

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL

SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No. 295 of 2024 (SZ)

In the matter of:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the News item published in The Hindu, dated: 08-09-2024, under the caption "Lakes developed under Smart Cities Initiative in Coimbatore turn dumping grounds for plastic waste".

Versus

Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation,
Through its Commissioner,
Coimbatore and Ors.

...Respondent(s)

**REPORT FILED BY 4TH RESPONDENT - DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
COIMBATORE**

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Through

Dr. D. Shanmuganathan

Standing Counsel of Tamil Nadu

National Green Tribunal

Southern Zone, Chennai

DATE:06.03.2025

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

Original Application as 295 of 2024 (SZ)
(Earlier O.A.No. 1186 of 2024 (PB))

IN THE MATTER OF

Tribunal on its own motion SUOMOTU based on the – News item published in the THE HINDU, dated 08.09.2024 under the caption –“Lakes developed under Smart Cities Initiatives in Coimbatore turn dumping grounds for plastic waste”

And

Coimbatore City Municipal, Corporation, Through its Commissioner, Coimbatore and Ors.

---Respondents

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE FOURTH RESPONDENT
DISTRICT MAGISTRATE AND DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
COIMBATORE.**

I, Pavankumar G. Giryappanavar I.A.S., S/o Gajanana Giryappanavar aged about 32 years having office at District Collector's Office, Coimbatore do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows.


**DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
COIMBATORE.**

1. I am the District Magistrate and District Collector, Coimbatore and the 4th respondent herein and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of this case from the records maintained therein and filing this status report on behalf of the District Administration.

2) I state that in view of the challenges posed by non-biodegradable waste accumulation particularly in Urban Water bodies, the Coimbatore Corporation has adopted a multi pronged approach to address the issue. Under the Coimbatore Smart City Initiative, eight historic lakes have been rejuvenated to enhance urban living and restore ecological balance and the lakes are:

1) Periyakulam lake, 2) Krishnampathi Lake, 3) Selvampathy lake, 4) Kumarasamy lake, 5) Selva chinthamani Lake, 6) Valankulam Lake and 7) Narasampathy Lake and 8) Singanallur Lake Efforts are being taken to transform the lakes from a polluted state into recreational space by providing walking track, Children's Park and the likes by rejuvenation and restoration.

3. Among the above lakes, Krishampathy Lake a vital water body in Ward 75 of the West Zone has been at the center of the Coimbatore Municipal Corporations conservation efforts. To maintain the cleanliness of the lake, the Corporation has deployed dedicated staff responsible for daily monitoring and cleaning operations.



**DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
COIMBATORE.**

These teams ensure timely removal of waste, both biodegradable non biodegradable, thus preventing pollutants from entering the water body. Supervisory staff also conduct regular inspection to assess the effect effectiveness of cleaning efforts and address any challenge. Since public co-operation is an integral part in the mission, to educate the public, informative sign board and posters have been strategically placed around the lakes, besides the Corporation has utilized social media platform and organized community event to amplify the messages to reach a broader audience. The Coimbatore Corporation has also implemented strict penalties for individuals and organizations caught dumping waste in and around the lakes. Eateries and commercial establishments operating near the lakes have been advised to transition from plastic to bio-degradable alternatives and is being implemented in phases and sufficient times has been allowed to get adapted. Proposals to introduce drinking water kiosks around the lake are, under consideration and also buy back schemes for used plastic bottles to encourage recycling and minimize waste accumulation.

4. The Corporation's efforts to conserve Krishnampathy lake demonstrate a balanced approach that combines strict enforcement with community engagement. The officials of TNPCB, Coimbatore inspects the lakes where used packaged drinking water bottles,

DISTRICT COLLECTOR
COIMBATORE


**DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
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plastic food wrappers, polythene carry bags were being discarded in and around the Kurichikulam, Periyakulam, Valankulam Lakes and Selvachinthamani lake and the it was reported to the Corporation authorities, who have taken the above mentioned measures to curb the irresponsible waste disposals around the lakes. These measures have proven effective in deterring littering with fewer incidents of unauthorized dumping reported in recent months. In this regard, the Corporation has taken targeted steps to create a plastic free Zone around the water bodies to enhance its ecological health.

5. The District Collector acts as a bridge between Government Policies and ground - level implementation, ensuring that lakes and water bodies remain clean protected from pollution, with responsibilities such as enforcing Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 and Environmental Protection Act 1986, ensuring compliance with National Green Tribunal and State Pollution Control Board directives, coordinating with local Municipal bodies, Panchayats creating public awareness and community involvement with long term sustainability. In this context, the 4th respondent / The Collector of Coimbatore District is closely monitoring the efforts taken by the Coimbatore Corporation in the issue. As far as Krishnampathi Tank is concerned it is located in S.F. No.


**DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
COIMBATORE.**

297/A/2A1 with an extent of 16.94.70 Hectare in Telungupalayam Village of Coimbatore North Taluk.

6. Apart from the Krishnampathy Lake there are 7 other Tanks/Lakes are located in the Noyyal River systems (Interconnected by canals) within the City Limits of the Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation namely, 1) Narasampathy Tank, 2)Selvampathy tank, 3) Kumarasamy Tank (Muthankulam) 4) Selvachinthamani Tank, 5) Coimbatore Big Tank, 6) Valankulam Tank and 7) Singanallur Tank. These tanks were taken possession by the Coimbatore Corporation from Public Works Department, Coimbatore on 28.01.2010 under a long term Lease agreement for a period of 90 years with a lease amount of Rs. 100/- per Tank per annum as per G.O.Ms. No. 257 M.A & WS(MA2) Department, Dated 29.12.2009 for carrying and repairs, improvements, Restoration, Rejuvenation, modernization and maintenance. Based on this, the above Tanks/Lakes were rejuvenated under the Smart City Initiatives, with the participation of NGO's. The 4th respondent / the Collector of Coimbatore is conducting regular inspections during the course of his visits in the area, with the coordination of Corporation authorities ensuring strict implementation of disposal of waste accumulation and also reviewing the works done. These measures also require continued public support to ensure, not only


**DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
COIMBATORE.**

Krishnampathy Lake but also other lakes mentioned above to maintain a clean and sustainable resource for generative to come.

It is therefore, humbly prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to accept this report on record and close the Original Application No, 295 of 2024 (SZ) or pass such further or other orders as may deem fit and proper and thus render justice.

Solemnly affirmed at Coimbatore,
on this 5th day of March 2025
and signed his name in my
presence.


**DISTRICT COLLECTOR,
COIMBATORE.**

DISTRICT COLLECTOR
COIMBATORE

NARASAMPATHI LAKE



Current Status



KRISHNAMPATHI LAKE



← **Current Status**

SELVAMPATHI LAKE



Current Status



KUMARASAMY LAKE

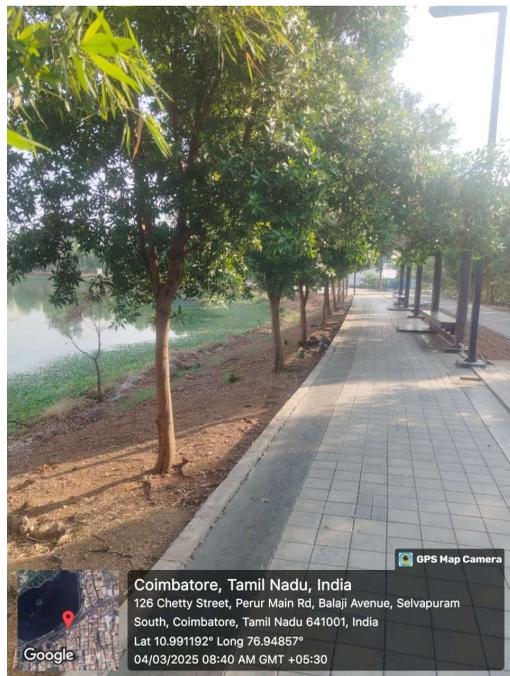


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11

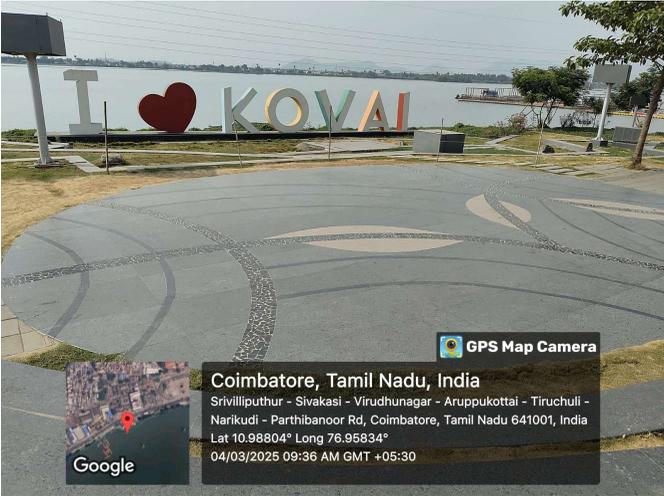
SELVA CHINTHAMANI LAKE



Current Status



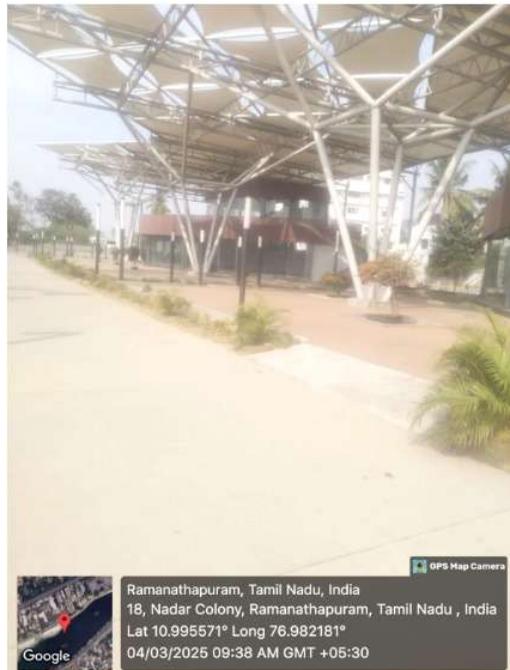
PERIYAKULAM LAKE



← **Current Status**



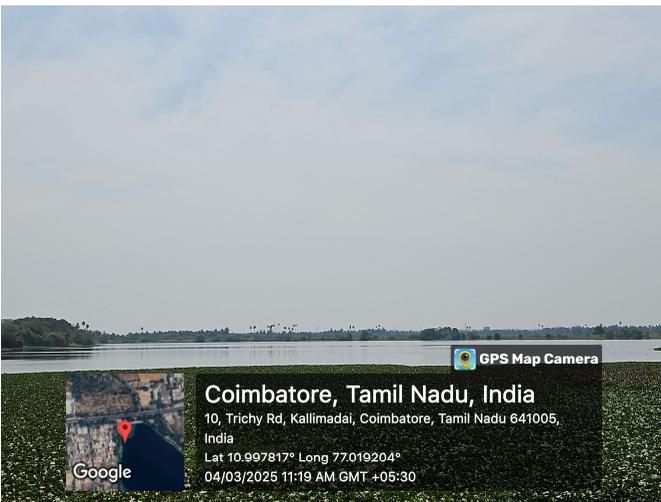
VALANKULAM LAKE



Current Status



SINGANALLUR LAKE



← **Current Status**

