

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,  
SOUTHERN BENCH AT CHENNAI**

**Original Application No.253 of 2025**

1. Mr.Thandapani K M
  2. Mr.S.Sekar
  3. Mr.Manimuthavan Raju
  4. Mr.Murugesan
- : Applicants

Vs.

1. The Commissioner  
Bhavani Municipality  
And 6 Others
- : Respondents

**INDEX TO TYPESET OF DOCUMENTS**

S.No.	Particulars	Page Nos.
1.	Memo dated 19.02.2026 on behalf of Applicants, regards the status of Bhavani Municipality's Application wrt construction of STP and FSTP as well as on permissions granted by TNPCB for such construction.	<b>01 - 02</b>
2.	<b><u>ANNEXURE – 11:</u></b> Copy of Reply Letter from Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board dated 03.02.2026 addressed to the 1 <sup>st</sup> Applicant, on the basis of the Applicant's RTI Petition dated 07.01.2026, along with Inspection Report dated 21.11.2025 and Guidelines for siting Sewage Treatment Plant issued by TNPCB to all Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Town Panchayats, under Circular dated 23.10.2008.	<b>03 - 11</b>
3.	<b><u>ANNEXURE – 2:</u></b> 17 Photographs displaying the current status of Construction in the Proposed Site at Town Survey No.4, Block No.8, Ward No.12, Devapuram, Bhavani Taluk, Erode District.	<b>12 – 28</b>

Certified that the above documents are true copy of the Originals.

Dated at Chennai on this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

*Deepali*

**COUNSELS FOR APPLICANTS**

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL,  
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**Original Application No.253 of 2025**

- |  |     |               |
|--|-----|---------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr.Thandapani K M</li> <li>2. Mr.S.Sekar</li> <li>3. Mr.Manimuthavan Raju</li> <li>4. Mr.Murugesan</li> </ol>  | Vs. | : Applicants  |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Commissioner<br/>Bhavani Municipality</li> <li>2. The District Collector<br/>Erode District.</li> <li>3. The District Environment Engineer<br/>Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,</li> <li>4. The Chairman<br/>Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board,</li> <li>5. Government of Tamil Nadu<br/>Rep. by its Principal Secretary,<br/>Revenue Department</li> <li>6. Government of Tamil Nadu<br/>Department of Environment, Climate Change<br/>And Forest Department,<br/>Rep. by its Principal Secretary</li> <li>7. The Director of Municipal Administration</li> </ol> |     | : Respondents |

**MEMO ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANTS**

It is humbly submitted on behalf of the Applicants as follows:

1. That pursuant to the hearing dated 18.12.2025, in the above O.A.No.253/2025 filed by the Applicants, seeking a Direction against the construction of the Proposed Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) near the Banks of River Cauvery in Bhavani Town, the 1<sup>st</sup> Applicant duly submitted his Petition dated 07.01.2026 for details and documents to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Respondent.

2. That the 3<sup>rd</sup> Respondent has duly acknowledged the receipt of the 1<sup>st</sup> Applicant's RTI Petition on 08.01.2026.
3. That post the hearing on 02.02.2026, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Respondent Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Perundurai, has by their Reply in Letter No.F.No.125/DEE/TNPCB/PND/RTI-003/2026 dated 03.02.2026, furnished the requirements of the 1<sup>st</sup> Applicant. On a perusal of TNPCB's Reply, it is noted that the Application initially filed on 14.05.2025 by the 1<sup>st</sup> Respondent seeking permission for construction of STP cum FSTP, was returned on 26.05.2025 for want of additional particulars and the same has not been complied till dated by the 1<sup>st</sup> Respondent. Further, the Reply confirms that there are no Clearance Certificate / Permission / No Objection Certificate issued by 3<sup>rd</sup> Respondent to the 1<sup>st</sup> Respondent for the establishment of STP during the years from 2023 to 2025. Moreso, the Inspection Report dated 21.11.2025 annexed to the TNPCB Reply, confirms that prior Consent to Establish (CTE) of the Borad has not been obtained by the 1<sup>st</sup> Respondent, that the proposed STP site is located very near to River Bhavani at a distance of app.5m – 10m, that the 1<sup>st</sup> Respondent has not obtained the NOC from the Water Resources Department for the discharge of treated sewage into River Bhavani and that there is an approval on 02.12.2025 by the District Environment Engineer for issue of Show Cause Notice to the Unit of M/s.Bhavani Municipality Sewage Treatment Plant, for the violations under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981. Copy of the TNPCB's Reply dated 03.02.2026 along with the Inspection Report dated 21.11.2025 and the Guidelines for siting Sewage Treatment Plant issued by TNPCB to all Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Town Panchayats, under Circular dated 23.10.2008, are collectively produced herewith as **ANNEXURE 11**.
4. That the current status of Construction in the Proposed Site is displayed by virtue of the 17 Photographs, produced herewith as **ANNEXURE 12**.

Dated at Chennai on this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026

*Deepali*

**COUNSEL FOR APPLICANTS**



RPAD

**TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**

<b>From</b> Er. C. Vanaja, M.E., The Public Information Officer/ Public Information Officer & District Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Plot No: J-2(W), SIPCOT Industrial Growth Centre, Perundurai – 638052 Erode District.	<b>To</b> Thiru. Thandapani, (9842181506) S/o. Malaiyappan, 100F. Off-BSNL office, Devapuram, Bhavani Erode District - 638301
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**Letter No. F.No.125/DEE/TNPCB/PND/RTI-003/2026 Dated. 03.02.2026**

**Sir,**

Sub : O/o. DEE, TNPC Board, Perundurai – Public Information Officer – Right to Information Act, 2005 – Information – Furnished – Reg.

Ref : Your RTI Petition Dated 07.01.2026 received in this office on 08.01.2026

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With reference to the RTI Petition cited above, I furnish the following particulars under RTI Act, 2005 pertaining to O/o. DEE/TNPCB/Perundurai.

Sl. No	Information Sought	Reply furnished
1.	Kindly provide me the application details applied by the Bhavani Municipality for constructions of STP cum FSTP i.e date of application.	M/s. Bhavani Municipality Sewage Treatment Plant - CTE New applied on 14.05.2025.
2.	Kindly provide me the status of the application applied by the Bhavani Municipality for constructions of STP cum FSTP whether the permission is granted by TNPCB for constructions of STP cum FSTP	Application returned on 26.05.2025 for want of additional particulars and the municipality has not resubmitted the application yet.
3.	Kindly provide copies of the Clearance Certificate / Permission / No Objection Certificate (NOS) issued by your office to Bhavani Municipality, Erode District for the establishment of a Sewage Water Treatment Plant during the years 2023 to 2025.	No Such information are available in this office files & records
3.	Furnish details of any inspections conducted by your office pertaining to the sewage water treatment plant located within Bhavani Municipality, Erode District, including dates and findings.	The details of information are covered in 3 pages. Copy enclosed.
4.	Provide a copy of the rules, regulations, and conditions prescribed for the establishment of sewage water treatment plants under your jurisdiction.	The details of information are covered in 2 pages. Copy enclosed.

In case you intend to prefer an appeal, as per Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, you may do so to the following Appellate Authority, within 30 days of the receipt of this letter.

**Address of the Appellate Authority:** The Appellate Authority (Right to Information Act-2005), Tamilnadu Pollution Control Board, 76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai- 600 032. Office: 044-22353146, 22353143 Email:rtisec@tnpcb.gov.in

*08.2.2026*  
Public Information Officer/  
District Environmental Engineer  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board  
Perundurai

*3/2/26*



**TAMILNADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD**  
**INSPECTION REPORT**

1.	Name and Designation of the Inspecting Officer	:	Vishnu Bala B, AE
2.	Date of Inspection	:	21-11-2025
3.	Name and address of the Industry	:	<b>M/s. Bhavani Municipality STP cum FSTP,</b> S.F.No. 763/3 (Part), Bhavani Village, Bhavani Taluk, Erode District – 638 301.
4.	Name of the Occupier of the Industry	:	Mr. Dileepan – Municipal Engineer
5.	Name of the Official of the Industry present at the time of Inspection	:	Mr. Dileepan – Municipal Engineer
6.	Activity carried out by the industry/ products manufactured	:	1081 – Sewage Treatment Plant
7.	Sewage in KLD	:	-
8.	Trade effluent in KLD	:	No trade effluent is generated from the unit.
9.	Details of point source emission if any	:	-
10.	Whether the unit applied for consent	:	Yes, the unit has applied for Consent to Establish (CTE) vide OCMMS Application No. 64625889 Dated: 14-05-2025. The application was returned to the unit on 22-05-2025 for want of particulars. The unit has not resubmitted the application so far.
11.	Any other information		

The Bhavani Municipality in the name of M/s. Bhavani Municipality Sewage Treatment Plant located at S.F.No. 763/3 (Part), Bhavani Village, Bhavani Taluk, Erode District vide OCMMS application No. 64625889 Dated: 14-05-2025 has applied for Consent to Establish for establishing the Sewage Treatment Plant alone. The application after scrutiny was returned to the unit on 22-05-2025 for the want of necessary particulars and corrections in the application.

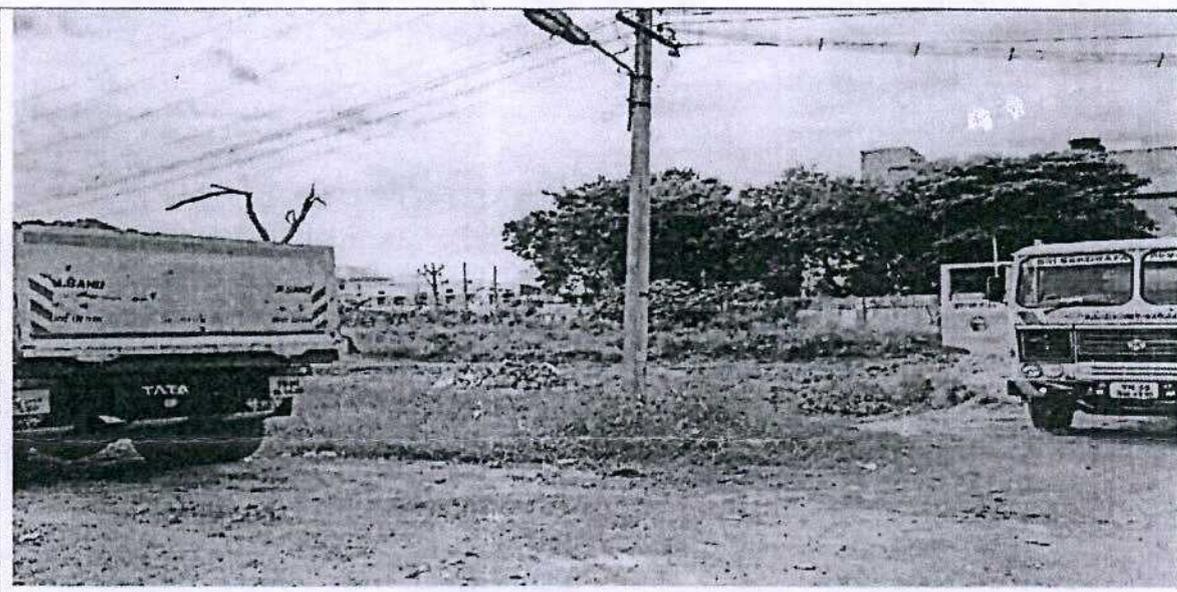
Subsequently, a Public complaint dated: 16.07.2025 was received against the Bhavani Municipality over the proposed Sewage Treatment Plant which is likely to establish in Graveyard land and is located nearby residential areas, which would cause health issues to the general public. Based on that, it was instructed to the Commissioner, Bhavani Municipality vide this office letter dated: 23.07.2025 to establish the Sewage Treatment Plant as per the Siting Criteria for Sewage Treatment Plants issued by TNPCB vide Circular Memo No. T16/25323/STP/Orange/2007-4, dated 23.10.2008 and apply for the consent of the Board.

In this regard, the site was inspected as a follow-up action by the AE, TNPCB, Perundurai on 21.11.2025 in the presence of the Municipal Engineer, Bhavani Municipality. During the inspection, the following were observed:

05/12/25

excavation work) for the establishment of the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) cum Fecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) without obtaining prior Consent to Establish (CTE) of the Board.

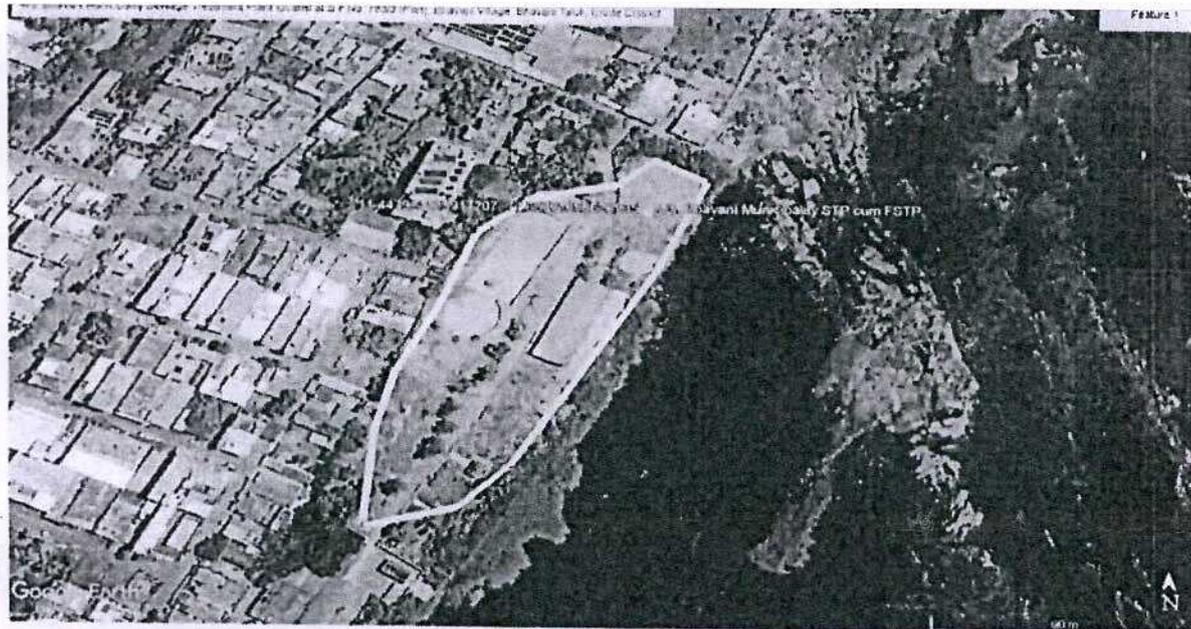
2. The proposed STP site is located very near to River Bhavani at a distance of approximately 5m – 10m from River Bhavani.
3. Bhavani Municipality representative has reported that currently, Bhavani area has 47 Nos. of sewage outfalls from where the untreated sewage discharged into river Bhavani.
4. Bhavani Municipality representative has further added that the Municipality has proposed to construct STP cum FSTP with a capacity of 4MLD for the treatment and disposal of septage water and sewage water generated from the general public, commercial establishments, etc., and the treated water is proposed to discharge on River Bhavani.
5. The Municipality has not yet obtained the NOC from the Water Resources Department (WRD) for the discharge of treated sewage into River Bhavani.
6. The photographs taken during the inspection of the proposed site of M/s. Bhavani Municipality STP cum FSTP, S.F.No. 763/3 (Part), Bhavani Village, Bhavani Taluk, Erode District on 21.11.2025 are as follows.



1. View of the Lorries involved in Earthen work at the proposed site



2. View of the Excavated soil of the Earthen work at the proposed site



3. View of the location of M/s. Bhavani Municipality STP cum FSTP (Google Earth)

**Order A:**

For the above mentioned violations, it is submitted for orders whether issue of show cause notice to the unit of M/s. Bhavani Municipality Sewage Treatment Plant, S.F.No. 763/3 (Part), Bhavani Village, Bhavani Taluk, Erode District under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 as amended and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 as amended.

*[Signature]*  
21/12/15  
Assistant Engineer

**Remarks of DEE:**

'A' is approved.  
Put up SCN.

*[Signature]*  
02/12/2015  
DEE/TNPCB/Perundurai



## TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

Circular Memo No. T 16 / 25323 / STP / Orange / 2007 - 4 dated 23.10.2008

Sub: TNPCB - Local Bodies - Guidelines for siting sewage treatment plant - Reg.

TNPCB had issued direction to all the Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Town Panchayats to provide sewerage system with sewage treatment plant for proper collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of sewage. Corporations and Municipalities are in the process of implementing underground sewerage scheme and Sewage Treatment Plant. But still the Town Panchayats are yet to implement underground sewerage scheme with STP. It is found that untreated domestic sewage continues to pollute the water bodies in several areas of the State. In this connection you are directed to take suitable action for proper collection, treatment and disposal of domestic sewage from the local bodies in your jurisdiction. A guideline for siting sewage treatment plant is sent here with. The said guideline shall be followed for establishing STP.

Encl: As above

Sd/..  
R.Ramachandran  
Member Secretary

To  
All the DEE / AEE heading the District  
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board

  
For Member Secretary

Copy to  
PA to Chairman & MS  
ACEE, JCEEs in Head office  
All AEEs and AEs in Head office.

76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY, CHENNAI - 600 032.  
Tel : 22353134, 22353135, 22353136, 22353137, 22353138, 22353139, 22353140, 22353141  
Fax : 044 - 22353068

Sewage Treatment Plant siting criteria – Guidelines

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1. The STP site should be at least 250 metres away from any lake or pond preferably in the down stream side of lake or pond so that the sewage shall not reach the water bodies.
2. The STP site should be located more than at least 250 metres away from river or stream and shall ensure that the treated / untreated sewage should not reach the above water sources.
3. The STP site should be located at least 500 metres away from a notified habitated area and zone of 100 metres around STP site boundary should be declared as no-development zone so that green belt can be developed in that area.
4. The STP site should be at least 500 metres away from a public utility area such as park, temple, educational institution etc.,
5. The site of STP should be selected on dry lands and the treated sewage shall be utilized on land for irrigation.
6. The local body shall also ensure that the land availability and consent from the land owners for the disposal of treated sewage, which should be mentioned at the time of application for NOC itself.
7. In case of disposal of treated sewage into marine water bodies, the local body shall obtain CRZ clearance and this should be submitted along with NOC application.
8. The local body shall obtain appropriate land use certificate from DTCP for STP site.
9. The local body shall consider the treatment technology while selecting the site in respect of extent of land. Advanced treatment technology will require less footprint area in order to meet the inland surface water standards prescribed of the TNPCB.
10. A preliminary assessment of public / nearby residents opinion neighboring the location of STP site is essential.

Sd/..  
 R.Balakrishnan, IAS  
 Chairman

*R. Balakrishnan*  
 for Chairman 20/10/04

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TO :

(17)

Thiru. Thandapani (9842181506),  
S/o. Malaiyappan,  
100F. OFF - BSNL office,  
Devapuram,  
Bhavani,  
Erode District - 638301

Office of the  
District Environmental Engineer,  
Tamil nadu Pollution Control Board,  
Plot No : J-2(W)  
SIPCOT Industrial Growth Centre,  
Olappalayam (Po), Perundurai - 638 052.  
Erode District.

Perundurai SO 638052

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Base Amt: 57.00

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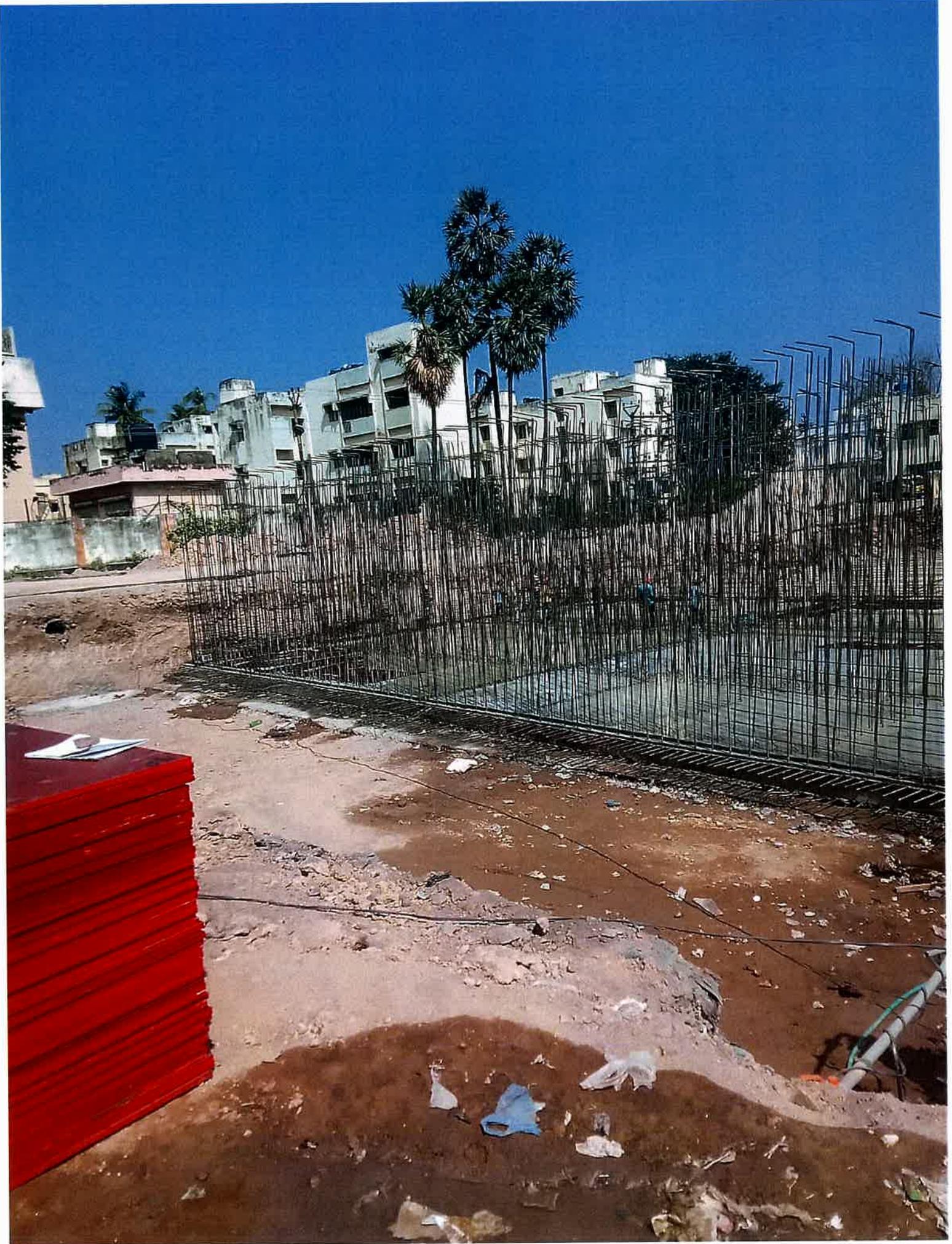
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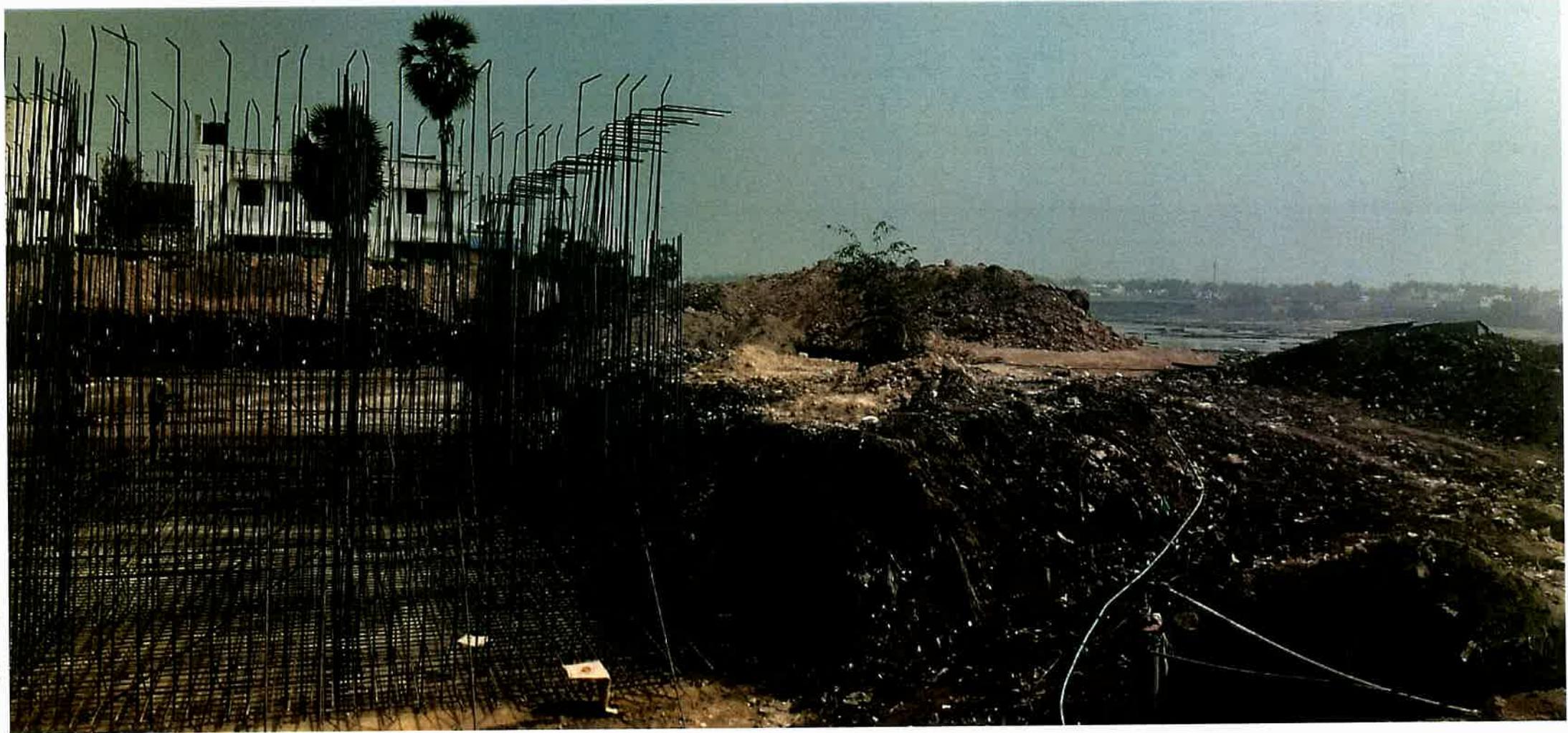


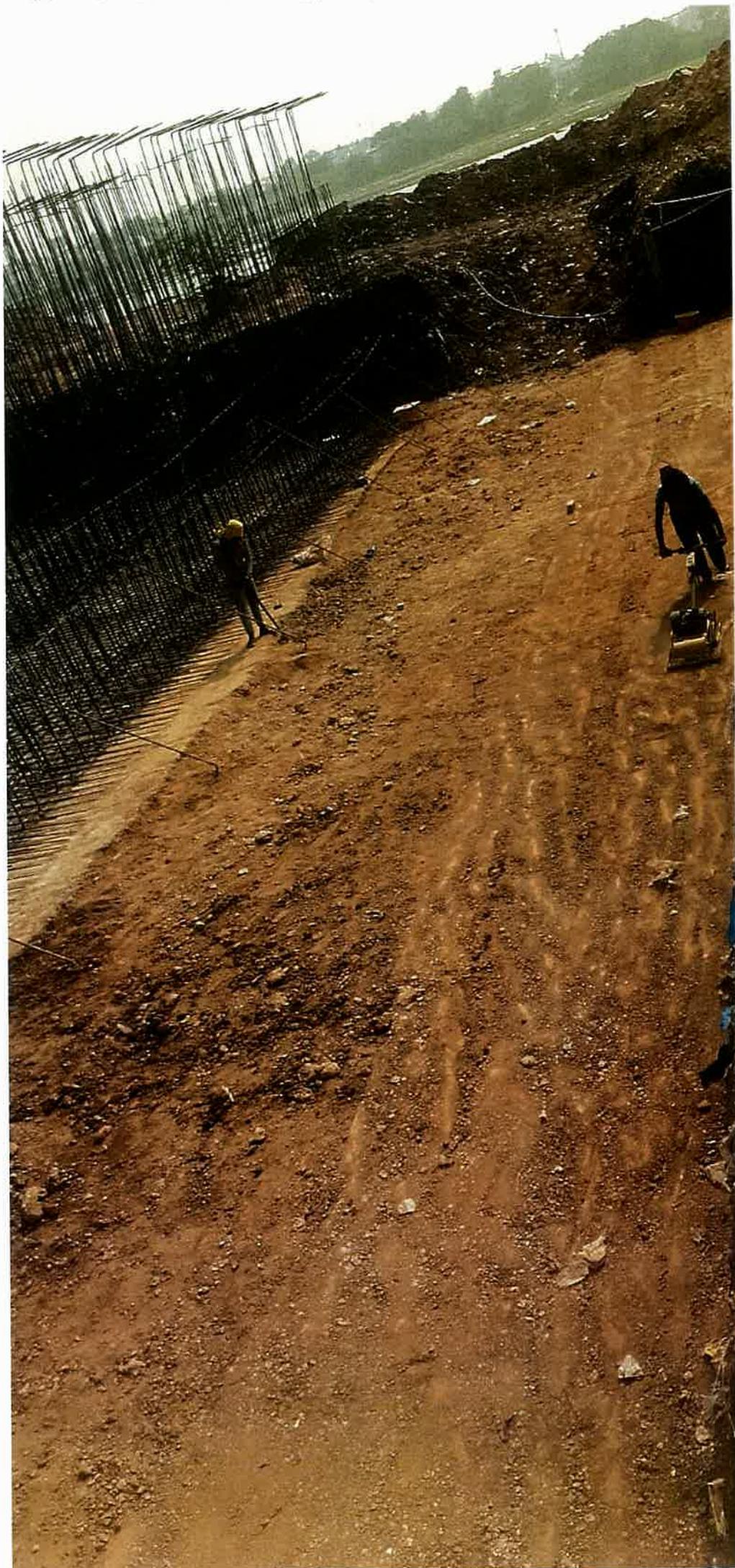


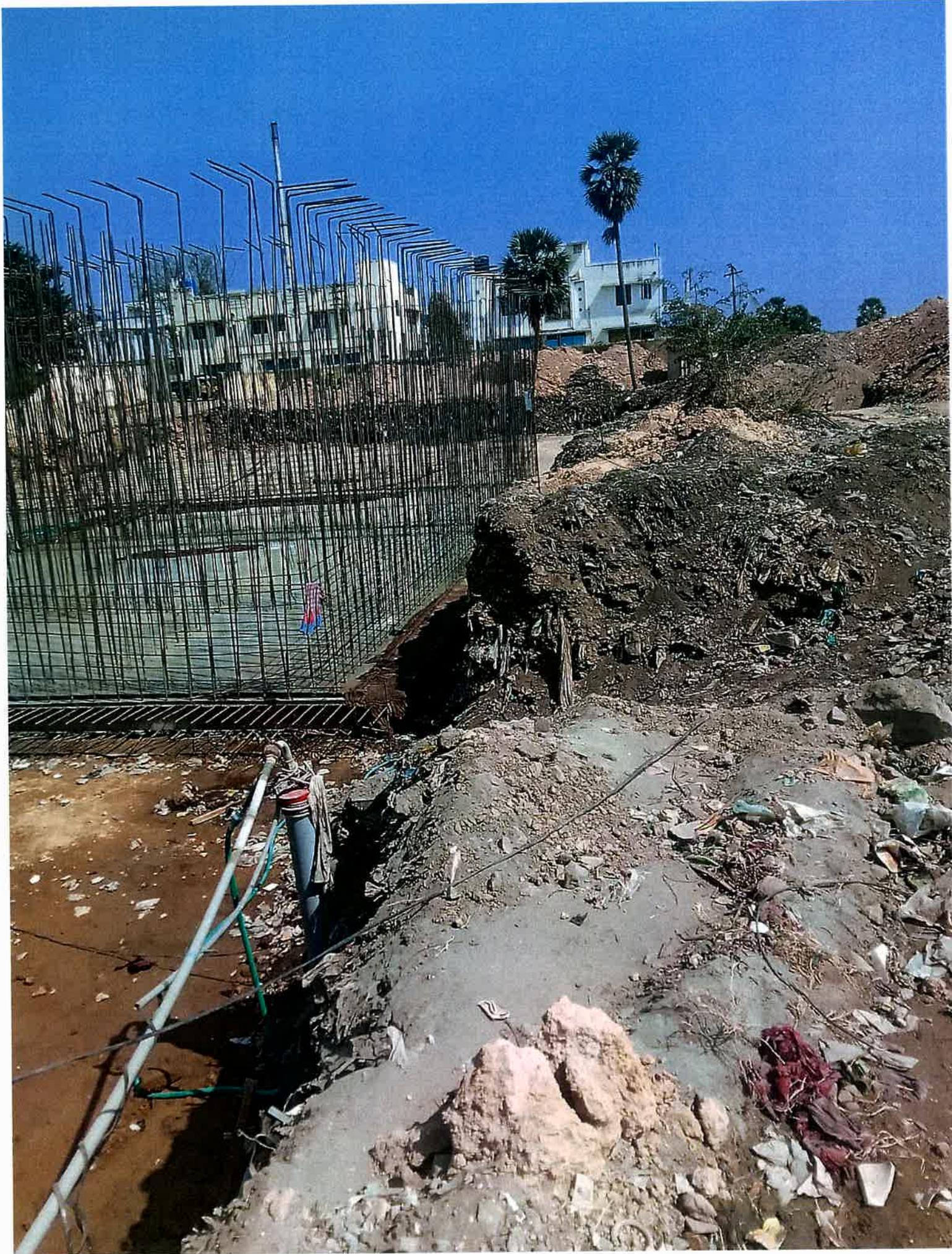










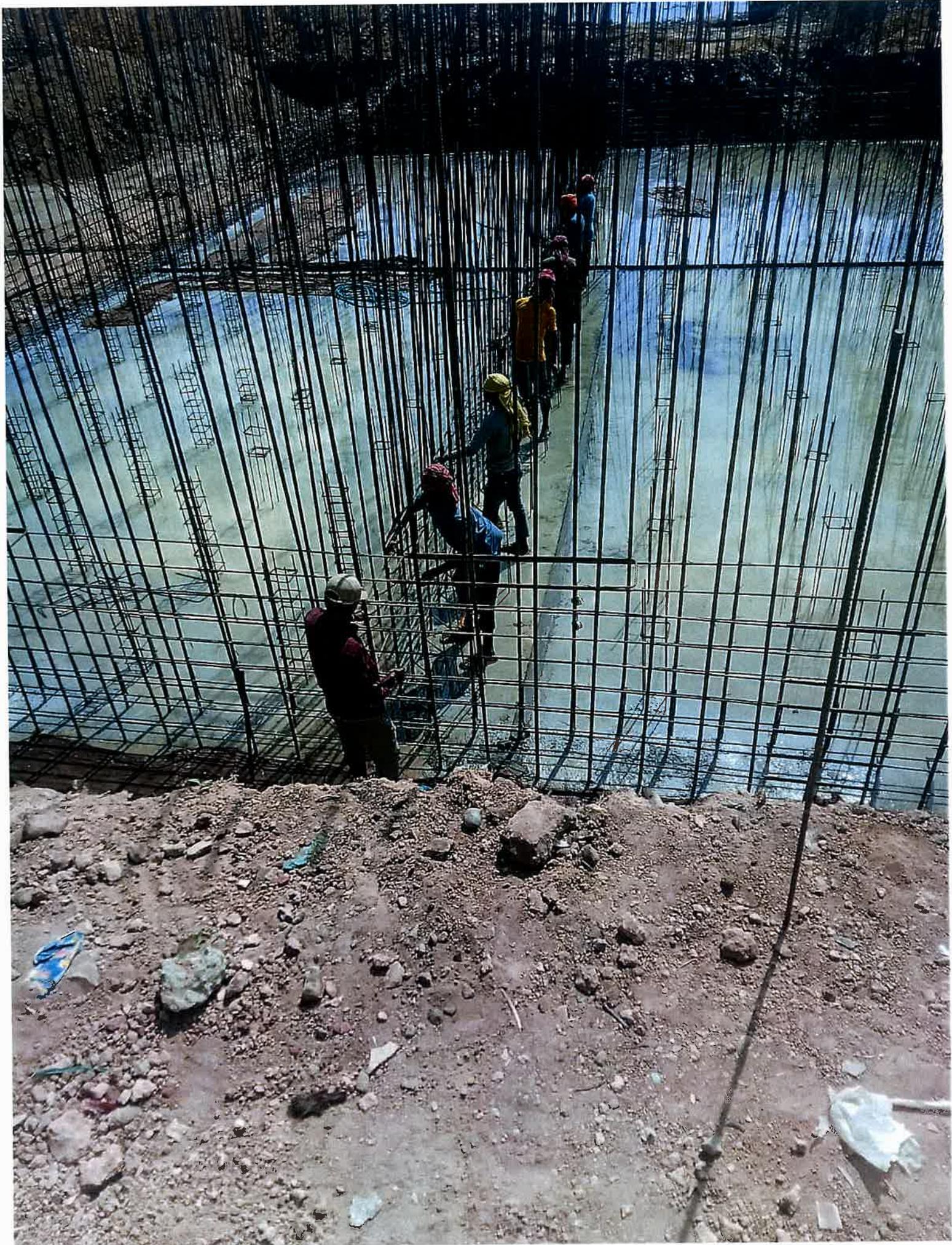














**IN THE HON'BLE NGT AT CHENNAI**

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**MEMO ON BEHALF OF  
APPLICANTS**

**M/s.B.DHANARAJ  
K.THANGAVEL  
PARVATHI K  
DEEPA MARIAPPAN  
MOHAMMED UMAR K  
SANGAMITHRA LOGANATHAN**

**COUNSEL(S) FOR APPLICANTS**

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