

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
Original Application No.152 of 2023 (SZ)

In the matter of:

Thiru. Kumaresan Sooluran
Thiruvallur.

... Applicant(s)

Versus

The Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone
Management Authority,
Rep by its Member Secretary,
Chennai and ors.

...Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED BY 4TH RESPONDENT-
TAMILNADU STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY

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Through
Dr. D. Shanmuganathan
Standing Counsel for Government of Tamil Nadu
National Green Tribunal
Southern Zone, Chennai

DATE: 09.10.2025

BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 152 of 2023 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Kumaresan Sooluran

Aged about 44 Years,

Kathivakkam,

Ennore Thermal Station,

Thiruvallur-600057.

...Applicant(s)

-Vs-

The Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority,

Rep by its Member Secretary,

Chennai and others.

...Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED BY THE 4th RESPONDENT/MEMBER SECRETARY
TAMIL NADU STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY**

I, Srinivas R.Reddy, S/o Late T. Ramachandran Reddy, aged about 59 years, working as the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) and Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (FAC) at Panagal Maligai, Saidapet Chennai-600 015 do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows: -

1. It is respectfully submitted that I am the 4th respondent herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case on the basis of official records, and as such, authorized and competent to file this report.


Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and
Member Secretary
Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority
Chennai-15

2. It is respectfully submitted that pursuant to the directions of this Hon'ble Tribunal in O.A. No. 152 of 2023, dated 19.08.2025, regarding the removal of Charru Mussel (Kakka Azhi) infestation from Ennore Creek, the matter has been taken up with the concerned authorities. In this connection, it is submitted that the Water Resources Department has prepared a proposal amounting to approximately ₹90.00 Crores for undertaking dredging works for the removal of Charru Mussel in Ennore Creek. However, sanction and release of the said amount is still awaited. The Secretary to the Government, Water Resources Department, has already been reminded on several occasions, including through the communication dated 07.08.2025 from this office, to sanction and release the funds expeditiously, but the same is pending. (copy of the Letter enclosed as Annexure-1)
3. It is respectfully submitted that based on the direction, this office has written to the Additional Chief Secretary (Environment, Climate Change & Forests Department) requesting that the Chief Secretary may issue immediate directions to the Water Resources Department to sanction and release the required funds and the same was awaited. (copy of the Letter enclosed as Annexure-2)
4. It is respectfully submitted that this Authority assures this Hon'ble Tribunal that it is being continuously followed up with the concerned department to expedite the sanction, so that the dredging work can commence without further delay, in line with the Hon'ble Tribunal's directions.

I therefore humbly submitted that the above said fact may kindly be taken into consideration by this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ), Chennai and pass necessary orders as it deems fit and thus render justice.


DEPONENT

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and
Member Secretary
Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority
Chennai-15

VERIFICATION

I Srinivas R.Reddy, S/o Late T. Ramachandran Reddy the above named deponent do hereby verify that the contents of the above affidavit are true and correct on the basis of official record maintained by the respondent no.4, no part of it is false and nothing material has been concealed there from.

Verified at Chennai on this the 29th day Aug, 2025.


DEPONENT

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and
Member Secretary
Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority
Chennai-15

Time Bound / Most Urgent

தமிழ்நாடு மாநில ஈரநில ஆணையம்
TAMIL NADU STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY



From

To

Thiru.Srinivas R.Reddy, I.F.S..
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests
(HoFF) and Member Secretary,
Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (FAC),
Panagal Maaligai, Saidapet,
Chennai – 600 015.

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

Ref.No.TNSWA2/236/2024, Dated 07-08-2025

Sir,

Sub: Wetlands – Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission - Compliance with NGT (SZ) Order dated 29.08.2025 in O.A. No. 152 of 2023 - Immediate Sanction of Funds for Dredging work - Reg.

Ref: i.Order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) in O.A.No.152 of 2023, Dated 09.07.2025.

ii.Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) and Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (FAC) Ref.No. TNSWA2/ 236/2024, Dated 25.07.2025.

iii.Orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) in O.A.No.152 of 2023, dated: 29.07.2025

With reference to the above, it is stated that the Secretary to Government, Water Resources Department was requested for the early sanction of the funds of Rs.90 cr. for which the proposal was submitted for the dredging work to remove/eradicate the invasive Charru mussel in Ennore creek carried out by the Water Resources Department vide this Office reference cited (ii) above for the compliance of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) order in O.A.No.152 of 2023, dated 09.07.2025 vide reference cited (i) above. But the amount has not yet been sanctioned.

2) Further, the above case has taken up for hearing on 29.07.2025 and the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) has delivered the orders (copy enclosed) and active portion of the orders is as follows:

- The report of the Member Secretary – Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority states that of the 1.7 km dredging stretch, only 200 m is pending and it will be completed by the end of August 2025.
- A proposal for ₹ 90 Crores was prepared and submitted to the Secretary- Water Resources Department for necessary orders and once the funds are sanctioned, the dredging work will be started.
- The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal only express apprehension that the monsoon season is fast approaching, followed by the Assembly Elections, it would be appropriate for the Government authorities concerned to give their best attention and sanction the amount for carrying on the dredging work on a war footing. Any further delay would not only damage the ecosystem but also increase the cost.
- Let the matter be listed on 19.08.2025 for final hearing.

3) In compliance with the Hon'ble Tribunal's directions, it is requested that the necessary funds may kindly be sanctioned to enable immediate commencement of the dredging work in Ennore creek so as to file a status report in the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) before the next hearing i.e.19.08.2025. This may kindly be treated as most urgent and time-bound.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,

Digitally signed by

Srinivas R Reddy

Date: 07-08-2025

16:53:09

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF)

and Member Secretary

Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (FAC)

Copy to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department, Secretariat, Chennai – 09 for favor of kind information.

Copy to the Executive Engineer, Water Resources Department, Chepauk, Chennai – 05.



தமிழ்நாடு மாநில ஈரநில ஆணையம்
TAMIL NADU STATE WETLAND AUTHORITY



From

To

Thiru. Srinivas R.Reddy, I.F.S.
Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) to Government,
and Member Secretary,
Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (FAC),
Panagal Maaligal, Saidapet,
Chennai-600 015.

The Additional Chief Secretary
to Government,
Environment Climate Change
& Forest Department,
Secretariat,
Chennai-9.

Ref.No.TNSWA2/236/2024, Dated 26-08-2025

Sir,

Sub: Wetlands – Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission – Order of the Hon'ble NGT (SZ), dated 19.08.2025 in O.A. No. 152 of 2023 regarding removal of Charru Mussel (Kakka Azhi) from Ennore Creek - Regarding.

- Ref:
- Order of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) in O.A.No.152 of 2023, Dated 09.07.2025.
 - Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) and Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (FAC) Ref.No. TNSWA2/ 236/2024, Dated 25.07.2025.
 - Orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) in O.A.No.152 of 2023, dated: 29.07.2025.
 - Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF) and Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (FAC) Ref.No. TNSWA2/ 236/2024, Dated 07.08.2025.
 - Orders of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (SZ) in O.A.No.152 of 2023, dated: 19.08.2025. (Orders received on 25.08.2025)

With reference to the above, it is stated that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone), Chennai, has issued orders, Dated 19.08.2025 for the case in O.A. No. 152 of 2023 regarding the removal of Charru Mussel (Kakka Azhi) from Ennore Creek (copy enclosed). The active portion of the order is as follows:

"We accordingly direct the Chief Secretary to the Government of Tamil Nadu shall step into the matter and ensure sanction of the proposed funds at least in instalments so that the dredging work may be commenced without further delay

Post the matter on 01.09.2025 for final hearing"

2) In this regard, it is stated that the Water Resources Department

has informed during the meeting convened by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force) and Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (FAC) regarding the removal of Charru Mussel in Ennore Creek held on 23.07.2025, that a proposal for an amount of around Rs.90.00 Cr, has been prepared for the work of dredging to remove the Charru Mussel in the Ennore creek and the sanction is awaited (Minutes of the meeting is enclosed). Further, the Secretary to the Government, Water Resources Department was reminded to sanction and release the above amount vide reference cited (iv) above and it is still awaited.

3) In view of the above Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone), Chennai Order reference cited (v), it is requested that the Chief Secretary to the Government may kindly be requested to issue necessary directions to the Water Resources Department to sanction and release the amount immediately for the compliance of the above Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone), Chennai directions.

Encl.: As Above.

Yours faithfully,

Digitally signed by
SRINIVAS R REDDY
Date: 26-08-2025
15:10:22

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF)
and Member Secretary
Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (FAC)

Copy to the Secretary, Water Resources Department, Secretariat, Chennai for kind information.