

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 163 of 2023(SZ)

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based
on the news item in 'The New Indian Express'
Chennai Edition, Dt. 04.10.2023, under the caption
"Sewage & effluents pollute Kadapperi, Periya Eri Lakes"

... Applicant(s)

Versus

The Additional Chief Secretary to Govt,
PWD, Chennai and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

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Through

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

DATE: 09.09.2024

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

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 163 of 2023

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion - SUO MOTU based on the News item in The New Indian Express Newspaper, Chennai Edition dated 04.10.2023, "Sewage & effluents pollute Kadapperi, Periya Eri lakes".

AND

The Additional Chief Secretary to Government
PWD, Chennai and Ors.

.. Respondents

**STATUS REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE WATER RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT**

I, K.Selvakumar son of Kaliyaperumal aged 53 officiating as Executive Engineer, Water Resource Department, Lower Palar Basin Division, Kanchipuram and having my office at Collector Office Campus file this status report pursuant to the order dated 21.08.2024 made by this Hon'ble Tribunal in the Original Application herein.

2. I state that the Hon'ble Tribunal taken on file Original Application *suo motu* based on the news report published in the Indian Express, Chennai Edition dated 04.10.2023 about the pollution caused to the Kadapperi and Periya Eri Lakes and by the order dated 21.08.2024, this Hon'ble Tribunal had directed inter alia to file the reports of the Water Resources Department (WRD), Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department and the District Collector – Chengalpattu and the Original Application is listed on Board for hearing on 10.09.2024.

3. I state that It is stated that Kadapperi Tank in S.F.No.154/1 of Kadapperi Village in Tambaram Municipal Corporation of Chengalpattu District is having the water spread area in an extent of 24.26 Ha and its original ayacut is 44.25 Ha. This tank has lost its irrigation potential long back due to agglomeration of the Chennai City Corporation and serves only as an aquifer.

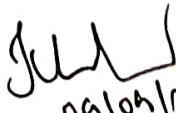
4. It is a tank maintained by the Water Resources Department. It is learnt that previously survey was made in the year 2009 and since 15 years have passed by now a fresh survey is to be made by the Survey Officials of the Revenue Department for which the Tahsildar has been addressed to make the survey and furnish the details of encroachments in Form I and II to the Assistant Engineer, WRD, Irrigation Section, Padappai as mandated in The Tamil Nadu Protection of Tank and Eviction of Encroachments Act/Rule 2007 for taking eviction proceedings.

5. I state further that the pollution caused to the tanks by letting sewage of the neighbour colonies which have been developed in course of time has to be addressed by the Tambaram Municipal Corporation and the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board since the allegation by one or two residents of the area is about the pollution of ground water in the neighbourhood due to the water stored in the tanks. These aspects ought to have been looked into by the Tambaram Municipality before approval of the lay out of the neighbourhood housing colonies and building plan submitted by the plot owners for approval.

6. I state that as far as the Water Resources Department is concerned, a massive and comprehensive proposal to rejuvenate the tanks including Kadapperi tank in Flood Mitigation Mitigation Scheme and the approval for the scheme and financial sanction are awaited from the Government. When once the proposals are implemented, the Kadapperi tank would be maintained as per the hydraulic parameters as designed originally with eviction of encroachments on receipt of the details in Form I and II as stated in paragraph 4 supra.

7. As far as Thiruneermalai tank is concerned, part of the polluted water from Kadapperi drains into this tank and the main reason for the pollution of the Thirneermalai tank is the letting of sewage water from the buildings constructed by the encroachers in this tank. Hence, this problem has to be addressed by the Tambaram Municipal Corporation by plugging the source of outlet from the encroached residences. The details of encroachments have to be furnished to the WRD by the Tahsildar, Tambaram after taking up the survey of the tank and furnish the details of encroachments in Form I and II of the Tamil Nadu Protection of Tank and Eviction of Encroachments Act/Rule 2007 for taking eviction proceedings by the Assistant Engineer. This tank is also included for rejuvenation in Flood Mitigation Mitigation Scheme and sanction thereon are awaited from the Government.

It is, therefore, prayed that the above status report may please 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.


09/05/24
**Executive Engineer., W.R.D.,
Lower Palar Basin Division,
Kanchipuram - 631 501.**