

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

OA No 51 OF 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

**TRIBUNAL ON ITS OWN MOTION IN THE MATTER OF BEACHES BECOMING
GARBAGE ISLANDS POSE A THREAT TO ECOSYSTEMS AND LIVELIHOODS
PUBLISHED ON DINAMALAR EDITION DATED 05TH FEBRUARY 2024**

..... Applicant

Vs

WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT & OTHERS

.... Respondents

**REPORT FILED BY THE CHENNAI FISHING HARBOUR
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - R7**

DATE - 15.12.2024



**M/s MADHURI DONTI REDDY
ADVOCATE**

STANDING COUNSEL FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

A.P. POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

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Independent Report filed by Chennai Fishing Harbour Management Committee in Original Application No. 51 of 2024 (SZ) in response to the News item appeared in “Beaches Becoming Garbage Islands Pose A Threat To Ecosystems And Livelihoods Published On Dinamalar Edition Dated 05th February 2024”.

It is to submit that the Hon'ble NGT, Chennai issued a notice of hearing in Suo-Motu matter in OA No. 51 of 2024 vide notice dated 30.07.2024 in response to the The news item, titled “Beaches becoming garbage islands pose a threat to ecosystems and livelihoods - published in Dinamalar on 5.02.2024”. The grievance in the matter is that more than 30000 people are engaged in fishing industry in Kasimedu fishing port. From here, the fishing industry takes place in 2000 barges, 7000 fibre boats and 500 Catamaran 200 tons of fish are sold daily. Kasimedu, a prominent fishing area looks like garbage islands due to plastic waste, Wood waste, thermocol, etc. This situation continues in the coastal areas from Kasimedu to Ennore in North Chennai. It does not seem that the authorities have taken any action to prevent the continuous dumping of construction waste and garbage, including plastic. Due to the various types of garbage being dumped in the coastal areas of North Chennai, there is a risk of destruction of coastal environment and marine life and marine resources. Kasimedu Fishing port authority has a major responsibility to clear the garbage. But they are also nominally functional”

The Hon'ble NGT vide order dated 02.09.2024, has directed the following:

7. The individual authorities, in consultation with the stakeholders, can come up with any workable solution both economical for the vendors and also easy for the authorities to maintain the area clean. The authorities can also suggest recyclable thermocol insulated plastic boxes instead of plain thermocol boxes

for the above usage. When the fishes are sold by these retail vendors from the market provided to them by either the Municipality or Corporation or even, they are private markets, let the authorities take further steps to insist on having a cold storage facility, which would, by and large, avoid the usage of the thermocol boxes.

8. Let a detailed report be filed independently by the above-said authorities or a joint report, after consulting the stakeholders.

9. The Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare will be the nodal agency for convening the meeting and file a report.

10. Post the matter on 24.09.2024.

It is submitted that the Chennai Fishing Harbour management Committee (CFHMC) has recently allotted a vacant land to Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board (TNPCB) an area of 1615 sq. ft. in Chennai Fishing Harbour, Kasimedu for the purpose of establishment of a pilot collection centre for discarded fishnets under Tamil Nadu Fishnet Initiatives (TNFI) for a period of one year free of rent to collect and segregate the plastic waste and fish net waste, etc. The above initiative will certainly reduce volume of plastic waste inside fishing harbour as fisherman and stakeholders are being educated about the ill effect of plastic waste being thrown inside the sea which is detrimental to both mankind and marine ecology. Further, as suggested, all the stakeholders will be requested to use recyclable thermocol insulated plastic boxes instead of plain thermocol boxes with the help of TNPCB, Department of Fisheries and Greater Chennai Corporation. In addition, the possibility of providing cold storage facility will also be explored to avoid usage of thermocol boxes.

It is submitted that, the department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare,

Government of Tamilnadu who are directly dealing with the fishermen will be requested to convene a meeting shortly with stakeholders and various Fishermen associations so as to educate them for switching over to recyclable thermocol insulated plastic boxes.

It is submitted that, presently the plastic waste including thermocol are being removed and disposed manually through a contractor and deployment of suitable equipment/Machinery will be earnestly tried to dispose large volume of plastic garbage from the Kasimedu seashore.

It is submitted that further to the above report the Hon'ble Tribunal based on News paper report Dt: 07.12.2024 in Dinamalar Tamil News Daily directed us to inform the court what steps have been taken by the Chennai Fishing Harbour Management Committee.

It is submitted that, as per the Hon'ble Tribunal and based on our earlier reports as stated, the steps taken by us in daily basis is continuing and the news paper report consist only when the Fengal cyclone took place recently. Immediately, FHMC engaged more number of persons and disposed the accumulated garbage emanated on account of the recent cyclone. We are herewith enclosing the photographs in connection with above newspaper news.

Hence, in view of the above circumstances, we therefore request this Hon'ble Tribunal to consider the above report and take these facts into consideration and pass orders in O.A.No. 51 of 2024 accordingly and thus render justice.


12/12/2024 -
MANAGER (FH)
**MANAGER
CHENNAI FISHING HARBOUR
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

PHOTOGRAPHS





Royapuram, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
Lat 13.123145, Long 80.298043
12/14/2024 12:01 PM GMT+05:30
Note: Captured by GPS Map Camera

