

**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

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

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SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
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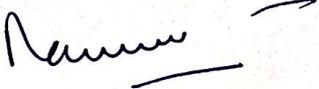
The Government of Tamil Nadu,
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Respondent(s)

**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 Tamil Nadu


Special Secretary to Government
Water Resources Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009

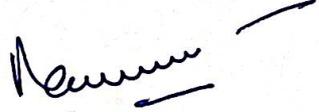

Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Water Resources Department,
Secretariat, Chennai – 600 009.

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

1. I humbly submit that I am the Second Respondent impleaded in the Original Application herein and Additional Chief Secretary to Government Water Resources Department and the impugned Velachery Lake is a tank under the control of the Lower Basin Division, Kanchipuram which is under the administrative control of the Chief Engineer, WRD, Chennai Region, Chennai-5.
2. It is submitted that, based on the order of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in the W.P. No. 8028/2018 for eviction of encroachments in Velachery Tank, a survey was conducted by the Revenue Department and identified 955 number of encroachments in the Velachery tank and thereafter Form III notice was issued to the encroachers by the Water Resources Department. Meanwhile O.A No. 02 of 2020 & O.A No. 102 of 2021 was filed by the Petitioner before the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, to prevent mixing of sewage waste in the lake and restore the tank.
3. It is submitted that, to fulfil the order of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in W.P. No. 8028/2018 and order of Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A No. 102 of 2021 & O.A No. 02 of 2020 to restore the Velachery Tank, Biometric Survey was conducted by the Revenue Department and Greater Chennai Corporation with the co-ordination of Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board and Water

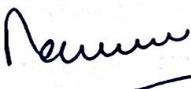

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Resources Department from 18.11.2024 to 25.11.2024 and as per the biometric survey, a total of 1016 encroachments were identified in which 962 Nos. are Residential Buildings and 54 Nos. are Commercial Building. Thereby, to carryout the eviction process, the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board has been requested to send the demand for resettlement of 962 encroachers identified. Hence, after the resettlement of the 962 families, necessary action for eviction of encroachment will be taken up by the WRD. Meanwhile, Form I & II have been requested from the Revenue Department for the newly identified 54 commercial encroachments. Thereby, on receipt of Form I & II from the Revenue Department, Form III will be issued to the encroachers and the commercial encroachments will be evicted following due procedure as per Law.

4. It is also submitted that, the Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) has proposed the work of **“Renovation of Velachery Lake”** at a project cost of **Rs. 23.50 Crore** under **“Lake Front Development Scheme”** by which the capacity of the tank will be increased by 22% over its present stage. In which, the proposal (part-1) for **“Park Creation”** at a cost of **Rs. 16.00 Crores** has been Commenced by the CMDA with necessary NOC from WRD. Subsequently, the proposal (part 2) for **“Capacity Enhancement”** by desilting has been proposed by the CMDA, for which the assessment study on volume of desilting has been requested from the Anna University. Hence, after the complete assessment study by the


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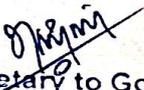

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Anna University, the process of Desilting will be carried out by the CMDA. In this proposal, approximately 2,47,000m³ quantity will be desilted, by which the Velachery Tank capacity will be enhanced to 8.70Mcft.

5. I humbly submit that as Long-Term Measures, a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Capacity Enhancement by deepening of the tanks surrounding the Velachery Tank such as Adambakkam Tank, Madippakkam Tank, Kilkattalai Tank, Moovarasampettai Tank, Narayanapuram Tank and Pallikkaranaik Tank is being prepared by the Water Resources Department as a part of Flood Mitigation Master Plan.

6. I humbly submit that presently as Short Term Measure, the water hyacinth, weeds and other vegetations in the Velachery Tank, Verangal Odai, Adambakkam Surplus Course and Kilkattalai Surplus Course were cleared and the silt were also removed under Pre-monsoon Preparedness Work -2024 at an estimated cost of Rs.95.00 Lakh. Accordingly, the same work will again be carried out during Pre-monsoon Preparedness Work - 2025, by removal of silt and floating materials to ensure the free flow of flood water during the peak floods.

7. It is also submitted that, a total extent of 160.86 Acres of lands in Vengatapuram village and Adyar Village of Guindy Taluk and in Velachery Village and Taluk, Chennai District which was leased to the Madras Race Club has now been retrieved by terminating the lease vide G.O (Ms.) No.


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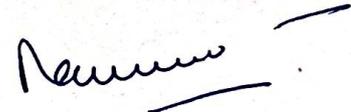
343, Revenue and Disaster Management (LD 2 (1))Department, Dated: 06.09.2024.

In G.O (Ms.) No. 371, Revenue and Disaster Management Department Land Disposal Wing, LD 4 (1) Section, Dated: 20.09.2024, the Government has transferred an extent of about 118.00 Acres of land (47.77.38 Hects.) to the Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops for establishing Public Horticultural Gardens, Public Green Spaces and Public utilities as mentioned below:-

.....11. The Government after careful examination of the proposal of the District Collector, Chennai and the recommendation of the Commissioner of Land Administration, have decided to accept the proposal and to transfer an extent of 118.00 Acres (47.77.38 ha) of land, of which 17.47.05 ha falls in Adyar Village, Guindy Taluk and 30.30.33 ha falls in Velachery Village and Taluk in Chennai District to Department of Horticulture and Plantation crops on free of cost as per usual terms and conditions under RSO 23A and the following conditions, in the larger public interest of the Citizens of Chennai City for the purpose of provisioning of Public Horticultural Gardens, Public Green Spaces and Public Utilities and issue orders accordingly.

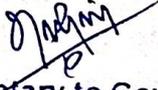
8. Subsequently, the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) has created four ponds in the lands which has been transferred to the Department of


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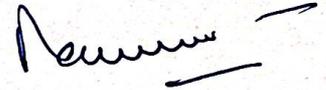

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Horticulture and Plantation Crops, on the upstream of Velachery Lake. By this creation of ponds, about 4.70MCFT water is being stored.

It is, therefore, prayed that the above status report may please be taken on file of this Original Application and pass appropriate further order as deemed fit in the facts and circumstances of the case and thus render justice.



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Water Resources Department
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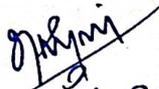
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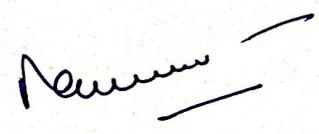
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2nd Respondent

VERIFICATION

I, Dr. K. Manivasan son of Kandasamy, Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Water Resources Department, Chennai-9, do verify that the submissions made in paragraphs 1 to 8 above are true to the best of my knowledge and from records and I verify this at Chennai on27th.....Day of January, 2025.


Special Secretary to Government
Water Resources Department
Secretariat, Chennai-600 009


Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Water Resources Department,
Secretariat, Chennai - 600 009.
2nd Respondent

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