

THE GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION REPORT IN THE JOINT COMMITTEE - THE JOINT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SOUTHERN ZONE) IN RESPECT OF O.A NO. 140 OF 2020 (SZ) SUOMOTU ON THE BASIS OF THE NEWS PAPER REPORT PUBLISHED IN DINAMALAR CHENNAI CITY SUPPLEMENT EDITION DATED, 30.07.2020 UNDER THE CAPTION "IF THE "THE CAPTION "WILL PERUNGUDI LAKE BECOME AN ECOLOGICAL PARK" - THE GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION COMPLIANCE REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. ORDERS DATED 07.01.2022 OF THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL:-

1. As per order dated 07.10.2021, this Tribunal had considered the report submitted by the Greater Chennai Corporation signed by some of the members on 24.08.2021 and extracted in Para (2) of the order and also considered the report submitted by the Superintending Engineer, WRD, Palar Basin Circle, Chennai dated Nil, e-filed on 22.09.2021 and extracted in Para (3) of the order and also considered the report submitted by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board signed on 06.10.2021, extracted in Para (4) of the order and then, passed the following order:-

"5. Though the committee was appointed by this Tribunal as per order dated 05.08.2020, the committee has not filed the report so far. Unless the joint committee report is received, it is difficult for this Tribunal to ascertain the real state of affairs and the remedial measures to be taken by each department to resolve the issue. If there are any obstacles for carrying out the remedial measures, it is for the District Administration and higher level officials to look into the issue and take immediate steps to provide necessary logistics, infrastructure or other support both technical and financial to meet the situation, as the State Government is expected to provide priority for protecting environment, which in

turn will have some impact on health of the people, if it is not properly taken care of.

6. The report of the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board shows that the water sample contains BOD, which does not conform to the standard provided. They have not mentioned about the reason for excess BOD in the water. When this was pointed out, the learned counsel appearing for the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board submitted that, it may be due to discharge of sewage water. If that be the case, the observations made by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board that the Total Coliform is in conformity with the standard provided will have to be revisited.

7. The committee is also directed to file the report as directed by this Tribunal, apart from the District Administration filing an independent report regarding the steps taken by them for remedying the situation and save water body from their side.

8. The report submitted by the Public Works Department is not a solution for the problem and they are only having a dream project of rejuvenating all the water bodies in the State, for which, they have evolved a project of nearly Rs.2,000 Crore. We do not know, when the scheme will be approved and when funding will be provided and when they will be starting the execution of the work and completing the same. The damage caused to the water body vis-à-vis environment cannot wait for a longer period to the whims and fancies of the administrators. They will have to be proactive in taking appropriate steps to curb the pollution being caused to the water bodies so as to protect the environment and also the health of the people, which they are expected to provide as part of Right to Life as enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution of India, apart from a mandate to protect environment as envisaged under Article 48 A of the Constitution of India.

9. If the committee members did not file the report as directed, then they will have to appear before this Tribunal on the next hearing date to show cause as to why action should not be taken against them for non-compliance of the direction, though certain members of the committee have filed their independent

reports which are not helpful for this Tribunal to dispose of the case.

10. The Additional Chief Secretary for Public Works Department and Additional Chief Secretary for Municipal Administration and Water Supply are also directed to look into the issue and take appropriate decision on the policy matters at the quickest possible time and try to implement the scheme (if any) evolved by the Public Works Department in this regard within a specific time frame and submit an action plan before this Tribunal as to how the plan is going to be implemented by the Government to protect the water bodies in the State, including the present water body.

11. The above said officials are directed to submit the report as well as independent reports to this Tribunal on or before 18.11.2021 by e-filing in the form of Searchable PDF/OCR Supportable PDF and not in the form of Image PDF along with necessary hardcopies to be produced as per Rules.

12. The Registry is directed to communicate this order to the committee members, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Public Works Department, Greater Chennai Corporation and also to the official respondents, apart from communicating this order to the Additional Chief Secretary for Public Works Department and Additional Chief Secretary for Municipal Administration and Water Supply by e-mail immediately for their information and also for giving necessary direction to the subordinate officials to comply with the direction of the Tribunal.

2. The case was originally posted to 18.11.2021 for consideration of further reports. Thereafter, the matter has been adjourned from time to time by successive notifications and lastly, it was adjourned to today by notification dated 09.12.2021.

3. In the meantime, we have come across another newspaper report published in Dinamalar Daily dated 06.12.2021 under the caption “&1.28 கோடியில் சீரமைக்கப்பட்ட குளம் பாழ் - குடியிருப்புகளின்

கழிவுநீர் கலப்பால் அவலம்” It was specifically mentioned therein that Madipakkam Pond was rejuvenated by spending Rs.1.28 Crores, but quite unfortunately, it has become a sewage pond due to discharge of untreated sewage in that pond. Further, it was mentioned in the newspaper report that it was situated in Perungudi Zone and it was having an extent of 5.8 Acres as per the revenue records. It was earlier cleaned and maintained by the local people but subsequently, the same has been undertaken by the Government Department. Now, it has been encroached by several persons and the extent has been reduced to 1 Acre.

4. It is also mentioned therein that there were inlets and outlets provided from this water body to carry the excess water to Puzhuthivakkam and Chitheri, but all those inlets and outlets disappeared. It is also mentioned that some improvement has been done by spending Rs.1.28 Crores by the Greater Chennai Corporation, but due to the unscientific manner of maintenance of carrying the excess flood water, the situation has been worsened.

5. Further, it is also mentioned therein that the untreated sewage is being discharged into the water body and on account of the same, there is a possibility of quality of underground water being affected, apart from bad odour coming from the water body.

6. So considering the circumstances, we direct the Joint Committee itself to look into the issue as well and submit a comprehensive factual as well as action taken report.

7. The Greater Chennai Corporation is also directed to go into the issue independently as they are in possession and maintenance of the tank and file their action taken report including removal of encroachments, if any and restore the inlets and outlets going from this water body to Puzhuthivakkam and Chitteri, so as to avoid flood being caused in those areas, as the flood has become a

regular phenomenon in those area during monsoon and whenever we are getting unprecedented rains even during non-monsoon seasons.

8. The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board is also directed to file an independent report regarding these aspects and also further report regarding the issue involved in this case namely, Perungudi Lake and its water quality. If no proper steps have been taken to the satisfaction of the Tribunal to protect the water bodies, then this Tribunal will be compelled to pass appropriate orders including imposition of environmental compensation against the authorities who are expected to maintain these water bodies against pollution and encroachment.

9. The Joint Committee as well as the official respondents are directed to file further reports regarding the issue that is being considered by this Tribunal in this case and also regarding the issue mentioned in the latest newspaper report on or before 17.02.2022 by e-filing, failing which, they are directed to appear before this Tribunal on the next hearing date to show cause as to why action should not be taken against them for non-compliance of the directions issued by this Tribunal, as more than one year is lapsed, after appointing the Joint Committee.

10. The Registry is directed to communicate this order along with the copy of the newspaper report mentioned above to the official respondents, members of the Joint Committee, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Greater Chennai Corporation, Public Works Department and Water Resources Department, apart from communicating this order to the Additional Chief Secretary for Water Resources Department and Additional Chief Secretary for Municipal Administration and Water Supply by e-mail for their information and compliance of the direction.

REPORT FOR THE MADIPAKKAM POND:-

In the year 2011 the Chennai Corporation has been expanded to 426 km² from the earlier 176km² and 42 small local bodies, including 9 municipalities, 8 town panchayats and 25 village panchayats were merged with Greater Chennai Corporation. Further the Madipakkam Panchayat was merged with Corporation of Chennai vide G.O.Ms.No.97 MA&WS Department dated 19.07.2011. Thereafter, the administration of Madipakkam Panchayat has been taken over by the Greater Chennai Corporation on 30.10.2011.

Smart City Project:-

The Special Project Department in Greater Chennai Corporation has restoration of 22 Lake in Zone-7, 11, 14 and 15 to be taken up under Smart City Fund and placed before the CSCL Board for obtaining Administrative Sanction had been approved and Resolution No.475/2018 dated 22.06.2018.

Urban Lakes or Water Bodies play a vital role in socio-economic development of any city on one hand and provide sustainable water security by and large to the local population on the other hand.

The late Honorable Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has announced in the assembly under the rule 110 about the implementation of sustainable water Security Mission 2015 (SuWaSm) to take up various initiative to increase the ground water as well as to restore and rejuvenate various water bodies and temple tanks in the Chennai City.

Greater Chennai Corporation has already initiated various projects like installation of rain water structures around some of the parks for augmenting water supply of the parks and to rejuvenate existing temple tanks.

It is proposed to take up restoration of 22 Ponds/Lakes in Phase-II, 7 Ponds/Lakes are major water bodies and 15 Ponds/Lakes are minor water bodies, situated in Zone 7, 11, 14 and 15 surrounded by residential areas. In this connection, on the request of Greater Chennai Corporation, TNUIFSIL has appointed INMAAS as the consultant for preparing the DPR for 22 Ponds/Lakes in a most comprehensive way.

Accordingly the consultant has submitted DPR for restoration of 22 Ponds/Lakes at an amount of Rs.12.35 crore.

The development proposals as envisaged in DPR are,

1. Desilting and deepening of the Pond/Lake to increase water holding capacity and for recharge of Ground water.
2. The proposals include public leisure facilities such as walker's pathway, planting of Native vegetation, seating spaces, and children play area.
3. Support infrastructure like seating arrangements, toilet facilities, and solid waste bins.

The cost of development of all 22 lakes estimated as Rs.12.35 cores as per the DPR following GCC schedule of rates for the year 2017-2018. This project is proposed is implemented as PanCity initiatives utilizing Smart City funds.

Restoration OF Madipakkam Pound:-

The Technical sanction is here by accorded for Restoration and other improvements to the Pond at Madipakkam lake in Division 187 zone 14, at an estimate amount of Rs 1,82,73,000/- as per 2018-2019 Schedule of Rates.

BEFORE



AFTER



More, there are 5 numbers Rain water inlets connected to the Pond by means of Hume pipes (0.30 M Dia – 2Nos. Culvert 1.6x1.6=2.56, Sluice gate-1Nos). These inlets will be opened only during the North-East monsoon period by the Zonal authorities for letting the rain water inside the Madipakkam Pond. I further submit that the restoration and other improvement to the pond at Madiapakkam Lake in Division 187 Zone 14 have been completed.

Sewage Management Details:

There is no Under Ground Sewerage system for the area in Div 187 of Zone – 14. The households and commercial establishment were provided with individual septic tank arrangements.

The following Streets were adjacent to the Pond

S. No	Name of Street	Total No of House holds	UGD Sewerage Connection given CMWSSB	Septic tank
1	Kulakari 1 st Street	10	NIL	10
2	Kulakari 2 nd Street	20		20
3	Pillaiyar Koil Street	20		20
4	Easwaran Koil Main Road	30		30
TOTAL		80		80

During the North-East monsoon period due to which inundation of rain water to that particular street. Hence, temporarily earthen Katcha Drain cut open for earthen surface of the road. The Earth (debris) at the side of drain kept as barricading to open drain, after monsoon the earthen drain was closed.

The Newspaper report published in Dinamalar Daily:-

The newspaper report published in Dinamalar Daily dated 06.12.2021 under the caption “&.1.28 கோடியில் சீரமைக்கப்பட்ட குளம் பாழ் - குடியிருப்புகளின் கழிவுநீர் கலப்பால் அவலம்”

நா.1.28 கோடியில் சீரமைக்கப்பட்ட குளம் பாழ்

குடியிருப்புகளின் கழிவு நீர் கலப்பால் அவலம்



■ மழை நீர் நிரம்பிய மடிப்பாக்கம் கிராமக்குளம். ■ கிராமக்குளத்தில் மழை நீர் வடிகால் வழியாக விடப்படும் குடியிருப்புகளின் கழிவு நீர்.

மடிப்பாக்கம், டிச. 6- சகல வசதிகளுடன் 1.28 கோடி ரூபாயில் புனரமைக்கப்பட்ட மடிப்பாக்கம் கிராமக்குளத்தில், குடியிருப்புகளின் கழிவு நீர் நேரடியாக விடப்படுகிறது. இதனால், குளம் பாழாவதை தடுக்க, மாநகராட்சி அதிகாரிகள் எடுக்க வேண்டும் என சமூக ஆர்வலர்கள் வலியுறுத்தியுள்ளனர். சென்னை மாநகராட்சியின், பெருங்குடி மண்டலம் மடிப்பாக்கத்தில் கிராமக் குளம் அமைந்து உள்ளது. ஆவணப்படி இதன் மொத்த பரப்பளவு 3.8 ஏக்கர். இக்குளத்தை ஆரம்பத்தில் கிராம மக்களே துர்வாரி பராமரித்து வந்

தனர். மக்கள் தொகை அதிகரித்தவுடன், கிராம நகரமாக இதில், சில பகுதிகள் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டன. மற்ற பகுதிகளை அரசு பராமரித்து வந்தது. கடந்த பல ஆண்டுகளாக இக்குளம் மெல்ல மெல்ல ஆக்கிரமிப்பாளர்கள் பீடியில் சிக்கி, குளத்தின் பரப்பளவு குறைந்து தற்போது, 1 ஏக்கர் மட்டுமே மிஞ்சியுள்ளது. இந்த குளத்திற்கு மடிப்பாக்கம் ஏரியில் இருந்து வரத்துக் கால்வாய், புழுதிவாக்கம் சித்தேரிக்கு செல்லும் போக்கு கால்வாய் ஆகியவை இருந்துள்ளது. தற்போது, அதற்கான தடமே இல்லை. இந்நிலையில், குளத்தை

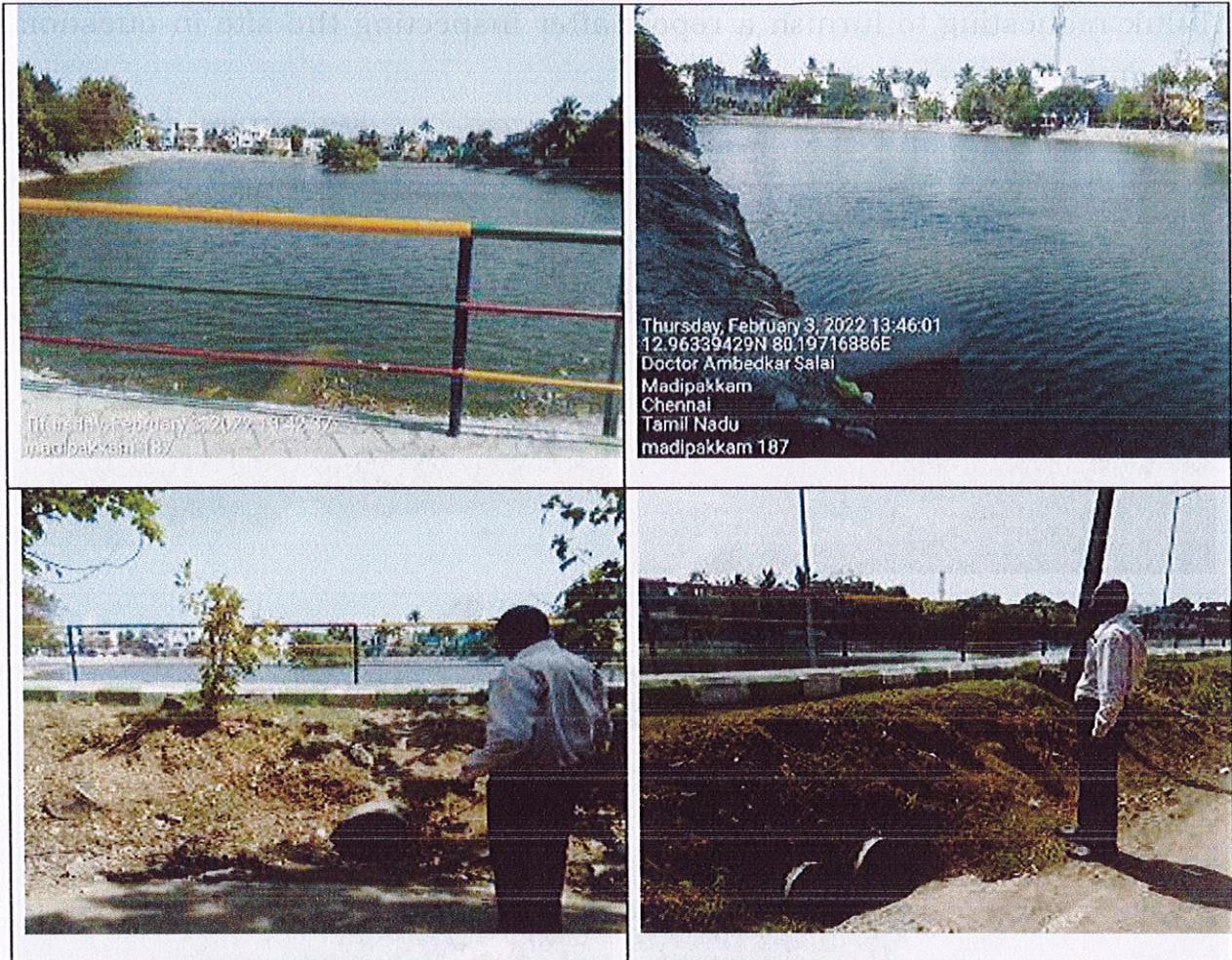
புனரமைக்க சென்னை மாநகராட்சி சார்பில், 'ஸ்மார்ட் சிட்டி' திட்டத்தின் கீழ், 1.28 கோடி ரூபாய் நிதி ஒதுக்கப்பட்டது. அதில், குளம் துர்வாரப்பட்டு, பக்கவாட்டில் பாறாங்கல் பதித்து, நடை பயிற்சிப்பாதை, இருக்கைகள், விளக்குகள் உள்ளிட்ட வசதிகள் செய்யப்பட்டன. தற்போது, சுற்றி ஏராளமானோர் நடை பயிற்சி மேற்கொண்டு வருகின்றனர். இந்நிலையில், சம்பத்தில் பெய்த தொடர் மழை காரணமாக இந்த குளத்தை சுற்றி மழை நீர் சேகரிக்கும் வகையில் அமைக்கப்பட்ட குழாய்களால் மழை

நீர் நிரம்பியது. இந்நிலையில், அந்த பகுதியில் உள்ள அடுக்கு மாடி குடியிருப்பினர், மழை நீர் வழித்தடம் வழியாக, வீடுகளில் இருந்து வெளியேறும் கழிவு நீரை குளத்திற்கு நேரடியாக விட்டு வருகின்றனர். இதனால், குளத்தில் சேகரமாகியுள்ள மழை நீர் துர்நாற்றம் வீசுவதால், நடைபயிற்சி மேற்கொள்ள வேராமுகம் கனிக்கவைக்கிறது. சுகாதார சீர்கேடும் ஏற்பட்டுள்ளது. இது குறித்து, சமூக நல வீரமிகள் கூறியதாவது: இத்தக்குளம், 1.28 கோடி ரூபாய் மதிப்பில் சீரமைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. அதை காப்பாற்ற வேண்டி

யது, சுற்ற வட்டார பகுதியில் குடியிருக்கும் மக்கள் தான். ஆனால், சுயநலத்தடன் சமூக அக்கறையின்றி, கழிவு நீரை நேரடியாக குளத்தில் விடுகின்றனர். இதனால், குளம் மட்டுமீன்றி, நிலத்தடி நீரும் மாசடையும் அபாயம் ஏற்பட்டுள்ளது. துர்நாற்றம் வீசுவதால், சுகாதார சீர்கேடும் ஏற்பட்டுள்ளது. எனவே, குளத்திற்குள் கழிவு நீர் வரும் அனைத்து வழித்தடங்களையும் ஆய்வு செய்து, முழுமையாக தடுத்து நிறுத்த வேண்டும். மாநகராட்சியினர் அவர்களை சமூக விநோதிகளாகவே பாவித்து கடும் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க வேண்டும். இவ்வாறு கூறினர்.

Inspection:-

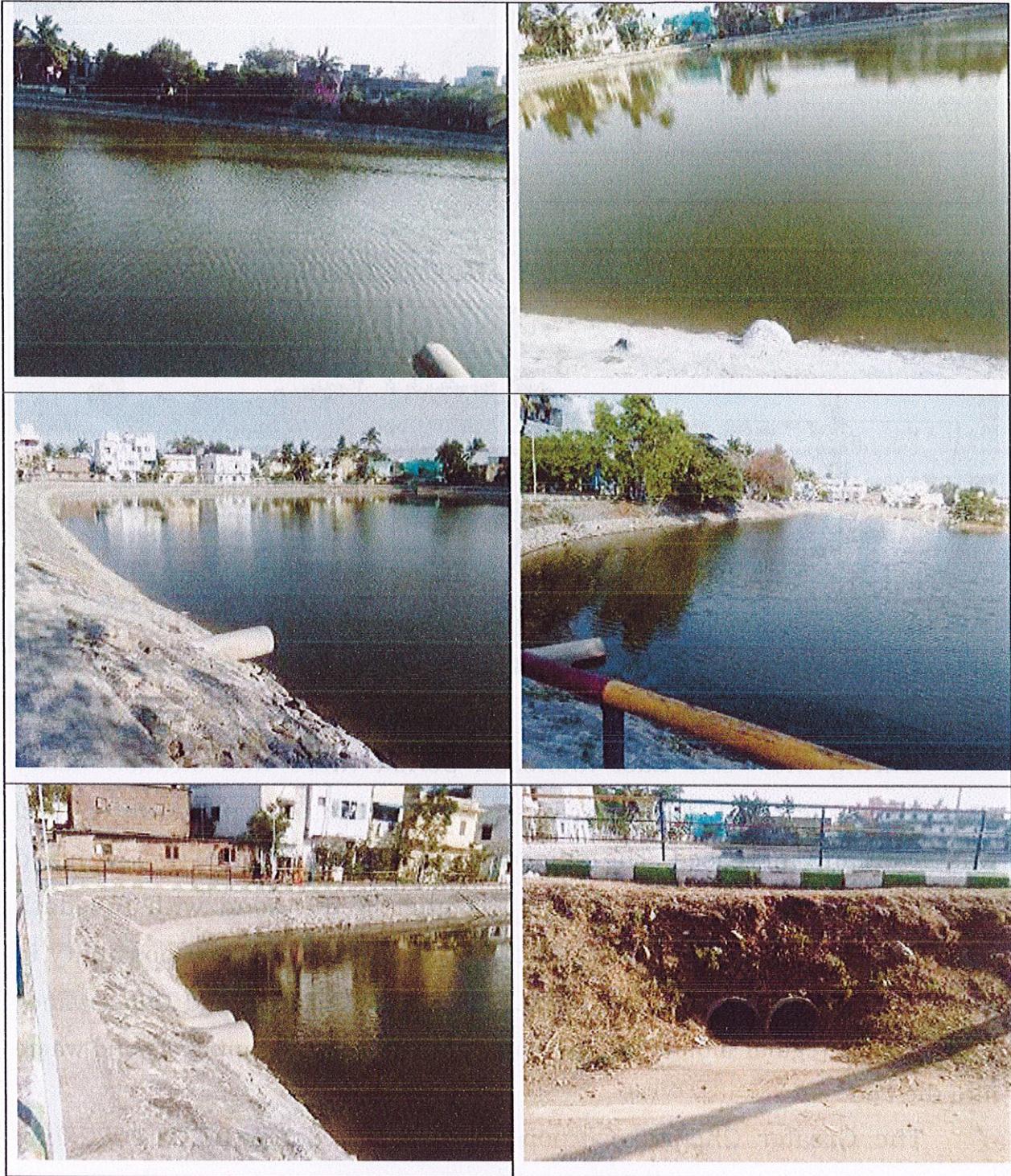
The Junior Engineer, Division 187, Zone XIV, Greater Chennai Corporation have carried out the inspection in the area in question on 03/02/2022. I further submit that there is no Under Ground Sewerage system for the area in Madipakkam Divison 187 of Zone - 14. The households and commercial establishment were provided with individual septic tank arrangements. I further submit that there are no illegal connections in storm water drains or side drains in Madipakkam areas.



During the North-East monsoon period there was sudden heavy rain fall in the Pond boundary area. On that the time pond water level was gradually increased. The adjacent road/street sand particles mixed with rain water and flows through the inlet of the pond with the dark colors its show like sewerage water but sewerage water is not possibilty to flows through the inlet of the pond. The Junior Engineer and Conservancy Inspector are regular monitoring the water body to avoid dumping of solid waste into the Pond.

The Greater Chennai Corporation a letter dated 03.02.2022 has been addressed to the Tahsildar, Sholinganallur Taluk requesting to furnish a report stating the land classification, extent of encroachment. I further submit that the in continuation to the earlier letter reminder letters dated 04.03.2022, were addressed to the Tahsildar, Sholinganallur

Taluk requesting to furnish a report after inspecting the site in question for taking further action.





The Greater Chennai Corporation deny the allegations contained in the newspaper report published in Dinamalar Daily dated 06.12.2021.

REPORT FOR THE PERUNGUDI LAKE:-

The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal was direction on 05.08.2020 to form a Joint Committe to inspect the area in question and submit an action taken report. The Perungudi Lake was maintained by the Public Works Department. The Greater Chennai Corporation along with the Joint Committe member have carried out the joint inspection in the area in question on 05.10.2020.

Based on the above observation, the Joint committee given their recommendations to Joint Committe member. The Greater Chennai Corporation was complied the Joint Committee recommendations and submit the report to the Committe. The Greater Chennai Corporation was

regular monitoring the Committee recommendations. The Greater Chennai Corporation was already filed a report to the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal.



U. S. Subi 12/13/22
Asst. Executive Engineer/Unit-41

P. V. S. S. S. 17/3/22
Asst. Executive Engineer/Unit-42

[Signature] 17/3/22
Executive Engineer II/Z-XIV

[Signature] 17/3/22
Zonal Officer /Zone-XIV

[Signature] 18/3/22
Superintending Engineer (South)

[Signature]
18/3/22