

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
SOUTHERN BENCH, CHENNAI

ORIGINAL APPLICATION No.129 /2020 (SZ)

L. Sambath
S/o Leela Segar
No.26, O Block,
Thiyagu Mudaliar Nagar,
Mudaliarpet,
Puducherry – 605 004
Mobile No.90477 77251
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Applicant

-Vs-

1. The Member Secretary,
Puducherry Pollution Control Committee,
II Floor, PHB Building, Anna Nagar,
Puducherry – 605 005
Ph.No.0413-2201256
Email ID: ppcc.pon@nic.in
2. The Secretary,
Local Administration Department,
Chief Secretariat Building,
Govt. of Puducherry.
Ph.No.0413-2333326
Email ID: secypower.pon@nic.in
3. The Commissioner,
Puducherry Municipality,
Kamban Kalaiararam,
Bussy Street,
Puducherry – 605001
Ph.No.0413-2200812
Email ID: comrpm.pon@nic.in
4. Kandhan
S/o Sathiyarasu,
No.75, Veerampattinam Salai,
Ariyankuppam,
Puducherry – 605 007
Ph.No.Not available
Email ID: not available

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Respondents

REPLY STATEMENT FILED BY THE 2nd RESPONDENT

1. The address for service on the 2nd Respondent is that of their Counsel Mrs. N.Mala, Government Pleader for Government of Puducherry, Office of the Govt. Pleader for Puducherry, High Court Buildings (Old Legal Aid Buildings), High Court Campus, Chennai - 600104. Cell Phone No.9445565087; and email ID:pondypleader18@gmail.com.

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**E. VALLAVAN, IAS
SECRETARY TO GOVT. (LAD)
PUDUCHERRY.**

2. The Respondent herein respectfully submits that from the report of the Pondicherry Pollution Control Committee, it is ascertained that there is no external cause for the pollution of the Olandai Lake. The cause of the pollution in the said lake is due to the presence of dense aquatic plants, as suggested by PPCC. The remedial measures suggested by PPCC are regular desiltation of the lake, regular de-weeding of the lake and other preventive measures such as leveling the banks, biological controls etc.

3. The Respondent herein respectfully submits that the Olandai lake is being maintained by the Public Works Department, Puducherry and they will be directed to maintain the lake in accordance with the suggestions of PPCC. Instructions will be issued to PWD, in this regard.

4. The Respondent herein respectfully submits that the Local Administration Department is implementing the scheme of Jal Shakti Abhiyan through all Local Bodies in the Union Territory of Puducherry for improving the quality of water bodies and regeneration of water bodies. The Jal Shakti Abhiyan Scheme has adaptation to climate change and regeneration of water bodies as one of its components. The Government has identified water ponds and has taken action to improve, de-silt and to periodically maintain all the water bodies.

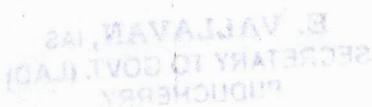
5. The Respondent herein respectfully submits that there are 839 nos. of water bodies under the control of the Local Administration Department, being the controlling authority of Local Bodies. Necessary action has been taken for de-silting of 363 nos. of water bodies, and the de-silting action is in progress in 32 nos. of water bodies and action will be taken for the remaining 262 nos. of water bodies in due course. Further, 182 nos. of water bodies could not be taken up for de-silting as lands have been transferred to other departments. The details of the ponds desilted local bodywise is furnished in Annexure.

6. The Respondent herein respectfully submits that the Local Administration Department is working in association with a Non Government Organisation (NGO)

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called "Association for Good Governance" to restore the water bodies through community participation and adopting ponds by the schools under the scheme called "One School One Pond".

7. The Respondent herein respectfully submits that in view of the facts and reasons stated above, all the statements and allegations made by the Applicant in the above Application are untrue, incorrect, misconceived, frivolous and untenable and it is most humbly prayed that this Application may be dismissed in the interest of the fishermen community, general public, Government exchequer and more importantly in the interest of maintaining the water bodies by the 3rd respondent, viz., Puducherry Municipality and to enable it to effectively provide essential basic services and amenities to the general public.

VERIFICATION

I, Shri E. Vallavan, aged 55 years, S/o Eadmalaiyan, Secretary to Government (Local Administration), Chief Secretariat Complex, II Floor, Goubert Avenue, Puducherry 605001 being 2nd Respondent herein do hereby verify the contents of Paras 1 to 6 as true to the best of my knowledge, belief and as per the available records and documents and that I have not suppressed any material facts.

Date : 14.12.2021

Place: Puducherry


2nd Respondent
E. VALLAVAN, IAS
SECRETARY TO GOVT. (LAD)
PUDUCHERRY.

BEFORE ME


ADVOCATE, PUDUCHERRY
M.F. Lion. C. MUNUSAMY, M.A., B.L.
ADVOCATE - NOTARY PUBLIC
ACCREDITED MEDIATOR, COMMISSIONER OF OATHS
No. 129, V. V. Pillai St., Pondicherry-605 001.
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BCM no: 225/1976

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