

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI
ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO 247 of 2025 (SZ)

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion - SUO MOTU
based on the News item in The Dinamalar,
Chennai edition dated 09.11.2025, titled
“A huge flyover is being built in a forest area. Everything is mysterious!:
Government departments are spreading their hands saying „We don“t build it”.

Versus

The Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,
Chennai and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

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Through

Dr. D. Shanmuganathan

Standing Counsel for Government of Tamil Nadu

National Green Tribunal

Southern Zone, Chennai

DATE:06.04.2026

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And

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**STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE 6th RESPONDENT/DISTRICT
COLLECTOR, CHENGALPATTU**

I, D.Sneha, IAS, D/o Mr.K.M.Divakaran aged about 33 years
residing at the Collector's bungalow, Chengalpattu, discharging duties as
District Collector, Chengalpattu, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely
state as follows:-

1. It is respectfully submitted that this status report is filed in compliance with the directions issued by this Hon'ble Tribunal in O.A. No. 247 of 2025, vide order dated 01.12.2025, with regard to the issues raised concerning the construction of the High Level Bridge / Culvert at Unamancheri Village, Chengalpattu District.
2. It is respectfully submitted that this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to take suo motu cognizance of the issue relating to the construction of


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the High Level Bridge/Culvert at Unamancheri Village, based on a news report published in the newspaper Dinamalar, Chennai Edition, dated 09.11.2025 and the said matter was thereafter registered and taken on file as O.A. No. 247 of 2025, which came up for consideration before this Hon'ble Tribunal on 01.12.2025.

3. It is respectfully submitted that this Hon'ble Tribunal was pleased to issue notice to the Respondents and directed them to file their respective replies/reports and thereafter adjourned the matter to 23.01.2026.
4. In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that the subject project pertains to the construction of a High Level Bridge on the road running from the Chitheri Eri bund through the Periya Eri bund at Unamancheri Village, Kattankolathur Panchayat Union, Vandalur Taluk, which serves as an access road to the patta lands situated in the said village. It is submitted that both Chitheri Eri and Periya Eri are water bodies under the control and maintenance of the Water Resources Department. The said project has been undertaken to ensure uninterrupted connectivity to the agricultural lands, without affecting the natural flow of water into the Periya Eri and the surrounding catchment areas.
5. It is respectfully submitted that M/s. R.S. Enterprises, T. Nagar, Chennai, vide its letter dated 04.05.2023, had requested permission to undertake the above-said construction of a High Level Bridge with 100% public contribution. In addition, the Unamancheri Village Panchayat had also submitted a request seeking permission for the construction of the said High Level Bridge to facilitate access to the agricultural lands of the village. Consequent upon the said requests, the District Collector / Chairman, District Rural Development Agency, Chengalpattu, vide letter Roc.No. 1786/2020/A10 dated 18.05.2023, sought approval from the Water Resources Department for the construction of a minor bridge and culvert on the Unamancheri-Chitheri Eri bund road at Unamancheri Village, Vandalur Taluk,

Chengalpattu District, under the "Namaku Naamae Thittam" scheme with 100% public contribution by M/s. R.S. Enterprises, T. Nagar, Chennai. In the said letter, drawings for the proposed High Level Bridge / culvert work were also called for from the Water Resources Department.

6. In continuation thereof, the Executive Engineer, Water Resources Department, Lower Palar Basin, Kancheepuram District, submitted the No Objection Certificate (NOC) along with the approved drawings, incorporating hydrological particulars, for the construction of the bridge to the District Collector / Chairman, District Rural Development Agency, Chengalpattu, vide letter Lr.No. IVA1/Go.28/(Culvert-Unamancheri)/2022 dated 18.05.2023. In addition, the said department submitted the structural design and drawings of the High Level Bridge, which were scrutinized and approved by the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli.
7. In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that a No Objection Certificate was obtained from the District Forest Officer, Chennai Forest Division, vide letter Roc.No. 4622/2022/VA dated 09.11.2022, wherein it was certified that the proposed work site is situated outside the Reserve Forest area and that the execution of the work would not cause any disturbance to the Reserve Forest. Accordingly, the District Forest Officer recommended issuance of a No Objection Certificate to the Kattankolathur Panchayat Union, and the same was granted for the construction of the minor bridge and culvert, subject to stipulated conditions.
8. Based on the No Objection Certificate and approved hydrological drawings from the Water Resources Department, the No Objection Certificate from the District Forest Officer, Chennai Forest Division, certifying that the site is outside the Reserve Forest and the work will not affect forest land, and the recommendation of the Block Development Officer, Kattankolathur, the District Collector /

10/05/2023
11/05/2023


**District Collector
Chengalpattu.**

Chairman, District Rural Development Agency, Chengalpattu District, vide Proc.No. 1786/2022/A10 dated 22.01.2024, accorded permission to M/s. R.S. Enterprises, T. Nagar, Chennai, to carry out the High Level Bridge construction with 100% contribution under the Corporate Social Responsibility scheme, subject to WRD conditions.

9. It is respectfully submitted that the said work of constructing the High Level Bridge by M/s. R.S. Enterprises, T. Nagar, Chennai, is being carried out under the continued supervision of the Block Development Officer, Kattankolathur, and officials from the Water Resources Department, in accordance with the approved drawings, hydrological specifications, and the conditions stipulated by the concerned departments.
10. It is respectfully submitted that, lastly, a joint inspection of the project site was conducted on 20.11.2025 at about 11:30 a.m. The inspection was carried out by the Executive Engineer and Assistant Engineer of the Water Resources Department, the Assistant Executive Engineer and Assistant Engineer of the Rural Development Department along with the liaison Head and Consultant Manager of M/s. R.S. Enterprises, T. Nagar. During the inspection, the team examined and verified the physical status of the structure, its conformity with the approved plans and technical specifications, and compliance.
11. It is respectfully submitted that, based on the joint inspection, the team submitted an inspection report on 20.11.2025. The report recorded that the High Level Bridge constructed by M/s. R.S. Enterprises, T. Nagar, Chennai, conforms to the dimensions and specifications as per the approved drawings provided by the Water Resources Department, and that the structural integrity of the said bridge needs to be verified through appropriate tests, such as the "Rebound Hammer Test," as recommended by the Water Resources Department.


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12. It is respectfully submitted that the executing agency, M/s. R.S. Enterprises, in its letter dated 22.01.2026, has reported that the work has been executed satisfactorily and in compliance with all conditions mentioned in the CSR sanction order. The construction of the High Level RCC Bridge has been successfully completed, is fit for public use, and is already being utilized by the general public.

13. It is respectfully submitted that prior to the commencement of the work, all requisite No Objection Certificates (NOCs) and statutory approvals were duly obtained from the competent authorities. It is further submitted that the project does not fall within any prohibited or restricted category of activities under the prevailing environmental laws, rules and regulations. The conditions stipulated in the said approvals and permissions have been duly complied with by the executing agency and periodic supervision and monitoring of the project have been carried out by the field-level officials of the concerned departments.

In view of the facts and circumstances stated above it is respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to take the present status report on record and pass such further or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the interest of justice, equity, and environmental protection.

Solemnly affirmed at Chengalpattu on
this the ^{10TH} day of January 2026
and signed in my presence.


District Collector
Chengalpattu.

Before Me
Mokuna Tamilmozhi
(4437/2024)
No.4, Law officers chambers,
Madras High Court, ch-104

