

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

**Original Application No. 299 of 2013 (SZ)**

**With**

**Original Application No. 164 of 2014 (SZ)**

**With**

**Original Application No. 164 of 2015 (SZ)**

**With**

**Original Application No. 130 of 2016 (SZ)**

**In the matter of:**

Tribunal on its own motion on the  
News item reported in The Hindu  
Dt. 25.10.2013 about beach at  
Adyar Estuary with trash, rubble

And

The Principal Secretary,  
Environment & Forests,  
Govt. of Tamil Nadu, Chennai & Others

...Respondent(s)

With

P. Edwin Wilson,  
Purasaiwalkam, Chennai

...Applicant(s)

Versus

The State of Tamil Nadu,  
Rep. by its Chief Secretary,  
Chennai & Others.

...Respondent(s)

With

Jawaharlal Shanmugam,  
Thiruvanmiyur, Chennai

...Applicant(s)

Versus

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board & Others

...Respondent(s)

With

S. Muthumeena,  
Egmore, Chennai

...Applicant(s)

Versus

The Secretary to the Government,  
PWD, Secretariat, Chennai & Others

...Respondent(s)

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Through  
Dr. D. Shanmuganathan  
Standing Counsel of Tamil Nadu  
National Green Tribunal  
Southern Zone, Chennai

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**STATUS REPORT OF RIVER RESTORATION PROJECTS IN CHENNAI IN TERMS  
OF THE ORDER PASSED BY THIS TRIBUNAL ON 23.02.2022**

We state that in the respect of the Original Application No. 299/2013, 164/2014, 164/2015 & 130/2016 the issue taken up for consideration by Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT) is the pollution of rivers Adyar, Cooum and Buckingham Canal in and around Chennai in the State of Tamil Nadu.

The Hon'ble NGT (SZ) in its Order dated 28.07.2015 directed the Chief Secretary to convene a meeting once in every two months. From thereon, the Chief Secretary have convened bi-monthly meeting to review the progress of the river restoration projects along with the line department and an Affidavit along with the Minutes of the Chief Secretary review meeting would be submitted by CRRT on behalf of the State of Tamil Nadu.

Later, the case was taken over by the Principal Bench, New Delhi and new Case (OA 556 to 559/2018) numbers were assigned. As per the Order dated 13.2.2019, the Committee headed by Chief Secretary to meet fortnightly for a period of next three months and thereafter on monthly basis to review the progress in the matter and quarterly report may be furnished to this Tribunal on the progress in the matter by email at [ngt.filing@gmail.com](mailto:ngt.filing@gmail.com). Thereon, the Chief Secretary has been conducting monthly meeting and thus far filed Eighteen Quarterly reports in Hon'ble NGT, Principal Bench, New Delhi through email in [ngt.filing@gmail.com](mailto:ngt.filing@gmail.com). Last quarterly report was submitted in November, 2023 and the next quarterly report is due in February, 2024. Last meeting was conducted on 31.01.2024.

The Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zone, Chennai directed the learned Government Pleader appearing for the State of Tamil Nadu is directed to file a further report in terms of the order passed by this Tribunal on 23.03.2022 as follows;.

<b>Order. No</b>	<b>The Hon'ble NGT, Southern Zon, Chennai, directed to Submit the extracted order</b>	<b>Submission of details as directed by the Hon'ble NGT order passed</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>It is seen from the report submitted by the CMWSSB (on Cooum River) that they dropped Package -9, due to obstruction by encroachments and non-settlement of Court</b>	The Interceptor and Diversion pipeline work under the Package – IX NSK Nagar on Integrated Cooum River Restoration Project was dropped due to encroachment at NSK Nagar along Cooum bund which in turn resulted in non fixing of boundaries and alignment of pipelines. Now, the

	<p><b>cases and the establishment of Modular STP as Package -13 in Maduravoyal was also dropped. But they have not given the reason as to why the Modular STP Package has been dropped and what is the alternate method provided for that purpose. Similarly, as regards the establishment of STPs as Package - 9 is concerned, they have not mentioned as to what is the nature of alternative arrangements made for diverting the sewage water without discharging the same into Cooum River.</b></p>	<p>encroachment at NSK Nagar removed and the outfalls at this locations were plucked off naturally.</p> <p>For Modular STP (0.6 MLD) at Maduravoyal was dropped due to the existing sewage pumping station at Mogapair east with decanting facility which is located within few hundred meters distance. Hence the proposal was dropped.</p>
7	<p><b>When this was pointed out, the learned counsel appearing for the CMWSSB submitted that they will come with a further report in this regard.</b></p>	-
8	<p><b>The report submitted by the Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust also shows that though certain works have been done and certain work will have to be completed by December - 2021 and 31.01.2022, what is the present stage of those works has not mentioned.</b></p> <p><b>As regards the Modular STPs are concerned, they have mentioned that Package VIII - 35% work completed, Package X - 46% work completed, Package XI - work order was issued on 09.09.2021 and Package XV - Tender bids were opened on 12.10.2021 and it is under evaluation.</b></p>	<p><b>Adyar River Restoration Project from Origin to Mouth (ARRP)</b></p> <p>In case of Adyar River, CMWSSB is entrusted with construction of 7 packages of Interception and Diversion Pipelines and 3 Modular STPs</p> <p>All the works under 7 packages of Interception and Diversion was completed fully including Package XI.</p> <p>As regards to the Modular STPs are concerned Package VIII (4 MLD Thodhunder Nagar) and Package X (2 MLD Kotturpuram) 100% of works completed.</p> <p>Work for package XV (Modular STP at Kundrathur - 0.8 MLD) was commenced on 01.07.2022. So far, 80% of works completed and it is expected to be completed by March 2024.</p> <p><b>Integrated Cooum River Restoration Project (ICRERP)</b></p> <p>CMWSSB is entrusted with the implementation of 15 sub-projects which includes 10 Interception and Diversion systems along the river and 3</p>

		<p>Modular STPs. In which one Interceptor at NSK Nagar and One Modular STP at Maduravoyal was dropped, since, we have existing sewage pumping station with decanting facility nearby to the proposed site and hence it was dropped.</p> <p>Out of 13 packages, 100 % of work was completed for 11 packages and one work for 10 MLD STP (TTUF) at Langs Garden and UGSS, Nerkundram are in progress, 96% works are completed and the work was expected to be completed before March 2024.</p>
9	<p><b>The report submitted by the Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust does not correlate with the report submitted by the CMWSSB in this regard. As regards the removal of encroachment is concerned, still there lot of encroachments will have to be removed. Even if the Court cases are pending and any stay has been obtained, it is for the authorities to approach the Hon'ble High Court and apprise the Hon'ble High Court about the obstruction of the work due to pendency of the cases, that too filed by the trespassers (encroachers).</b></p>	<p>All Court cases pertaining to Adyar River has been disposed off except one case regarding encroachment along Adyar River is pending before the Hon'ble High Court and it is included in the list of Batch Cases relating to Adyar and Cooum River. Related documents have been handed over to Legal Counsel (AAG IX) and AAG -IX of Tamil Nadu briefed to list these cases for early listing and disposal.</p> <p>All other Court cases pertaining to Cooum River was disposed except 2 habitation, 3 commercial, one land dispute and 1 Madras Urban Development Project – TNUHDB. The Registry, Hon'ble Madras High Court has been requested to list these cases for early hearing.</p>
10	<p><b>Unless, the entire encroachments were removed and holistic steps are taken for the purpose of remediating the issue of pollution caused to the water bodies, it cannot be said that the purpose of protecting the water bodies will be completed. Moreover, a perusal of the activities reveals that the focus of the River Eco-restoration projects being implemented is primarily on</b></p> <p>➤ <b>Preventing /Controlling both point and non-point sources especially</b></p>	<p>➤ In order to prevent and control both point and non-point source of sewage pollution and surface pollution in Cooum and</p>

	<p><b>sewage pollution and river surface pollution</b></p> <p>➤ <b>De-siltation and removal of solid waste and construction debris</b></p>	<p>Adyar river, the following actions were taken to prevent and control both point and non-point source of pollutions as detailed below;-</p> <p>➤ CMWSSB is entrusted with construction of 10 Interception and Diversion Systems along bank of Cooum river and 3 Modular Sewage treatment plants (STPs). All works were completed fully other than two STPs which will be completed before March 2024.</p> <p>Similarly, along the bank of Adyar River, construction of 7 Interception and Diversion was fully completed and 2 STPs works are completed and functional. STP Construction work at Kundrathur is in progress and expected to be completed before March 2024. Under the Integrated Cooum River Eco-restoration Project, the Water Resources Department is removing encroachments in the locations where Court cases are disposed.</p> <p><b>De-siltation:</b> Implementation of de-siltation work is entrusted with Water Resource Department (WRD) and carried out 7 sub-projects in the Adyar River. The components include desilting and widening of river for 16.18 km stretch and construction of flood protection walls for 1.76 km and river mouth opening and its maintenance. Under this, packages I, II, III, IV, V and VI desilting work from River Mouth to downstream of Thiru.Vi.Ka.Bridge for 1963 m, Thiru.Vi.Ka. Bridge to Kotturpuram Bridge for 2,353 m, Kotturpuram Bridge to Saidapet Road Bridge for 2,892 m, Saidapet Road Bridge to Jafferkhanpet Road Bridge for 2498 m, Jafferkhanpet Road Bridge to Manapakkam Check Dam for 3334 m, Thiruneermalai to outer Ring Road for 3000 m desilting works was completed except Package I and it will be completed by February 2024. Under package 7, desilting work in the river mouth of Adyar will be maintained for 4 consecutive years for which we obtained CRZ Clearance and as per the order received from</p>
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		<p>MoEF&amp;CC, the work will be commenced from May/June, 2024.</p> <p>In case of Cooum River, WRD entrusted for 8 sub-projects which are desilting of Cooum river within CRZ stretch, ie from Cooum river mouth to Napier Bridge (Chainage 0 m – 700 m) for uninterrupted tidal in flow and continuous river mouth opening, desilting and construction of curved training walls work is under progress. Also, desilting work in the northern arm from Chainage 700 m to 9677 m and Chainage 9777 m to 27336 m stretch was completed.</p> <p><b>Removal of Solid Waste and Construction Debris:</b> Greater Chennai Corporation, Directorate of Municipal Administration and Commissionerate of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj are entrusted to remove the solid wastes and construction debris on either bank of Cooum and Adyar River.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Greater Chennai Corporation executed the work components of removing 81,364 Metric Tons of Construction and demolition debris and 23,527 Metric Tons of Municipal Solid Waste in the Cooum River. In addition, for efficient removal of floating wastes, trash boom system have been constructed across the river in 8 locations as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. C-in-C Bridge</li> <li>10. Periyar Bridge</li> <li>11. Choolaiumedu</li> <li>12. Metha Nagar</li> <li>13. Near Central Buckingham Canal</li> <li>14. Behind Madras Medical College</li> <li>15. Quaid - E- Milleth Bridge</li> <li>16. Near Napier Bridge</li> </ol> <p>Along the bank of Cooum river within Thiruverkadu Municipality limits and village panchayats namely Senneerkuppam, Adayalampattu and Vanagaram, 1,648 Metric Tons and 4,582 Metric Tons of accumulated solid waste was removed respectively.</p>
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	<p>➤ <b>Mechanisms to maintain minimal ecological flow during the non-monsoonal periods</b></p> <p>➤ <b>Flood protection mechanisms</b></p>	<p>Similarly, along both banks of Adyar River, the Greater Chennai Corporation constructed three trash boom systems to remove floating trashes in Kotturouram Bridge, Maraimalai Adigalar Bridge and Jafferkhanpet Causeway.</p> <p>To avoid further solid waste dumping, construction of one park near Kotturpuram, construction of two boat jetties, formation of playground and creation of urban dense forest at South Canal Bank Road, beautification of three bridges namely, South Buckingham Canal Bridge near Kotturpuram railway station, Thiru.Vi.Ka Bridge, Alandur Bridge and Maraimalai Adigalar Bridge are completed.</p> <p>Within DMA, along the Adyar River bank, 522 MT of garbage and solid waste was removed.</p> <p>To prevent open defecation community toilets were constructed for public in Anakaputhur Municipality.</p> <p>To maintain minimum ecological flow during the non-monsoonal periods, a baby canal from Chainage 9677 m to 27336 m in the middle of Cooum river was constructed and it was implemented by WRD.</p> <p>As part of flood protection mechanisms, restoration of the Buckingham Canal and its Drains and Cooum and Adyar Drains is being viewed and the Government have accorded Administrative Sanction of Rs.1,281.88 cr. vide G.O (D) No.419, Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MA&amp;WS) Department, dated:03.12.2020. Under this, the WRD started work on boundary demarcation and mapping the boundary of Buckingham Canal through Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) and preparation of map for 48km stretch was completed and fixing of boundary stones is in progress and will be completed and boundary demarcation and DGPS survey by GCC for the 25 drains fall in Cooum, Adyar and 'B' Canal was completed.</p> <p>WRD completed DGPS survey for Malaipattu Sommangalam and Thirumudivakkam drains and</p>
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	<p>➤ <b>Encroachment removal and construction of fencing the boundaries</b></p>	<p>WRD is preparing rapid Environmental Impact Assessment (REIA) Report for obtaining CRZ clearance for 'B' canal</p> <p>For mitigation flood protection and sewage outfalls in drains of Cooum, Adyar and 'B' canal by considering the recent floods in the first week of December 2023, and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Mitigation and Management of Flood Risk in Chennai Metro, it has been decided to review the detailed project reports and mitigation works will be taken up depending on fund availability.</p> <p><b>Encroachment removal:</b> WRD foreseen the removal of encroachment on the Right Way of Cooum and Adyar River. In order to resettle the 9539 project Affected Families (PAFs) identified within the Adyar River Boundary, so far 5020 PAFs were resettled through Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board schemes and the remaining 4,519 tenements will have to be provided by TNUHDB and 4,489 units are ready for allotment.</p> <p>A total of 14,257 Project Affected Families (PAFs) from 60 habitations were identified within the Cooum River Boundary. So far, 13,484 PAFs from 53 habitations have allotted tenements and 773 PAFs from 7 habitations have to be relocated and 494 tenements are ready available to relocate under Cooum River.</p> <p><b>Fencing of boundaries:</b> Under Cooum River Project, fencing work has been fully completed for an available work front length of 20.54 km within GGC and fencing work for a length of 8.075 km within Thiruverkadu Municipality and 1.92 km fencing completed within 3 village Panchayats namely, Senneerkuppam, Adyalampattu and Vanagaram with DRD limits. Fencing in the encroached stretch for a length of 965 km, will be taken up for relocation of habitations (Shanmuga Nagar and Perumal Koil Street, Thiruverkadu) as the cases are pending before the Hon'ble High Court.</p>
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11	<p><b>No doubt the above interventions are very essential to improve the water quality, ensure free flow of water and protection of the rivers but in an eco-restoration project the emphasis ought to have been on restoration of the river ecosystems holistically. It is not known whether the CRRT headed by the Chief Secretary is also focusing on</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Management of the flood plains through planning regulations, fixing the buffer zone etc.,</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Protection and management of both natural wetlands such as Pallikaranai Wetland and Man-made water bodies and their feeder channels.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Whether the tree plantation initiatives aim at restoration of the riparian vegetation and restoration of original biodiversity of the respective rivers.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Whether riparian vegetation is contemplated in the</b></li> </ul>	<p>Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust is chaired by the Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu, as a Chairman of the CRRT, the Chief Secretary focusing only on the eco-restoration projects implemented through the CRRT, namely Integrated Cooum River Eco-restoration Project (ICRERP), Adyar River Restoration Project from Origin to Mouth (ARRP). Restoration of Buckingham Canal and its associated drains and waterways that drain into Cooum and Adyar Rivers. All the project activities are restricted within the boundary of the riverine ecosystems.</p> <p>As read about in the extract of orders mentioned above, the management of the flood plains through planning regulations, fixing the buffer zone etc., and protection and management of both natural wetlands such as Pallikaranai Wetland and Man-made water bodies and their feeder channels are not under the perview of CRRT.</p> <p>CRRT under the eco-restoration initiatives of Cooum and Adyar River project, indigenous riparian plant species of the coastal Tamil Nadu been taken up for plantation activity within GCC in Cooum Rivers as detailed below:  Quaid –E–Milleth bridge to Col. Laws Bridge (SM Nagar) 14500 saplings, Napier Bridge to Quaid -E-Milleth Bridge (Island Ground) 14,300 saplings,</p>
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	<p><b>urban areas also especially GCC area.</b></p> <p>➤ <b>Treatment of the catchment areas of the rivers</b></p> <p>➤ <b>Bio-remediation of the legacy waste in areas in close proximity to the river to prevent leachates and surface run-off into rivers.</b></p>	<p>Thaimoogambhigai Dental College Campus to Padikuppam Burial Ground 5000 saplings Mogappair Bridge (Rail Nagar) up to GCC limit 16000 saplings. Overall, along the bank of Cooum river stretch within GCC limit we have planted 49,800 riparian vegetation's and acquired the relative faunal diversity of the respective riverine habitat.</p> <p>Along the Adyar River, urban dense forest at Canal Bank Road and park near Kotturpuram was completed.</p> <p>Treatment of Catchment areas of the rivers are not under the preview of CRRT.</p> <p>To monitor any such activities along the river stretch, the DMA and DRD has formed a vigilant squad addressing immediate initiates to arrest the dumping of solid waste/bio-waste/construction debris/garbage dumps along the Bank of Cooum and Adyar River.</p> <p>For overall mitigation of sewage outfalls measures, the CRRT has prepared a Detailed Feasibility Report (DFR) for the restoration of Adyar River in Public Private Partner Ship (PPP mode) by integrating all restoration work components like <b>river channel improvement, sewage mitigation, solid waste removal</b> etc., to be implemented in 30 months under Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) in Public - Private Partnership (PPP mode) of 42 km stretch from Guduvanchery Regulator to Thiru. Vi.Ka.Bridge was prepared for effective restoration of Adyar river and emphasized the significance prerequisite to complete the preparatory works before bidding for the project within a specific timeline.</p> <p>Detailed Feasibility Report (DFR) for the restoration of Adyar River in Public Private</p>
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		<p>Partnership mode by Integrating all restoration work components like river channel improvement, sewage mitigation, solid waste removal etc., to be implemented in 30 months under Hybrid Annuity Model (HAM) in Public - Private Partnership (PPP mode) of 42 km stretch from Guduvanchery Regulator to Thiru. Vi.Ka.Bridge was prepared for effective restoration of Adyar river and emphasized the significance prerequisite to complete the preparatory works before bidding for the project within a specific timeline.</p> <p>Thereafter, the preparatory works so far carried out in this regard have been presented as detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The DFR for the restoration of Adyar River was submitted to Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board (TNIDB) for Project Structuring approval. Subsequently, project structuring and the bid documents were approved by TNIDB on 26.07.2023. Based on the in-principle approval given by the Government on 10.07.2023 and the approval of TNIDB on the project structure and bid document, Tender for fixing the Concessionaire was invited on 27.07.2023, indicating the closing date as 30.11.2023; pre-bid meeting was held on 01.09.2023. 19 bidders including 3 international companies participated. In continuation of pre-bid meeting, site visit was held on 07.09.2023 and clarifications to 423 queries were uploaded in Tender Portal . Subsequently, 16 queries were raised by Bidders and few of which require amendments. The file for the</li> </ul>
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		<p>same is under circulation by TNIDB for approval from its Executive Committee.</p> <p>Proposal to Government for formation of new company (Chennai Rivers Transformation Company Ltd.) and the Government have accorded administrative sanction and issued order on 03.11.2023. Staff requirement for the Company to implement the project is under consideration of Government</p>
12	<p><b>Even the report submitted by the CMWSSB also did not mention that the timeline within which the remaining work will be completed, except evasively stating that they will be able to complete the work at the earliest possible time.</b></p>	<p>Under the ICREP (Cooum River), Out of 13 packages of work, 11 packages have been fully completed and 2 packages are in Progress as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 10 MLD STP (TTUF) at Langs Garden, 97% of work progressed, Testing and trial operations by CMWSSB will be commenced on completion.</li> <li>2. For UGSS Nerkundram, laying pipelines and construction of Sewage Pumping Station Works are in progress. 96% of work progressed and completed by March 2024</li> </ol> <p>Under the ARRP (Adyar River), Out of 10 packages of work, work for 9 packages was fully completed and 1 packages is in Progress as follow:</p> <p>Package XV – Modular STP, Kundrathur (0.8 MLD) work commenced on 01.07.2022 and 80% of work completed and remaining work will be completed by March 2024.</p>
13	<p><b>The State Pollution Control Board is also directed to check whether on account of the work done by the Greater Chennai Corporation and CMWSSB, is there any improvement in the water quality of the water bodies namely, Cooum River, Adyar River and Buckingham Canal.</b></p>	<p>As directed by the Hon'ble NGT, the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board are conducting monthly water quality sampling in upstream, down stream, STP Outlet in Chetpet, STPs outlets in upstream and down stream of Cooum River and forwarding the test results to CRRT. On initiatives of mitigating the sewerage outfalls and we soon achieve the standard of Class D as per the Central Pollution Control Board., i.e propagation of wildlife and fisheries.</p>

14	<p><b>The Chief Secretary to Government, State of Tamil Nadu is also expected to come with a further report regarding the steps taken by them for removal of encroachments completely, without which the work done by the other departments to protect the water bodies will not be completed or give any expected results.</b></p>	<p>Under the project Integrated Cooum River Eco-Restoration, 14,257 Project Affected Families (PAFs) were identified within Cooum river boundary.</p> <p>So far, the TNUHDB has allotted tenements for 13,481 families and allotment orders will be issued to remaining PAFs families.</p> <p>At present, 504 tenements are now ready for allotment as follows;</p> <p>Perumbakkam EPIL – 8          Thailavaram Phase II (Maraimalai Nagar) – 2          Moolakothalam Phase I (Tondiarpet) -228          Moolakothalam Phase II (Tondiarpet) – 266          Manali New Town Phase II – 269</p>
15	<p><b>The Chief Secretary to Government is directed to review and furnish an updated status report on ongoing components of the project and also furnish details of action taken on the following issues.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Management of flood plains through planning regulations and fixation of buffer zones</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Protection and management of both natural wetlands such as Pallikaranai Wetland and man-made water bodies and their feeder channels.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Restoration of riparian vegetation in rural and urban areas and restoration of original biodiversity.</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Catchment area treatment</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Bio-remediation of the legacy waste in areas in close proximity to the river.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Management of flood plains through planning regulations and fixation of buffer zones.</b></li> </ul> <p>Activities of CRRT is restricted only within the boundary of riverine ecosystem and CRRT has no role to play regarding management of flood plains through planning and regulations / fixing of buffer zones., as this has to be under the perview of the WRD.</p> <p>CRRT also paying attention in restoring the drains which connected to Adyar, Cooum and Buckingham Canal and the Government accorded Administrative Sanction of Rs.1,281.88 Cr for the restoration of Buckingham canal and its drain and Cooum and Adyar drains vide G. O (D) No.419, Municipal Administration and Water Supply Dept. (MA&amp;WS) dated:03.12.2020.</p> <p>Considering the recent floods in first week of December, 2023 and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Mitigation and Management of Flood Risk in Chennai Metro, it has been decided to review the detailed project reports prepared. On detailed review, eco-restoration works will be taken up depending on fund availability.</p>

		<p>➤ <b>Protection and management of both natural wetlands such as Pallikaranai Wetland and man-made water bodies and their feeder channels.</b></p> <p>Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust is chaired by the Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu, as a Chairman of the CRRT, the Chief Secretary addressing on the eco-restoration projects implemented through the CRRT, namely Integrated Cooum River Eco-restoration Project (ICRERP), Adyar River Restoration Project from Origin to Mouth (ARRP), Restoration of Buckingham Canal and its associated drains and waterways that drain into Cooum and Adyar River</p> <p>As read about in the extract of orders mentioned above protection and management of both natural wetlands such as Pallikaranai Wetland and Man-made water bodies and their feeder channels are not under the perview of CRRT and the Wetland Authority of the Tamil Nadu Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department is authorized and the Man-made waterbodies of are regulated by WRD/other local bodies and hence CRRT has no role to play.</p> <p><b>Submission:</b></p> <p>CRRT under the eco-restoration initiatives of Cooum and Adyar River project, indigenous riparian plant species of the coastal Tamil Nadu been taken up for plantation activity within GCC in Cooum Rivers as detailed below:</p> <p>Quaid -E-Milleth bridge to Col. Laws Bridge (SM Nagar) 14500 saplings, Napier Bridge to Quaid -E-Milleth Bridge (Island Ground) 14,300 saplings,</p> <p>Thaimoogambhigai Dental College Campus to Padikuppam Burial Ground 5000 saplings. Mogappair Bridge (Rail Nagar) up to GCC limit 16000 saplings. Overall, along the bank of Cooum river stretch within GCC limit we have planted 49,800 riparian vegetation's and</p>
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		<p>acquired the relative faunal diversity of the respective riverine habitat.</p> <p>Along the <b>Adyar River</b>, urban dense forest at Canal Bank Road and park near Kotturpuram was completed.</p> <p>➤ <b>Treatment of the catchment areas of the rivers</b>  <b>Submission:</b> Treatment of Catchment areas of the rivers are not under the preview of CRRT.</p> <p>➤ <b>Bio-remediation of the legacy waste in areas in close proximity to the river to prevent leachates and surface run-off into rivers.</b>  <b>Submission:</b>  To monitor any such dumping activities along the bank of river stretches, the DMA and DRD has formed a vigilant squad addressing immediate initiates to arrest dumping of solid waste/bio-waste/construction debris/garbage dumps along the banks and nearby areas.</p>
16	<p><b>The Chief Secretary to Government, State of Tamil Nadu and the Project Officer-Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust, Greater Chennai Corporation, CMWSSB, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and the Water Resources Department are directed to file their further progress cum compliance report for improvement of these water bodies and protections of the same, as expected by this Tribunal.</b></p>	<p>As directed by the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi in its Order dated: 13.01.2019 in Case No. O.A. 556 to 559 of 2018 directed that the Committee headed by the Chief Secretary is to meet on monthly basis to review the progress and quarterly report be furnished to Tribunal, New Delhi by email at <a href="mailto:ngt.filing@gmail.com">ngt.filing@gmail.com</a>.</p> <p>Since then, CRRT is submitting the compliance report on status of River Restoration Projects in Chennai, as expected by this Tribunal before the Hon'ble NGT (South Zone).</p>

In compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (NGT), Principal Bench, New Delhi vide Order dated 13.02.2019, the Chief Secretary will continue to conduct monthly meetings to review the progress of the river restoration works and to ensure that Chennai's waterways are restored, in keeping with the stated commitment of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Yours Faithfully

Name & Designation : S. Ramamoorthy  
Authorized Signatory : *S Ram* Project Director  
Contact Number : 8122745363  
Email ID : pd.crrt@gmail.com  
Date : 01.02.2024

*S Ram*  
(S. Ramamoorthy)  
Project Director  
Chennai Rivers Restoration Trust  
(Wholly owned by Govt. of Tamil Nadu)  
R.A. Puram, Chennai-600 020.

**Photo extraction of works implemented at Adyar and Cooum River Eco-restoration Project of CRRT**  
**Eviction of Encroachers under R&R Component of CRRT**

Demolition of Commercial Structure by WRD, Anakaputhur, Tambaram within Adyar River Boundary on 07.07.2023



Demolition of Evicted structure at Kanu Nagar, Bank of Adyar River on 25.10.2023



Demolition of Encroached structure by WRD, Moovender Nagar, Arumbakkam within Cooum River Boundary on 24.08.2023



Relocation of Project Affected Families of Kanu Nagar, Adyar

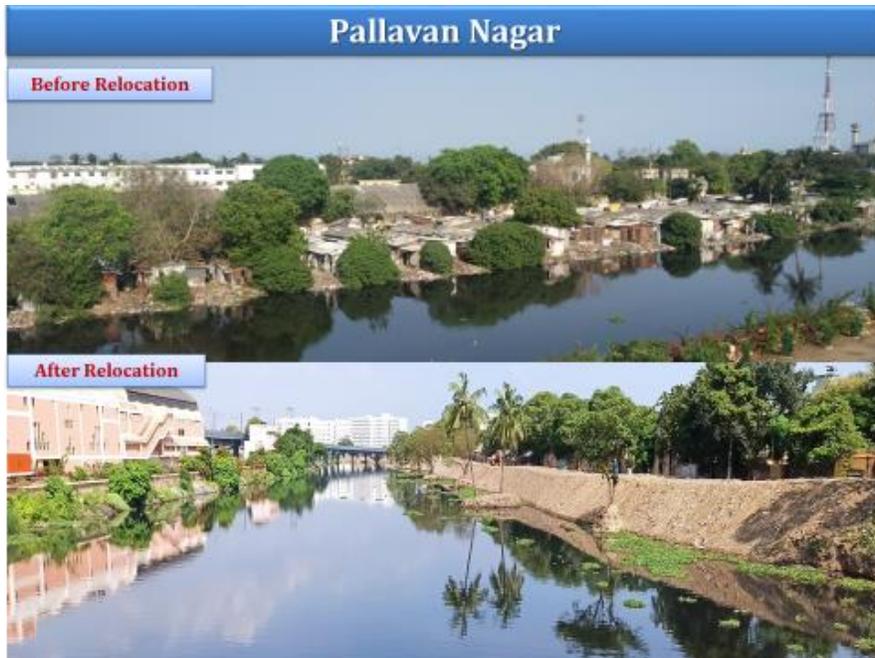


Tenement Allotted to PAFs at Permumbakkam by TNUHDB under CRRT component

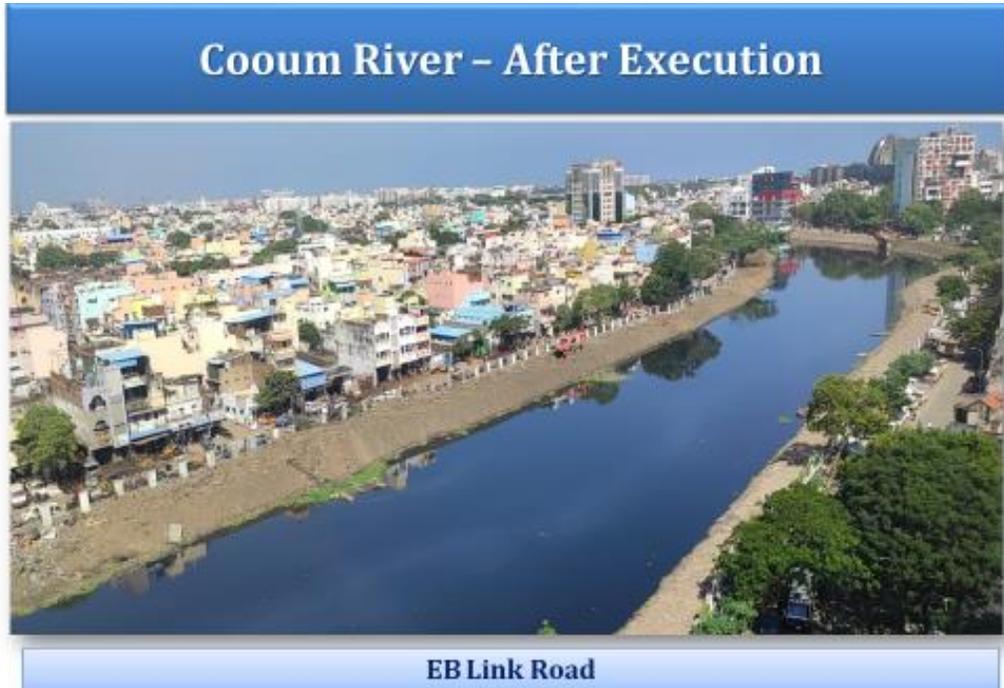


Tenements provided for the PAFs Families evited under the Cooum and Adyar River Eco-restoration Project





Before and After removal of encroachments/solidwaste/desiltation/plantation activities



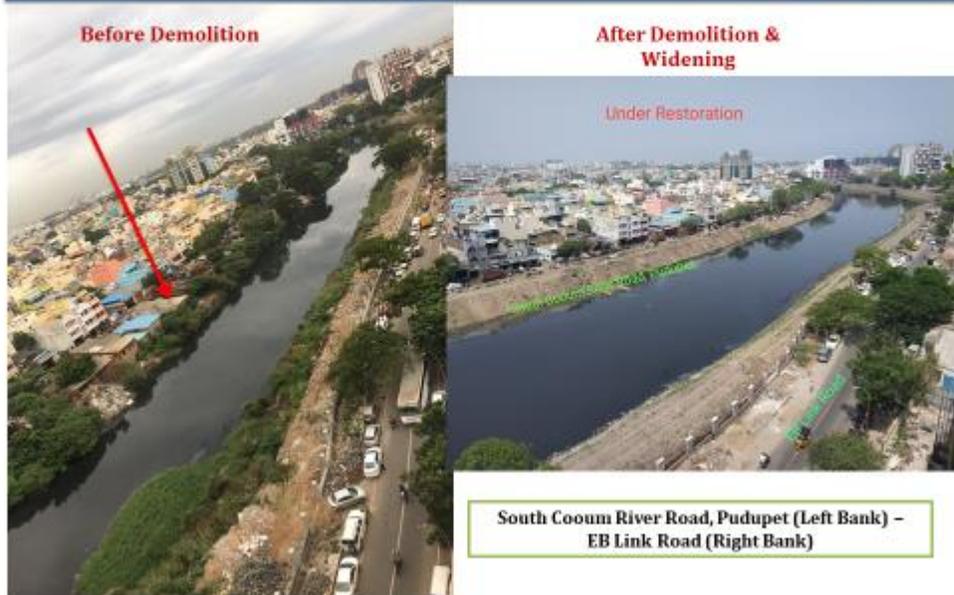
### Relocation of SM (Sathyavani Muthu) Nagar Habitation Cooum River (Northern Arm) under ICRERP



Under ICRERP, 2,089 PAFs relocated from SM (Sathyavani Muthu) Nagar, Cooum River (178 PAFs resettled in KP Park (Phase-II) TNUHDB Scheme in June, 2022 and 1911 PAFs resettled at Perumbakkam Scheme in 2021)

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### WRD - Demolition of Commercial Shops (383) under Auto Nagar Scheme & Widening



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**Restoration of indigenous riparian plantation along the banks of Cooum and Adyar River after removal of Solid Waste/Garbage /Encroachments (Adyar Plantation) by GCC/CRRT  
Dense Forest Plantation at Kotturpuram and Manapakkam, Adyar River**



Riparian Plantation along the Cooum Bank at Mogappiar & Nolambur by GCC/CRRT



Development of Park at Kotturpuram along the bank of Adyar River/GCC



**Installation of trash boom systems to removal floating matters including water hyacinth on Adyar River**



### Construction of Modular STPs on Adyar and Cooum River by the CMWSSB

STP Nunhambakkam



River Front development/STP Kotturpuram



STP Spur Tank Road, Chetpet



STP Langs Garden, Pudupet



Modular STP at Saidapet metro



Construction of Interceptor & Divertor, Nerkundram



Fencing after eviction along the boundaries of Cooum and Adyar River

Compound wall Constructed @Chetpet @ Theevuthidal – Cooum River



Compound wall Constructed after removal of solid waste/construction debris @Chitra Nagar–  
Adyar River



Widening of Mouth and Desilting work by WRD at the Adyar River



Widening of Mouth and Desilting work by WRD at Cooum River

