

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SZ),
SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI**

Application No. 150 of 2020 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO MOTU

Based on the News item in Dinamalar Tamil Newspaper,
Chennai Edition dated 07.08.2020,“ Puthagaram Thangal
Lake is endangered to disappear in maps”.

...Applicant

Versus

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


Executive Engineer, P.W.D.,
Kosasthalaiyar Basin Division, W.R.D.,
Thiruvallur.

5. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, No. 76, Anna
Salai, Guindy, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 032.
6. The District Collector,
Thiruvallur District,
Thiruvallur.
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)

**STATUS REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
TO GOVERNMENT PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

I, C.Podupanithilagam.son of Chinnathambi aged about 47 years, residing at No.47/6, Breeze Apartment, TNHB, Near Velammal Main School, Mogappair East, Chennai-37 do, solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

2. I state that, I am the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department / Water Resources Department, Kosasthalaiyar Basin Division, Thiruvallur file the interim report on behalf of the Principal Secretary to Government Public works department and I am well acquainted with the facts of the case from records.


Executive Engineer, P.W.D.,
Kosasthalaiyar Basin Division, W.R.D.,
Thiruvallur.

3. It is submitted that, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in its order dated 07.01.2021 stated that,

Thereafter, the matter was taken up on 26.11.2021 and this Tribunal had considered the order passed on 13.08.2021 in Para (1) of the order and then, passed the following order:-

"2. The case was posted to 17.09.2021 for consideration of further report and also for completion of pleadings. Thereafter, the matter has been adjourned from time to time by successive notifications and lastly, it was adjourned to today by notification dated 21.10.2021.

3. Even today, the report has not been filed. Quite unfortunately, time and again, this Tribunal is expressing its displeasure regarding not filing of report in respect of matters where encroachment into the water bodies are repeated and this Tribunal also reiterated the responsibility of the State Government to protect the environment which includes protection of water bodies, as contemplated under Article 48 A of the Constitution of India. It is for the Revenue Department to take effective action in identifying the encroachment and removing the same and the Public Works Department/Irrigation Department/Local bodies in whose maintenance water bodies are vested are expected to take steps to protect the water bodies from further pollution/encroachment.

4. The District Collector, Thiruvallur and Public Works Department are directed to look into the issue and identify the encroachment and submit a report to this Tribunal on or before 07.01.2022 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."


Executive Engineer, P.W.D.,
Kosasthalaiyar Basin Division, W.R.D.,
Thiruvallur.

5. It is submitted that the Puthagaram Lake situated in Madhavaram taluk is merged with Chennai City Corporation limit and the present jurisdiction is vested with the District Collector, Chennai.
6. It is submitted that the Tahsildhar, Madhavaram conducted the field survey of S.F.No7 on Puthagaram tank bed and S.F.No 1 & 2 of Eri Ulvoy with WRD officials and GCC officials to identify the encroachment. The Form I and Form II has to issue by the Tahsildhar, Madhavaram with the details of nature of encroachment to take further action by the WRD.
7. It is submitted that the subject is being perused continuously with the Revenue Department and District Collector, Chennai. Hence, It is humbly requested to grant four weeks of time by considering the existing situation to submit the details of encroachment before the Hon'ble Tribunal.

It is for kind information submitted before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (South).

Dated at Chennai on this the 10th day of February, 2022.

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Executive Engineer, P.W.D.,
Kosasthalaiyar Basin Division, W.R.D.,
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NATIONAL GREENTRIBUNAL,
SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI
Application No.150 of 2020(SZ)**

SUO MOTUApplicant

VERSUS

The Chief Secretary to Government
of Tamil Nadu,

Department of Environment,
Chennai and others.

.. Respondents

**INTERIM REPORT FILED
ON BEHALF OF THE 1st
RESPONDENT**

GOVERNMENT PLEADER