

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL SOUTH ZONE, CHENNAI

O.A. NO. 38 OF 2020(SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal in its own motion SUO MOTO

Based on the News Item in the New Indian

Express, Chennai edition dated 13.02.2020.

“Devikulam Once a haven, now on death row”

...Applicant

Vs

1. The District Collector

Chennai District and 4 others

...Respondents

AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE 5TH RESPONDENT

I, Abhishek Verma Son of Shri. Ashok Kumar, Hindu aged about 31 years working as Divisional Engineer/EAST/MAS, SOUTHERN RAILWAY, CHENNAI-3 do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the 5th Respondent herein as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case.

2. I humbly submit that as per the directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal the detailed estimate for strengthening of bank and construction of boundary wall for Devikulam Pond to avoid dumping of garbage has been sanctioned by competent authority. Detailed estimate has been vetted and fund certification has been obtained by accounts department.

3. I humbly submit that the approval for calling of tender has been obtained by competent authority and the tender was published on 19.12.2021.

4. I humbly submit that the the following work will be executed in the above-mentioned tender.

- (a) Construction of fencing along Ennore High Road to prevent dumping of garbage on the bank slopes of the lake. The fencing will be constructed using concrete sleepers released from railway tracks. The total length of the fencing will be 750m along Ennore High Road. The fencing will help to prevent dumping of garbage by the public in the area.

- (b) Strengthening of canal connecting Devikulam Lake & Buckingham Canal. At present, there is one kachcha drain which connects Devikulam Lake to Buckingham Canal through two numbers of culverts available under Ennore High Road & Manali high Road. It is therefore proposed to provide proper drainage by clearing the kachcha drain and providing pitching arrangement in canal for proper flow of water. The length of the canal will be 300m.
- (c) Strengthening of Lake Embankment slopes – Presently earthen embankment is available in the lake which leads to unwanted vegetation growth. It is therefore proposed to provide pitching arrangement on bank side slopes.
- (d) Desilting of the lake – In order to improve the natural drainage, it is proposed to desilt the entire lake using submersible dredger to remove the silt accumulated on the bed of the Lake.
- (e) Removal of vegetation & debris from the Lake & embankment respectively.

5. I humbly submit that the Finalization of tender is under process and will be completed on priority. The work will be started after issuing the Letter of Acceptance by the Railways in favour of the successful bidder.

It is therefore prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to pass suitable orders and thus render Justice.

Solemnly affirm at Chennai on this

Before me,

25th day of January 2022 and

Signed his name in my presence.

Advocate/Chennai

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K. MUTHAMIL RAJA

COUNSEL FOR 5TH RESPONDENT

