

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREENTRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No.150 of 2020(SZ)

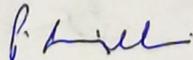
IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO
MOTU Based on the News item in
The Dinamalar Tamil Newspaper,
Chennai edition dated 07.08.2020,
"Puthagaram Thangal Lake is
endangered to disappear in maps".

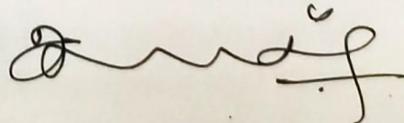
...Applicant(s)

Versus

1. The Principal Secretary to
Government, Public Works
Department, Govt. Secretariat,
Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600009.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary to
Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Revenue
and Disaster Management
Department, Govt. Secretariat,
Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu–600009.
3. The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil
Nadu, Department of
Environment,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George
Chennai, Tamil Nadu–600009.
4. Additional Chief Secretary to
Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Municipal
Administration and Water Supply
Department, Govt. Secretariat,
Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu–600 009.
5. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control
Board,



Area Engineer - III
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply
and Sewerage Board,
Chennai - 60



Superintending Engineer (North)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

(North) Engineering
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board
Chennai-600 002.

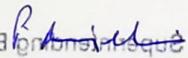
No.76, Anna Salai, Guindy,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu- 600 032.

6. The District Collector,
Thiruvallur District.
7. Chennai Metropolitan Water
Supply & Sewerage Board, Rep.
by its Managing Director,
No. 1, Pumping Station Road,
Chintadripet, Chennai-600031.
8. Greater Chennai Corporation,
Rep. by its Commissioner,
Ripon Building,
Chennai-600 003.

...Respondent(s)

INDEPENDENT REPORT FILED BY 7TH RESPONDENT CMWSS BOARD

- 1) I, A. MALAICHAMY, S/o. M. ARUMUGAM, Hindu, aged about 58 years now working as Superintending Engineer (North) in the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) having office at 2nd floor Urban Administrative Building, MRC Nagar, Chennai 600 028 do here by solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:
- 2) I am the Superintending Engineer (North) of the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), Chennai and 7th Respondent herein and well acquainted with the facts of the case from the connected files.
- 3) I am filing the status report on behalf of the Managing Director, Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Chennai – 28, as per the orders issued by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Chennai on 07.01.2022.
- 4) The above, case has been the SUOMOTU case vide OA 150 of 2020 has been registered by NGT under section 18 of National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 on the basis of the newspaper report published in Dinamalar, Chennai city edition dated 07.08.2020 under the caption "Puthagaram Thangal Lake is endangered to disappear in maps".


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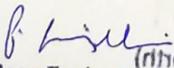

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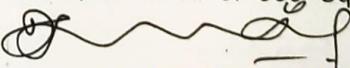
5) I humbly submit that, CMWSSB has been directed to file report on Item No.4 of OA No.150 of 2020 (SZ). In this, it is mentioned that,

"The CMWSSB has encroached the lake area and built a sewage treatment plant and now the area becomes dumping place for solid wastes and also for discharging the untreated sewage water".

6) I humbly submit the following report with regard to the above case,

- i) The work of providing sewerage facilities to Surapattu Div 24 and 25 in Zone III Madhavaram of Greater Chennai Corporation was taken up (March 2015) by CMWSSB under Chennai Mega City Development Mission and the works were completed in all respects at a cost of Rs 38.50 Crores. The scheme work was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 16-07-2018. Now the scheme has been put into beneficial use of Public.
- ii) In this scheme, the sewage generated from the entire Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, Madhanakuppam and Surapattu area is conveyed to a Sewage Pumping Station located on the Thangal Karai Salai and ultimately conveyed to the Kodungaiyur Sewage Treatment Plant for treatment and disposal.
- iii) As per the proposal, the Sewage Pumping Station site has been earmarked by the side of Maduravoyal Bye – pass Service Road adjacent to the Thangal Lake Bund. While preparing the Detailed Project Report (DPR) 2013 for this work, applications have been put up to the District Collector of Thiruvallur for alienation of land to the extent of 2500 sq.m, in favour of CMWSSB at the above location in Puthagaram village. The Greater Chennai Corporation, Zone III also passed a special resolution (June 2013) in this regard.
- iv) CMWSSB followed up the matter of speeding up of the process of alienation and enter upon permission of the above mentioned land through numerous correspondences, with the Revenue Authorities before the commencement of the work at the earmarked site.
- v) Subsequently, in continuation to the site inspection made by the Revenue Officials, Madhavaram Taluk, an area of 500 Sq.m was


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earmarked for this Sewage Pumping Station.

- vi) Accordingly, the Sewage Pumping Station works were taken up in October 2015 in the location finalized in consultation with Revenue Officials. During course of work, numerous reminders were sent to the Revenue Authorities for the alienation of the above mentioned land in favour of CMWSSB. But the response from the Revenue Department is awaited.

7) I humbly submit that,

- i) The sewer collection system has been designed for a total population of 27918 covering 315 nos of streets in Depot 24 & 25, Area-III. The Pumping Station has been constructed on the roadside abutting the Maduravoyal bye pass service road.
- ii) The Thangalkarai Sewage Pumping station constructed in the earmarked site collects 5.76 MLD of sewage every day from the above mentioned 315 nos of streets and the complete sewage collected has been ultimately conveyed to the Kodungaiyur Sewage Treatment Plant for further treatment and safe disposal. Previously the sewage/ sullage generated were let out into the drains in open space. The drains lead to Nallahs and river courses causing pollution to water ways. The execution of the scheme has prevented the pollution of the water body.
- iii) Under the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Act 1978, it is the statutory responsibility of the CMWSSB to provide potable water supply and safe disposal of sewage generated. Such work undertaken by CMWSSB in the Thangal karai of Puthagaram Village is well protected by the provisions of Section 18 of Public Health Act 1939 and Section 27 & 28 of that Act. Further provision of sewerage system is statutory requirements for the CMWSSB vide Section 55 of CMWSSB Act. CMWSSB being an Agency of Government performing its statutory duty for Public necessity of sewerage system in the Government land cannot therefore be termed as "Unauthorized or Encroacher".

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- 8) I humbly state that the area in and surrounding the sewage pumping station is being kept neat and clean and there is no dumping of solid wastes at site. There is no let out of sewage into the Puthagaram Thangal lake. The photos conveying the surroundings of the sewage pumping station are herewith attached for kind reference.
- 9) It is therefore humbly prayed that, this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept my response on behalf of the CMWSS Board and thus render justice.


Area Engineer - III
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply
and Sewerage Board.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai on this
3rd day of February 2022 and signed
his name in my presence



Superintending Engineer(North)

Superintending Engineer (North)
Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board
Chintadripet, Chennai-600 002.

BEFORE ME

Key E.No. 702/2006
(K.Gopi)
Advocate, Chennai No.16, Law Chambers,
High Court Building
CH-104

**Before the National Green
Tribunal (Southern Zone)
Chennai,
O.A.No.150 of2020 (SZ)**

Tribunal on its own motion-
SUOMOTU Based on the News item
in The Dinamalar Tamil Newspaper,
Chennai edition dated
07.08.2020, "Puthagaram Thangal
Lake is endangered to disappear in
maps"..

: Applicant

Vs.

The Principal Secretary to
Government, Public Works
Department, Govt. Secretariat,
Fort St. George,
Chennai – 600009 and 7 others.

: Respondent

**REPORT FILED BY 7TH
RESPONDENT**

**G.JANAKIRAMAN
Counsel for 7th
Respondent**



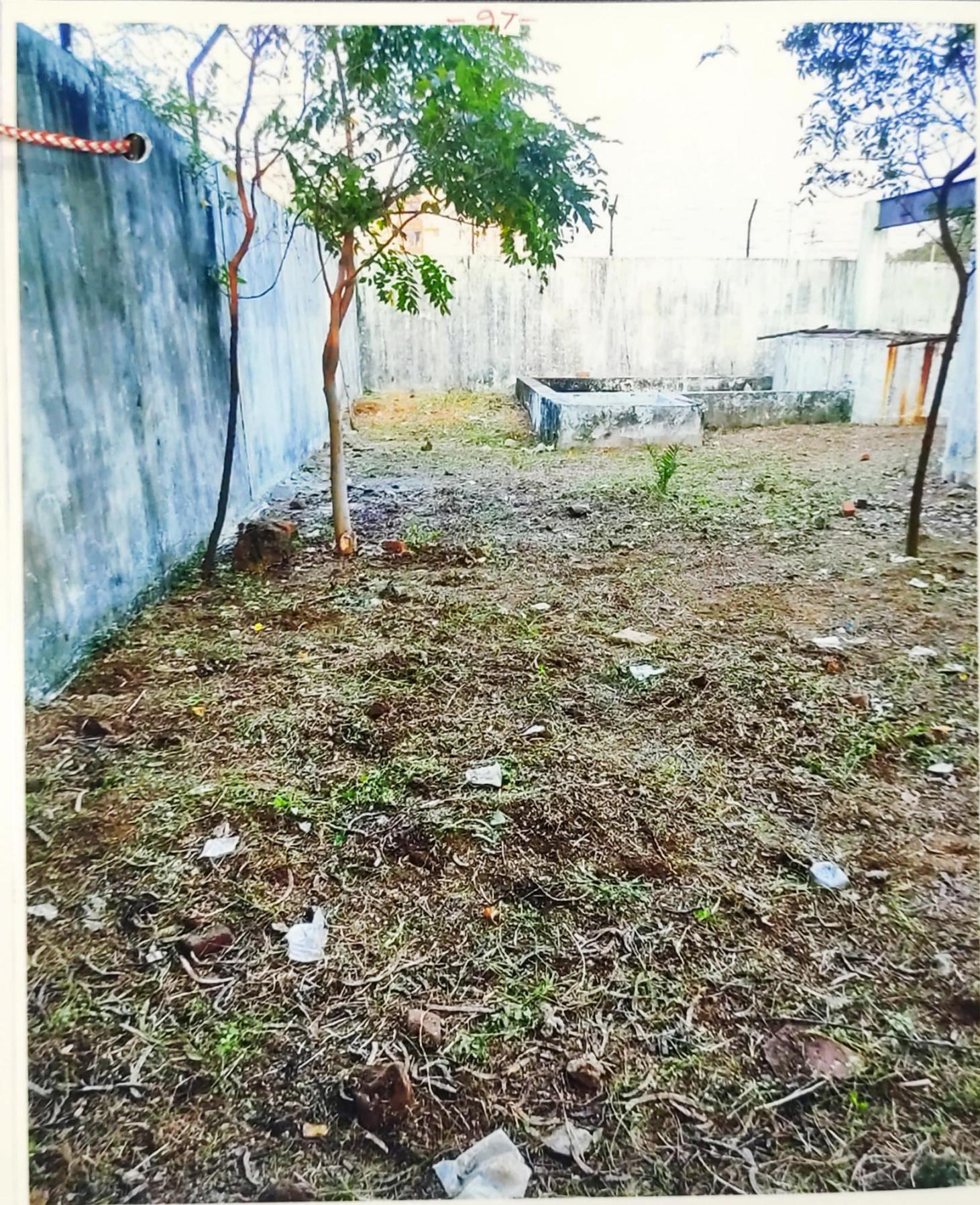
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