

Draft Minutes of the Meeting convened by the ACS/CRA with stakeholders on 22.08.2021 at 10.30 a.m. as ordered by the Honourable National Green Tribunal, Southern Zone in the Original Application No. 264 of 2020 to resolve flooding issues and evolve a time bound action plan to prevent recurrence of flooding in the areas highlighted in daily newspapers of Chennai edition.

The list officials who attended the meeting is enclosed at Annexure-I

At the outset the ACS/CRA briefed about the background for conducting this meeting and requested the officials of the stakeholder departments to furnish the item wise report on the present status and action plan to solve the flooding issues for each of the area mentioned in the new items . The Deputy Commissioner GCC, made a powerpoint presentation on what action has been taken to solve flooding issues, the present status and the proposals on hand for implementation to permanently solve the problems for each of the following places mentioned in the new items.

1. Baba Nagar, Villivakkam

The Deputy Commissioner, GCC informed that Baba, Nagar 3rd Main Road, 8th, 10th and 11th Roads, RK Link Road, Srinivasa Nagar Main Road, Makkaram Thottam Poompuhar Nagar, Anjugam Nagar, Sri Ganapathy Rao colony, Netaji Nagar, Annai Indira Nagar and Rajiv Gandhi Nagar Main road , parts of Kolathur are at 8.0 feet below the Inner Ring Road which causes disconnection of the existing drains since the disposal drain across the Inner Ring Road is at a higher level than the drains in the areas. Also at present, the existing drains are in a dilapidated condition.

Hence a project for construction of 5.25 km of storm water drains and link it to Thanikachalam Nagar drain at an estimated cost of Rs.22.94 crores is sanctioned and tenders were received on 24.02.2021. He also informed that funds have to be tied up for this work. The ACS/CRA said that since the work has to be funded with World Bank assistance, proposal to get approval of World Bank has to be sent immediately. WRD officials informed that Thanigachalam Nagar drain is meant for draining the areas downstream of Madhavaram Rettai Eri and this proposal would aggravate flooding in Thanigachalam Nagar Areas. ACS/CRA informed GCC officials that the project has to be implemented in consultation with WRD and requested GCC officials to come out with a plan for temporary solution to solve the issue since the commencement of the above work would take time.

Action: GCC

2. Ambattur and Korattur Areas

The Deputy Commissioner, GC informed that the construction of surplus canal for Ambattur and Korattur tanks for a length of 7.22 km at a cost of Rs. 159.00 crore has been taken up under ISWD project for Kosasthalayar Basin under ADB project. WRD officials informed that the surplus canal for Korattur tank has to discharge 2800 cusecs and the surplus canal proposed by GCC is inadequate and hence notice has been given to stop work. The ACS/CRA informed GCC officials that this work has to be implemented in consultation with WRD officials. The WRM consultant, TNDRRA informed that the maximum flood discharge of 5000

cusecs of water from Madhavaram tank has to flow towards north and join with the Red Hills tank surplus canal and since the work is pending since the year 2000 , the proposed interventions will aggravate the problems in Madhavaram, Puzhal and Thanigachalam Nagar areas and hence requested WRD officials to take immediate action to take up the above canal work as developments in the lands through which the proposed canal passes were freezed under Chennai City River Conservation Project. The ACS/CRA requested WRD officials to take immediate action to acquire the lands as per the latest Land Acquisition Act and also WRD and GCC should come out with a temporary plan for short term relief to the above areas within next week.

Action: GCC,WRD

3. K.K. Nagar, MGR Nagar

The Deputy Commissioner, GCC informed that in order to avoid water stagnation in KK Nagar and MGR Nagar areas, construction of the missing link storm water drains of length 937m on the northern side of Raja Mannar Salai at a cost of Rs.2.70 crores has been completed under CMDCM funds. Further the tenders for construction of storm water drains for a length of 2.70 km at a cost of Rs.17.48 crores for ultimate disposal in Adayar river through MGR canal have been called for and works are to be taken up after getting fund approval . The ACS/CRA requested GCC officials to furnish the time lines for completion of the above scheme and the action plan for temporary relief to this area within next week.

Action: GCC

4. Poonamallee High Road from Chetpet to Ripon Building

The Deputy Commissioner, GCC informed that in order to avoid water stagnation in Poonamallee High Road, construction of missing link storm water drain at Alagappa Road for a length of 320 m at a cost of Rs.74.45 lakhs and for a length of 1200 m in EVK Sampath Road at a cost of Rs. 2.62 core have been completed under CMCDM fund. He further informed that the water stagnation along Poonamallee High Road will be reduced since the work of demolition and reconstruction of storm water drain on the northern side of Poonamallee high Road by Highways Department is nearing completion. The WRM Consultant, TNDRA informed that the final disposal of storm water drain along Poonamallee High Road should reach Cooum river on the eastern side of Egmore Station. Hence the link between Poonamallee High road and Cooum river should be ensured. The ACS/CRA informed that the officials of Highways Department should be invited for the next meeting so that the above works including the link to Cooum river could be speeded up and completed before the North East monsoon.

Action: GCC and Highways Department

5. Tana Street and Ritherdon Road of Purasawalkam

The Deputy Commissioner, GCC informed that missing links of storm water drains of 650 m in Tana Street and 864 m in Ritherdon Road have been completed under capital fund to avoid inundation observed during the North East Monsoon. Hence inundation in these areas will be avoided in future.

6. Waltax Road

WRM Consultant , TNDRRA informed that the entire Waltax road is running parallel to Railway track and run off from Waltax road has to reach the Buckingham canal flowing on the other side of the Railway track. Hence a permanent solution to the problem of flooding in Waltax road and its adjoining area could be achieved only after the completion of final disposal drain from Waltax Road to Buckingham Canal for the required size. GCC officials informed that this work is being taken up by Highways Department. The ACS/CRA informed that the subject may be taken up with Highways officials in the next meeting.

Action: Highways Department

7. Redevelopment of the slum at New Boopathy Nagar near Ozone kulam

This matter will be taken up with TNSCB in the next meeting.

Action: TNSCB

8. Bharathidasan Colony near Kasi Theatre

Officials from GCC and CMWSSB informed that water stagnation was observed in Bharathidasan colony along the Inner Ring Road (J.N.Road) and hence Highways Department has taken up the work of construction of storm water drain along the road for ultimate disposal into Adayar river. The ACS/CRA wanted to discuss this issue with Highways officials during the next meeting.

Action: Highways Department

9. Pulianthope High Road

The Deputy Commissioner, GCC informed that the K.P. Park in Pulianthope has been redeveloped for Covid-19 affected persons and the tenements of K.P. Park have to be relocated by TNSCB. Further, tenders for the work of construction of storm water drain network in Pulianthope High Road and its surrounding areas for a length of 9.90 km at a cost of Rs. 31.82 cr have been called for and is in approval stage for want of funds. The ACS/CRA requested the GCC officials to come out with an action plan with timelines in the next meeting.

Action: GCC, TNSCB

10. Velachery, Madipakkam , Narayanapuram and Pallikarani Area

These areas in South Chennai are getting affected during rainy season as the flood waters from the water sheds around Pallikaranai swamp could not reach its outlet namely Okkiam Maduvu due to heavy siltation and growth of weeds in the Pallikaranai swamp. The District Collector, Tiruvallur opined that the inner canal along the periphery of Pallikaranai swamp connecting the confluence locations of Velachery drain, Veerangal Odai, Perungudi tank surplus , Narayanapuram tank surplus in Pallikaranai swamp upto Okkiam Maduvu will be very effective in conveying the water through Pallikaranai swamp to avoid surging of water in Velacheri Ramanagar, Madipakkam and Sunnambukulathur areas. The WRM Consultant, TNDRRA informed that the issue is being

taken up with the Conservation Authority of Pallikaranai Marsh Land (CAPML) / Department of Forest for the past three years. But the Authority is objecting for the inner canal citing ecological reasons. Also the Director of Municipal Administration informed that the canals for the safe flow of surplus water from the Kovilambakkam Eri, Kilkattali tank and Narayanapuram tank upto Pallikaranai swamp have been constructed through WRD and Highways Departments. Unless uninterrupted flow of the surplus water through Pallikaranai swamp is assured, the entire investment for the above works will become futile. The ACS/ CRA wanted to have a coordination meeting with officials of Department of Forests, CAPML, DOE, WRD and GCC to sort out the above issue.

Action: TNDRRA

11. Semmencheri and Sholinganallu area along Old Mahabalipuram Road (OMR) /Rajiv Gandhi Salai

GCC officials informed that if the proposed short cut canal from Pallikaranai to South Buckingham canal is formed , the inundation problem will be solved in the above areas. Director of Municipal Administration informed that there is a missed link in Aravangazani area for which private land has to be acquired. He also informed about lack of adequate surplus canal from Ottiyampakkam tank to Pallikaranai due to which residential colonies around DLF campus, TNSCB campus and layouts at Aravangazani are having perennial problem of inundation. The ACS/CRA instructed the District Collector, Kancheepuram and WRD

officials to take necessary action to implement the above works under any plan schemes.

Action: District Collector, Kancheepuram and WRD

12. Mangadu

With respect to the water stagnation problems in the interior roads of Mangadu, Commissioner of Town Panchayat informed that they have prepared DPR for construction of storm water drainage network to dispose the runoff from this area to Thanthikal channel leading to Porur tank which needs fund approval under mitigation. The ACS/CRA informed that the guidelines for funding under mitigation funds are not yet communicated and hence requested Commissioner of Town Panchayat to implement the scheme under regular schemes.

Action: Commissioner of Town Panchayat

13. Peerkankaranai, Irumbuliyur Perungalathur area

The Director of Municipal Administration informed that the surplus waters of Peerkankaranai tank, Irumbuliyur, Perungalathur Periya Eri and Tambaram Periya Eri flow into Adayar River for which no defined canals were existing. Hence between 2018 and 2020 , canals from Mudichur Road to Adayar River were constructed as Cut and Cover drain below Bypass road - service Road and Pappam Canal road and for Tamabaram Periya Eri for Rs.34.00 crores . Now it is very much essential to form surplus canal from Peerkankaranai tank, Irumbuliyur tank and Perungalathur tank upto Mudichoor road junction for which WRD and DTP are having proposals. Hence DMA requested the ACS/ CRA to prioritize

funding through State/Mitigation funds to avoid flooding in the upstream areas of Mudichoor Road. The ACS/CRA requested WRD and DTP to furnish the DPR for the above proposed works so as to recommend to Government.

Action: WRD,DTP

Sewage overflow issues

1. Saligramam, Virugambakkam and Velachery

The ACS/CRA requested the officials of CMWSSB to confirm whether the cause of sewage stagnation problem in Swarnakala apartments in Saligramam and 120 flats in Virugambakkam Area and 1000 flats in MGR Nagar, Velachery is due to blockage of sewage or absence of sewer in that area and report within 1 week with necessary plan to solve it.

Action: CMWSSB

2. Puzhal and Kallikuppam

The ACS/CRA requested CMWSSB officials to check up whether the said areas in Puzhal and Kallikuppam areas covered under UGSS or the storm water drains are carrying sewage in these areas. CMWSSB officials informed that the Kallikuppam (Shakthi Nagar) area in Ambattur is situated below the Red hills tank water level and gets affected due to overflowing of water in the tank foreshore. WRD officials informed that this area is inundating due to lack of the foreshore bund land in this area which has to be formed after evicting the encroachment along the bund alignment. ACS/CRA requested the District Collector to take necessary

action to evict the encroachment and WRD to form the bund before the ensuing North East Monsoon.

Action: District Collector, Tiruvallur and WRD

3. K.K. Nagar and MGR Nagar

It is reported that the sewer mains connecting MGR Nagar, K.K. Nagar, Ashok Nagar and West Mambalam to Nesapakkam STP are leaking at many locations which creates problems like pot holes formation in roads, stagnation of sewage, mixing of sewage water with drinking water and borewells besides health issues. The ACS/CRA requested CMWSSB officials to report the action taken and present status within one week.

Action: CMWSSB

4. Jalladianpettai, Medavakkam and Pallikaranai

It is reported that sewage from this area are stagnating in this area and creates pollution . Also during rainy seasons , the rain water mixes with sewage water as there is no UGSS facility. During continuous rains the rain water flows on roads of Sivagami Nagar and Nallathambi Nagar. WRM Consultant, TNDRA informed that these areas are below the maximum water level of Pallikaranai and it is necessary to explore the feasibility of pumping facility in this area. The ACS/CRA requested the officials of GCC and CMWSSB to plan for short term measure and long term measure with timelines to solve the above issues within next week.

Action: GCC, CMWSSB

5. Palavakkam and Kottivakkam area along ECR

With regards to the reports on stagnation of sewage water in Palavakkam and Kottivakkam areas, the Managing Director, CMWSSB informed that the area will be inspected to confirm whether sewage is being released into vacant plots and if so, the action plan to solve the problem will be furnished during the next meeting.

Action: MD, CMWSSB

6. Serapanancheri near Padappai in Kancheepuram District

It is reported that the private apartments adjoining Serapanancheri tanks are letting out untreated sewage into the tank without recycling process. Director of Municipal Administration informed that the issue was there during the past years also and District Administration has warned them by cutting their power supply for in operating their Modular STPs. The ACS/CRA requested the District Collector, Kancheepuram to inform the action taken to solve the problem by next week.

Action: District Collector, Kancheepuram

Decision Points

- a) All the stakeholder Departments / Organizations should furnish their Action Plan for temporary as well as permanent measures to avoid flooding and sewage overflow/stagnation in the areas as discussed above in the next meeting proposed on 29.07.2021.
- b) It is understood that there is lack of coordination between officials of WRD and local body organizations of the State with regard to the

technical aspects of connecting storm water drainage network to macro canals/rivers/water bodies for final disposal in water shed wise approach and hence flooding problem is being passed on from one place to other. Hence it is opined that Government may be addressed to form a working group comprising technical officers from stakeholder departments to finalise the design aspects of storm water drainage construction in water shed wise approach which may be monitored by a Standing Committee to be constituted by Government for the purpose.

- c) Also the possibility of constructing underground storage tanks for storing flood water of the drains flowing into wetlands without any usage of its water like Pallikaranai swamp and use the water after recycling, maybe explored by CMWSSB and WRD

WRME / AC-V / J.D (DM) / Director (DM)

ACS/CRA

Annexure-I

Officials who attended

S. No	Name	Designation
1.	Thiru C. Vijayaraj Kumar, I.A.S.,	Managing Director, CMWSSB
2.	Dr. R. Selvaraj, I.A.S.,	Commissioner of Town Panchayats
3.	Dr. N. Subbaiyan, I.A.S.,	Director, Disaster Management O/o. Commissionerate of Revenue Administration
4.	Thiru P. Ponniah, I.A.S.,	Director of Municipal Administration
5.	Dr Alby John Varghese, I.A.S.,	District Collector, Tiruvallur
6.	Thiru S.P. Amrith, I.A.S.,	Joint Commissioner of Municipal Administration
7.	Thiru M.S. Prasanth, I.A.S.,	Deputy Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation
8.	Thiru. Natarajan	Chief Engineer, DMA
9.	Thiru A. Muthiah	Superintending Engineer, Palar Basin Circle, WRD, Chennai
10.	Thiru V.G. Ramasamy	Superintending Engineer, CMWSSB
11.	Thiru D. Anbalagan	Superintending Engineer, Commissionerate of Town Panchayat
12.	Thiru A. Raja Gopalan	District Revenue Officer, Chennai District.
13.	Thiru C. Podupani Thilagar	Executive Engineer, WRD, Tiruvallur
14.	Thiru B. Sivakumar	Executive Engineer, Greater Chennai Corporation
15.	Thiru G. Srinivasan	Executive Engineer, Directorate of Municipal Administration
16.	Thiru M. Karuppiyah Raja	Regional Executive Engineer, Municipal Administration, Chengalpet.

Officials who attended through virtual mode (Google Meet)

S. No	Name	Designation
1.	Thiru A.R Rahul Nadh, I.A.S.,	District Collector, Chengalpet
2.	Dr M. Aarthi, I.A.S.,	District Collector, Kancheepuram
3.	Thiru.G.Radhakrishnan	AEE, WRD, Kancheepuram