

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
Original Application No. 246 of 2020 (SZ)**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion
Suo Motu based on the news item in
Dinamani Newspaper, Chennai edition
Dt.02.11.2020, "Vaiyavur and Nathappettai
Lakes : Will become a bird sanctuary?"

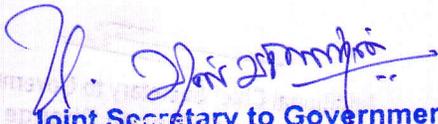
...Applicant(s)

Versus

- 1) The Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 009.
- 2) The Principal Secretary to Govt.,
Public Works Department,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 009.
- 3) The Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu
Revenue and Disaster Management Department,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 009.
- 4) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force)
Department of Forests
Panagal Maligai, Saidapet
Chennai - 600 015.

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No. of Corrections: Nil


**Joint Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change
and Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-9.**


**Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change and
Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.**

- 5) The Chairman
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,
No. 76, Anna Salai, Guindy,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 032.
- 6) Tamil Nadu State Wetlands Authority,
Rep. by Member Secretary,
Panagal Maligai, Saidapet, Chennai - 600 015.
- 7) The District Collector,
Kancheepuram District,
First Floor, Collectorate, Kancheepuram - 631 501.
- 8) District Forest Officer,
Chengalpet Division,
5/9, Varadharaja Farms,
Vandavasi Road, Kancheepuram - 603 501.
- 9) The Commissioner,
Kanchipuram Special Grade Municipality,
Annai Indira Gandhi Salai,
Kanchipuram- 631 502.
(Suo Motu impleaded as additional 9th respondent as per
Order dt.23.11.2020.)

...Respondent(s)

STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE FIRST RESPONDENT

I, Supriya Sahu, I.A.S., D/o. Ram Ashrey Prasad, Hindu, aged about 53 years, residing at 2/512, Bodhi Aravon, 3rd Street, Sunrise Avenue, Sri Kapleshwarar Nagar, Neelankarai, Chennai - 600 115 and presently working as Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Climate

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Joint Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change
and Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-9.


Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change and
Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

Change and Forests Department, Secretariat, Chennai herein after referred to as answering respondent do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

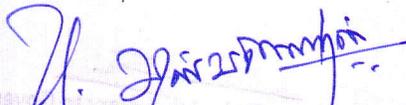
2) It is respectfully submitted that I am the First Respondent herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case on records.

3) It is respectfully submitted that, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai in its order dated 04.05.2022 in O.A.No.246 of 2020 has directed the Additional Chief Secretary, Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department to file a report with regard to feasibility of converting the lakes into bird sanctuary and the time frame that may be required for the same.

4) It is respectfully submitted that, the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai in the O.A No. 246 of 2020 (SZ) constituted the Joint Committee comprising of (1) Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden, Chennai, (2) the District Collector, Kanchipuram District, (3) the District Forest Officer, Chengalpet District, (4) a Senior Officer from the Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority as designated by its Member Secretary, Chennai, (5) a Senior Officer from

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Joint Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change
and Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-9.

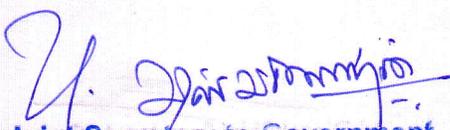

Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change and
Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.

Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) as designated by the Chairman, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, (6) the Superintending Engineer of Public Works Department (PWD) and Water Resources Organization (WRO) of the respective area and (7) a Senior Officer deputed by the Commissioner, Special Grade Municipality, Kanchipuram for inspection of the two lakes namely Nathappetai Lake and Vaiyavur Lake in the Kancheepuram District of Tamil Nadu.

5) It is respectfully submitted that, the Joint Committee constituted for the purpose of exploring the possibilities of converting these lakes into the proposed bird sanctuary submitted their inspection report in which the Committee mentioned that Vaiyavur lake and Nathappetai lake are under the control of Public Works Department. The Committee further reported that the Nathappetai lake which is contiguous to the Vaiyavur lake had encroachments and dumping of Kancheepuram Municipal garbage in the foreshore area of the said lakes leading to the contamination of the Nathappetai lake with untreated sewage and hazardous waste. Therefore the Joint Committee recommended that there is no possibility of converting the above said two lakes into a Bird Sanctuary.

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No. of Corrections: Nil


**Joint Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change
and Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-9.**


**Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change and
Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.**

6) It is respectfully submitted that, based upon the report of the Joint Committee, the status report was filed in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone, Chennai by the Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority, which is attached as Annexure.

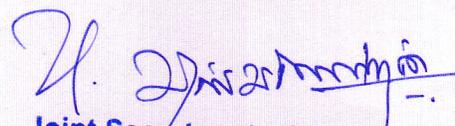
7) This Department has initiated a consultative process with the Water Resources Department. Accordingly the decision for the declaration of the two lakes namely Vaiyavur and Nathappetai as Bird Sanctuaries may take some more time.

In view of the above circumstances and reasons explained above, it is humbly prayed that the Honorable Tribunal may be pleased to accept the status report and render justice.


**Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change and
Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009.**

BEFORE ME

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai,
on this the day of May,
2022 and signed his name in
my presence.


**Joint Secretary to Government
Environment, Climate Change
and Forest Department
Secretariat, Chennai-9.**