

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 194 of 2024 (SZ)

In the matter of:

**Suo Moto matter in respect of news item
appearing in The Times of India dated 19.02.2024
titled "Buckingham canal remains choked with
garbage, sewage".**

Versus

**Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB),
Through its Member Secretary, New Delhi and ors.**

...Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED BY THE 6TH RESPONDENT- WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT

INDEX

S. No.	Date	Description	Page No.
1	10.12.2024	Status Report Filed By The 6 th Respondent- Water Resources Department.	1-4

(Note: The page numbers are at the top centre of every page)



Through

Dr. D. Shanmuganathan

Standing Counsel of Tamil Nadu

National Green Tribunal

Southern Zone, Chennai

DATE:12.12.2024

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
Original Application No. 194 of 2024 (SZ)

In the matter of:

Suo Moto matter in respect of news item
appearing in The Times of India dated 19.02.2024
titled "Buckingham canal remains choked with
garbage, sewage".

Versus

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB),
Through its Member Secretary, New Delhi and ors.

...Respondent(s)

Report filed by the 6th Respondent

Status report on the "**The Times of India**" news dated February 19th 2024 for "Buckingham Canal remains choked with sewage" of OA 194 of 2024.

I, **Er. G.R. Radhakrishna**, son of **R.G. Ramalingam**, aged about 50 years and working as Executive Engineer, WRD, Araniyar Basin Division, Chepauk, Chennai-5 and having office at Chennai do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows.

2. It is respectfully submitted that, the pre-monsoon works are being carried out every year before the onset of North East monsoon from July to December. Removal of debris, garbages, floating matters such as plastic, thermocol, rubber and all types of soild waste are being removed to ensure the free flow of water in the Buckingham canal.

3. It is respectfully submitted that, the Buckingham Canal traverses the Chennai Metropolitan Area (CMA) parallel to the Coramandal coast. It has become an inseparable and vital canal for CMA drainage and flood mitigation purposes. The flood water from Triplicane, Mandaveli, Mylapore drains into Central Buckingham Canal and all the surplus from streams, tanks in South Chennai Metropolitan area drains into South Buckingham Canal. The surplus flood water from Purasaivakkam, Korukupet, Tondiarpet, Thiruvottiyur and Manali area drains into North Buckingham Canal. Those flood water carries lots of floating matters, plastics, solid wastes and vegetations. The solid wastes, floating matters and debris are completely removed time to time to avoid accumulation, stagnation and contamination and also choking of garbages and floating matters in the canal.

4. In order to restore and revive the Central Buckingham canal, Detailed Project Report formulation work is being entrusted to Tamilnadu Water Investment Company. Now, the Detailed Project Report under finalization stage. Based on the recommendations of TWIC, Water Resources Department will submit the proposal with respect to site specific condition to Government for initiating the intervention. Also, TWIC is entrusted with the work of excess land identification, along the Buckingham Canal, which are classified as water body. Also, under the co-ordination sphere of CRRT, TWIC is taking the work of identification of unauthorized sewer falls into Buckingham Canal. Based on the finding of TWIC, CMWSSB is taking necessary action to plug the unauthorized outfalls and formulating sewage Mitigation Plan. The cancellation of lease agreement of Buckingham Canal, WRD land at Hood Wharf, Walltax Road and C.B.Road near Basin Bridge has been issue on 02.05.2024 to the leases, in order to evict the commercial encroachments.


5. It is respectfully submitted that, the illegal sewage out falls, illegal dumping of garbages, solid waste & liquid waste and even throwing the house hold waste from the dwellings near by the Central Buckingham Canal at areas near Chepauk, Triplicane, Mandaveli and Mylapore has created lot of nuisance to

the public. These illegal activities were then and there raised as police complaint and even oral instruction are given to the dwellers residing along the banks of Central, North and South Buckingham Canal by the WRD officials in-charge. In this regard, line departments like Greater Chennai Corporation and Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewage Board are informed to take care of the dumping of solid and liquid waste into Buckingham Canal respectively.

6. It is further submitted that, now for the year 2024, Pre-monsoon works in Buckingham Canal has been commenced from July 2024 and still in progress. Almost 90% removal of garbages, debris and other floating materials have been completed and free flow of water in Buckingham canal is ensured. At present, the solid wastes and other floating matters getting accumulated are removed time to time based on requirements. The present status of Central Buckingham Canal near Chepauk MRTS has been enclosed as photographic evidence of work being carried out.

In the light of above, it is submitted that the implementation of restoration and rejuvenation of Buckingham Canal will bring an end to all problems and issues faced by the people residing near the Buckingham canal by ensuring aesthetic environment.


Solemnly affirmed and signed before me on 10th
December 2024 at Chennai.


**Executive Engineer, WRD.,
Araniyar Basin Division,
Chepauk, Chennai-5.**

Verification

I, Er. G.R.Radhakrishna, Executive Engineer, WRD., Araniyar Basin Division, Chepauk, Chennai-5 do hereby verify the contents of the above paragraph and true and correct on the basis of ground truth, no part of it is false and no material has been concealed there from.

Date:10.12.2024


**Executive Engineer, WRD.,
Araniyar Basin Division,
Chepauk, Chennai-5.**

View of Buckingham Canal at Chepauk MRTS towards Wallaja Road



View of Buckingham Canal at Chepauk MRTS towards Pycroffs Road

