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

**Original Application No. 51 of 2024 (SZ)**

Tribunal on its own motion Suo Motu  
based on the news item in Dinamalar  
Newspaper, Chennai Edition dated  
05.02.2024 "**Beaches becoming  
garbage islands pose a threat to  
ecosystems and livelihoods**"

.....Applicant

versus

Water Resources Department,  
Rep. by its Secretary  
Chennai and Ors.

.... Respondent

**STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE**  
**GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION.** - <sup>RD</sup> 3<sup>RD</sup> RESPONDENT

I, Dr.G.S.Sameeran, I.A.S., S/o of T.K. Suresh Kumar, aged about 40 years, the Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation, having office at Ripon Buildings, Chennai - 600 003, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely submit as follows;

1. I am the Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation and I am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case.

  
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2. I respectfully submitted that the the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal order in OA.NO.51/2024 dated 28.04.2026 as follows:-

**"....To be noted is that between April 15 and June 14, there was an annual fishing ban on the East Coast. This is mandated by the Government of Tamil Nadu under the Tamil Nadu Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1983. This applies only to mechanised boats and trawler fishermen, restricting fishing from the coastal waters. The purpose of the said ban is to protect fish breeding, sustain marine resources, and prevent overfishing. Though the ban is aimed at improving the fishing stock, the said ban period can be made use of for cleaning up the fishing harbour, removing the debris that are collected while the fishermen normally maintain their boats and overhaul the same. Though 15 days have already passed, there are more than 45 days available for the authorities to plunge into action in cleaning this harbour, which is a primary concern and also an eyesore.**

**For the said purpose, a Joint Committee can be constituted, headed by the Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation, comprising of (i) Director, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department; (ii) Chairperson, Chennai**

  
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**Port Trust Authority; and (iii) Manager, Kasimedu Fishing Harbour, to make use of the ban period in cleaning of the fishing harbour by involving the fishermen also.**

**List the matter on 03.06.2026 for further consideration.**

3. I respectfully submitted that pursuant to the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal in O.A. No. 51 of 2024, a meeting was convened on 25.05.2026 by the Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation, with the following officials to deliberate upon the issues arising therein:

- i. The Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation
- ii. The Regional Deputy Commissioner (North)
- iii. The Joint Director, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department
- iv. The Chief Engineer, Chennai Port Trust Authority
- v. The Assistant Director, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department
- vi. The Assistant Commissioner / Zonal Officer, Zone-4
- vii. The Manager, Kasimedu Fishing Harbour
- viii. The Superintending Engineer, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department
- ix. The Senior Law Officer, Legal Cell
- x. The Law Officer, Legal Cell
- xi. The Executive Engineer, Zone-4
- xii. The Executive Engineer, Solid Waste Management Department
- xiii. The Assistant Executive Engineer, Unit-10, Zone-4
- xiv. The Assistant Engineer, Division-43, Zone-4.

  
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4. I respectfully submitted that Based on the detailed discussion held with the officials during the joint meeting, the following decisions were taken:-

- i. Legacy waste generated in and around of beach will be cleaned by the contractor of Enviro Care solution will be arranged / contracted by the Chennai Port Trust with the help of local Fisherman.
- ii. Large quantities of debris accumulated on the beach should be removed by the Chennai Port Trust. Once and for all, especially in this ban period.
- iii. Damaged fiber materials and other scrap will be removed by Greater Chennai Corporation and the daily collection and disposal of garbage and sweeping activity continue through Enviro Care solution.
- iv. Thermocol may be replaced by insulated ice boxes which can be lift by the Chennai Port Trust and the insulated ice boxes will be distributed by the Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department to enumerated fisherman.
- v. A designated space to be constructed with fencing by Chennai Port Trust for dumping the scrap materials and also to prevent / unable dumping activities.
- vi. Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department officials stated that providing boomers and skimmers is not technically possible, along the beach stretches, as it

  
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may obstruct the ships movement/parking.


- vii. The feasibility of Solar Chill Room is to be examined with the technical team for further improvement.
  - viii. Chennai Port Trust entrust the Private entities / organizations to participate in the construction of Solar Chill Points.
  - ix. It was decided that Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department may increase the number of boats to clean floating thermocol and with the assistance of the local fishermen.
  - x. The Assistant Director of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department assured that awareness programmes will be conducted periodically, along with the fishermen and stakeholders to avoid usage of thermocol on the sea and around the seashore.
  - xi. The Assistant Director of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department assured that mass cleaning will be carried out by engaging the fishermen and the stakeholders to clear the thermocol on the sea.
5. I respectfully submit that the Greater Chennai Corporation, in coordination with the Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department, Chennai Port Authority and other stakeholders, has initiated necessary measures in compliance with the directions of this

  
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(6)

Hon'ble Tribunal. The actions decided during the joint meeting are being implemented in a phased manner, and continuous monitoring is being undertaken to ensure effective management of waste, removal of debris and improvement of environmental conditions in and around the Kasimedu Fishing Harbour and adjoining beach areas. The Greater Chennai Corporation remains committed to extending all necessary cooperation for the protection of the coastal environment and for ensuring compliance with the orders of this Hon'ble Tribunal.


In the above circumstances, it is therefore most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal may be pleased to take this Status Report on record and pass such further or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case and thus render justice.

  
COUNSEL FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> RESPONDENT

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai {}  
on this day of 01<sup>st</sup> June -2026 and {}  
signed his name in my {}  
presence.

  
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GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

Before me,

  
E.No-340/16  
Advocate:Chennai

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

Original Application No. 51 of 2024 (SZ)

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**FILED BY THE**  
**GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION**

**TH.N.R.RAMESH KANNA**  
**STANDING COUNSEL**