

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL  
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No.255 of 2020 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO MOTU Based on  
The News item in Dinamalar Newspaper, Dated  
06.11.2020, Chennai Supplementary, "Rising of New  
Buildings in Water ways, Danger to Velachery due to  
Callousness of officials."

**VERSUS**

- 1) The Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600009
- 2) Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Revenue and Disaster Management Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600009
- 3) Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu,  
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600009
- 4) The Principal Secretary to Government,  
Public Works Department,  
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600009
- 5) Greater Chennai Corporation  
Rep. by its Commissioner,  
Ripon Building, Chennai - 600 003.
- 6) Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board,  
Rep, by its Managing Director,  
No. 1, Pumping Station Road,  
Chintadripet, Chennai 600 031.
- 7) The Chairman,  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,  
No.76, Anna Salai, Guindy,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600032

  
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8) ) The District Collector,  
Chennai District,  
District Collectorate Office,  
No. 62, Rajaji Salai, 4th Floor,  
Chennai 600 001.

9) The Thasildar,  
Velachery Taluk Office,  
Periyar Nagar Extension,  
Seva Nagar, Velachery,  
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 042.

... Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF  
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION**

I, N.Thirumurugan, Son of Late K.Natarajan, Hindu, aged about 51 years, the Zonal Officer, Zone – XIII, Greater Chennai Corporation, having office at No.115, Dr.Muthulakshmi Salai, Adyar, Chennai-600 020, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

1. I am the Zonal Officer, Zone – XIII, Greater Chennai Corporation and as such am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case from the available records. I am filing this report on behalf of Greater Chennai Corporation.
2. I submit that the Tamil Daily “Dinamalar” had published a new article dated 06.11.2020 under caption 06.11.2020, Chennai Supplementary, “Rising of New Buildings in Water ways, Danger to Velachery due to Callousness of officials.”
3. I submit that this Hon’ble Tribunal has taken a Suo Moto case on the paper publication in O.A.No.255 of 2020 (SZ) and has passed an order dated 15.12.2020 as follows:-

***“...9. So, in order to ascertain the real nature and the genuineness of the allegations made and its impact***

  
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*on environment, we feel it appropriate to appoint a joint committee comprising of 1) the District Collector, Chennai District, or a Senior Officer not below the rank of Assistant Collector or Sub Divisional Magistrate deputed by the District Collector, 2) a Senior Officer from the Public Works Department (PWD) and Water Resources Organisation (WRO) not below the rank of Superintending Engineer of that area, (3) a Senior Officer from Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) (4) a Senior Officer from Greater Chennai Corporation and (5) a Senior Officer from Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) deputed by its Chairman to inspect the area in question and submit a factual as well as action taken report, if there is any violation found.*

*10. The Public Works Department (PWD) and Water Resources Organisation (WRO) will be the nodal agency for co-ordination and for providing all necessary logistics for this purpose.*

*11. The committee is directed to ascertain the extent of land covered by the water ways as per revenue records, the extent of encroachment, if any action already taken to remove the encroachments and its present status as to what are all the steps taken by them to protect the same from further encroachment.*

*12. The committee is also directed to take the assistance of satellite images/Google images for the last five years of that area, so as to ascertain the nature of encroachment, extent of encroachment and its growth over the years and how the encroachments has affected the free flow of water in that area so as to ascertain the*

*[Signature]*  
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*real picture and the probable action to be taken for restoring the same.*

*13. The committee is also directed to sort out a proper action plan for short term and long term with shorter timelines, so as to avoid such things recurring in future and protect the area from probable flood during monsoon, so as to save the life of the people and make the life of the people happy and peaceful in that area without the threat of flood being affected in that area.*

*14. The committee is also directed to ascertain as to whether there is any deficiency in sewage system in that area which is likely to mix with the rain water during monsoon, so as to cause health hazards in that area and if so what are the remedial measures to be taken to avoid the same permanently.....”*

4. I submit that before the joint inspection carried out by the committee formed by this Hon'ble Tribunal, State Assembly Elections have been declared and the officials have been involved in the election works.
5. I submit that when the above case came up for hearing 08.03.2021 this Hon'ble Tribunal has granted time to the joint committee to conduct the joint inspection and to file the joint inspection report and also directed the respondents to file their individual reports.
6. I submit that the officials of Greater Chennai Corporation inspected the site in question reported in the Tamil Daily "Dinamalar" and found that there land in question is adjacent to the catchment area of Pallikarni marsh land and the land in question belongs to the Revenue Authorities. I further

  
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submit that at the time of inspection it was found that the Revenue Authorities have taken action by demolishing the encroachment made in their land.

7. I submit that after conclusion of the joint inspection by the committee formed by this Hon'ble Tribunal, the Greater Chennai Corporation will comply with recommendation if any made by the Joint Committee.

It is therefore prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept the report and to pass suitable order or orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper under the circumstances of this case and thus render Justice.

  
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Solemnly affirm that Chennai ()  
On this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021 ()  
And signed his name in my presence ()

Before Me  
~~Adv~~ (2291/2019)  
119 Addl. Law Chambers,  
High Court, Ch-10  
Advocate : Chennai

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SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

SUO MOTU

Original Application No.255 of 2020 (SZ)

**REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF  
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION**

P.T.RAMADEVI  
Counsel for Chennai Corporation  
Cell No.9444344552