

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI**

Original Application No. 102 of 2021 (SZ)

With

Original Application No. 02 of 2020 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

S. Kumaradasan,
Vice President,
Velachery, Chennai

...Applicant(s)

Versus

The Government of Tamil Nadu,
Chief Secretary, Chennai and Others

...Respondent(s)

With

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based
On the News Item in Dinamalar Tamil newspaper,
“Velachery lake-full due to Monsoon” Plea for preventing
sewage waste get mixed in the lake.

And

The Government of Tamil Nadu,
Rep by its Chief Secretary and Others

...Respondent(s)

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Through
Dr. D. Shanmuganathan
Standing Counsel
National Green Tribunal
Southern Zone
Date:23.09.2024

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 102 of 2021 (SZ)
with
Original Application No. 2 of 2020 (SZ)

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S. Kumaradasan, Vice President
Velachery Eri Pathukappu Iyakkam,
Velachery, Chennai.

..Applicant(s)

-Versus-

1. The Government of Tamil Nadu,
Rep by its Chief Secretary
Chennai and Ors.

.. Respondent(s)

With

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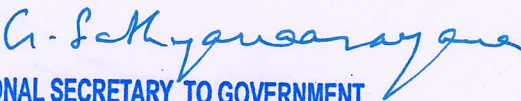
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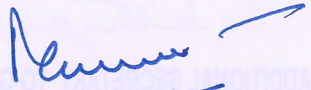
The Government of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Chief Secretary and Ors.

.. Respondent(s)

**AFFIDAVIT FILED BY THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO
GOVERNMENT, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

I, Dr. K. Manivasan aged 57 years, officiating as Additional Chief
Secretary to Government, Water Resources Department, Government of


ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.


Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Water Resources Department,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.

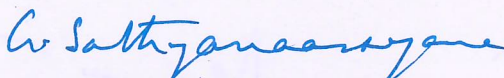
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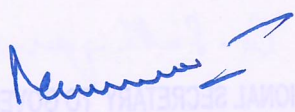
Tamil Nadu having my office at Secretariat, Fort St. George, Chennai-9 do, hereby, solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

2. I state that I am the Second Respondent impleaded in the Original Application herein and Additional Chief Secretary to Government Water Resources Department and all the water bodies in the State are under the control of Water Resources Department and the impugned Velachery Lake is also a tank under the control of the Lower Basin Division, Kanchipuram under the administrative control of the Chief Engineer, WRD, Chennai Region, Chennai-5.

3. It is stated that on 10.09.2024, a meeting was convened under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government and during the meeting the Principal Secretary to Government, Environment, Climate Change & Forest Department has stated that creating new water bodies in Guindy National Park is not possible, since it may be hindrance for the wild animals and also mentioned that already two ponds are available at Guindy National Park. Hence, the Chief Secretary to Government instructed the District Collector, Chennai District for taking necessary steps for collecting the details and identify the land transferred to other Government Agencies / Department and not used for long time so as to create new water bodies around Velachery Lake.

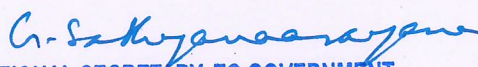
4. It is also stated that the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) has proposed the work of **“Renovation of Velachery Lake”** by

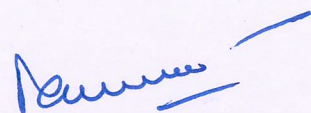

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 Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.


 Additional Chief Secretary to Government
 Water Resources Department,
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deepening the lake bed, strengthening of bund and other beautification works at a project cost of Rs.23.50 Crore under **“Lake Front Development Scheme”** which will enhance the capacity of the tank will be increase to about 22% from its present stage. However, during the meeting, the Chief Secretary to Government has directed the Officials of Water Resources Department to co-ordinate with the Officials of Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) and explore the possibilities of deepening the lake so as to increase its Capacity by 50% of its present stage (which is now 4.35Mcf).

5. It is submitted that during the execution of Lake front development work by CMDA, in order to carry out the eviction of encroachments with in the lake boundary in accordance with law, the Chief Secretary to Government has directed the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board (TNUHDB) to identify vacant lands around Velachery to allot dwelling units to 955 families enumerated as encroachers so as to rehabilitate them. If it is not possible, to offer tenements at Perumbakkam scheme.
6. It is submitted that as long-term measure, a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Capacity Enhancement by deepening of the tanks surrounding the Velachery Tank such as Madippakkam Tank, Kilkattalai Tank, Moovarasampettai Tank, Narayanapuram Tank and Pallikkaranai Tank would be prepared by the Water Resources Department as a part of Flood Mitigation Master Plan.



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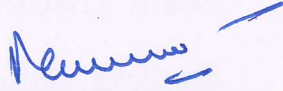

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 Water Resources Department,
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7. It is also submitted that presently as short term measure the hyacinth, weeds and vegetations in the Velachery Tank, Verangal Odai, Adambakkam Surplus Course and Kilkattalai Surplus Course are cleared and the silt are also removed under 2024 Pre-monsoon Preparedness Work to the tune of Rs.95.00 Lakh.

8. Therefore, it is stated that by executing the above said proposals, the Tank Storage will be enhanced and the surrounding areas will be averted from flooding.

It is, therefore, prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to take on record the submissions made above and pass appropriate further orders as deemed fit in the facts and circumstances of the case and thus render justice.


**ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
 WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT,
 Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.**


**Additional Chief Secretary to Government
 Water Resources Department,
 Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.**

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2nd Respondent

VERIFICATION

I, Dr. K. Manivasan son of Kandasamy, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Water Resources Department, Chennai-9 do, hereby verify that the contents of above Paragraphs are true to the best of my knowledge and are believed to be true on legal advice and that I have not suppressed any material fact.

Verified at Chennai on this the day23th.....of September, 2024.

G. Sathya gnanarajane
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.

Narayanan
Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Water Resources Department,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.

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2nd Respondent