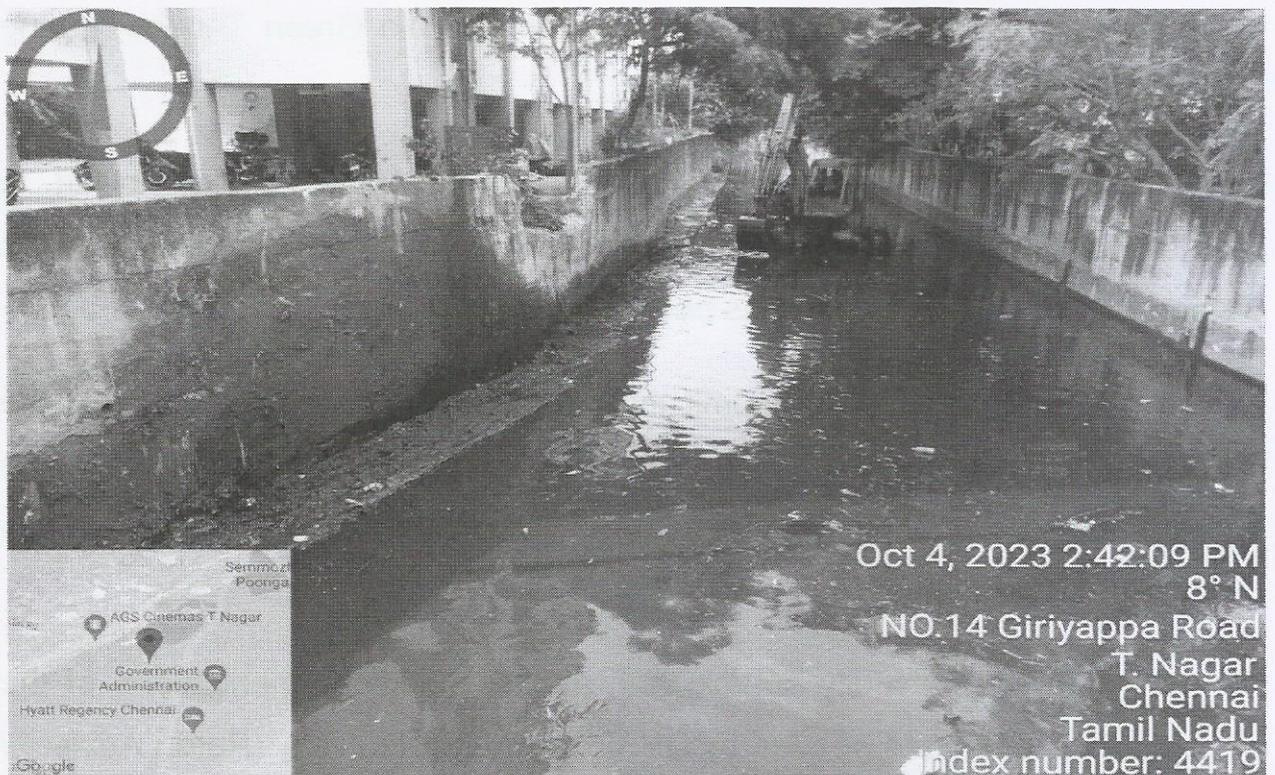
12. I respectfully submit that, as per the recommendations of the Advisory Committee headed by Dr. V. Thirupugazh, I.A.S. (Retd.) Advisor / NDMA, the improvement works carried out in the Mambalam canal was

SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
STORM WATER DRAIN DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION


SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,
STORM WATER DRAIN DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

stopped after the Monsoon 2021. As per the recommendations of the Advisory committee, it was proposed to engage a reputed hydraulic consultant for carrying out the hydraulic design and flooded modeling of the catchment area for the Mambalam canal and for furnishing the Detailed Project Report for carrying out further improvement works in the Mambalam Canal for prevention of flooding in G.N. Chetty Road and surrounding areas of T.Nagar.

13. I respectfully submit that, the improvements works as per the revised decision was recommenced during August 2022 as per the recommendations of the Advisory Committee. The construction of Flood Protection Retaining Wall has been completed for a length of 2102m. The de-silting of the canal has been completed for the ensuing monsoon 2023 and free flow of rain water is ensured. The photos showing the construction of Flood Protection Retaining Wall is enclosed for kind perusal.



[Signature]
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
STORM WATER DRAIN DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION



Hence, in the above said circumstances, it is prayed that this Hon'ble court may be pleased to accept this report and to pass suitable orders as this Hon'ble court may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case thus render justice.

Dated at Chennai this the 11th day of October 2023

Counsel for the 8th Respondent

Respondent
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
STORM WATER DRAIN DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai on this { }
The 11th day of October 2023 and { }
signed his name in my presence { }

Before me,

Advocate: Chennai

E.No. 340/96

IN THE NATIONAL GREEN
TRIBUNAL SOUTHERN ZONE
Original Application No. 110 of 2021
(SZ)

SuoMotu – Based on the News item
in the Dinamalar, Chennai Edition
dated 09.04.2021, “Will the
Mambalam Canal be cleaned?”

----- Petitioner

-Vs-

The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil
Nadu, Secretariat,
Fort St. George, Chennai,
Tamil Nadu and others

----- Respondents

Status Report filed by the 8th
Respondent

Mr.N.R.RameshKanna.
Counsel for GCC 8th Respondent