

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SZ) AT CHENNAI

Original Application No. 91 of 2023 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news item published in 'The News Indian Express', Chennai E- edition dated 30.06.2023, Road being laid inside marshland in Perumbakkam

... Applicant

-Vs-

**The Member Secretary
Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority & Others**

... Respondents

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Certified to be True Copies of the respective originals
Dated at Chennai on this the 10th day of July, 2025



Through
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(Advocate)

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BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL (SZ) AT CHENNAI

Original Application No. 91 of 2023 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU based on the news item published in 'The News Indian Express', Chennai E- edition dated 30.06.2023, Road being laid inside marshland in Perumbakkam.

. . . Applicant

-Vs-

1. The Member Secretary,
Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority,
Thalamuthu Natarajan Building,
No. 1, Gandhi Irwin Road,
Egmore, Chennai – 600008.
2. District Collector,
Chengalpattu, Collectorate, GST Road,
Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu.
3. Additional Chief Secretary,
Department of Environment, Forest & Climate Change,
No.1, Jeenis Road, Panagal Building, Ground Floor,
Saidapet, Chennai.
4. Member Secretary,
Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority,
Panagal Maligai,
Saidapet, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.



Member Secretary
Chennai Metropolitan
Development Authority
Chennai- 600 008.

5. M/s. Casagrand Builder Private Limited
Rep. by Managing Director - Mr. Arun Mn,
Registered office at NPL Devi, 3rd Floor,
New No.111, Old No. 59, LB Road,
Thiruvanmiyur,
Chennai - 600 041.

6. Grande City Development Co LLP
Rep. By its authorized signatory - Mr. C. Sakthivel

. . . Respondents

ADDITIONAL STATUS REPORT FILED BY THE 1st
RESPONDENT (CMDA)

I, G.Prakash I.A.S., son of Thiru.Govindhasamy, aged about 49 years, working as Member Secretary, Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority at No.1, Gandhi-Irwin Road, Egmore, Chennai-600 008, do hereby solemnly and sincerely affirm as follows:

1. I am the present Member Secretary of Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) and the 1st Respondent herein. As such, I know the facts of the case as borne out from records.

2. I submit that the present Original Application pertains to Suo Moto matter taken up by this Hon'ble Tribunal based on the news item mentioning an approach road being laid on the wetland in Perumbakkam marshland.


Member Secretary 2/12
Chennai Metropolitan
Development Authority
Chennai- 600 008.

3. I submit that the Hon'ble Tribunal on 13.06.2025, passed the below orders:

"1. The Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority (Respondent No.4) has filed a report dated 13.06.2025; however, the same lacks comprehensive details.

2. The Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) has not yet submitted its report, as directed by this Tribunal during the previous hearing.

3. The 4th Respondent is directed to file a report indicating the status of fixation of the buffer zone or eco-sensitive zone around the Ramsar Wetland and to confirm whether the impugned survey number falls within the said eco-sensitive zone (zone of influence), as previously stated.

4. The CMDA is also directed to submit a report detailing the action taken in response to the advisory issued by the Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority, as well as the measures adopted in respect of projects that were granted clearance subsequent to the declaration of the Ramsar Site and in respect of projects which were granted clearance prior to declaration of the Ramsar site but which have not commenced their activities.

5. The Revenue Department is also directed to furnish the survey report as already directed by this Tribunal.

6. Post the matter on 11.07.2025."


Member Secretary
Chennai Metropolitan
Development Authority
Chennai- 600 008.

4. I submit that in this connection, in the Second Master Plan (SMP) 2006-2026 for Chennai Metropolitan Area (CMA), CMDA has demarcated Ecologically Sensitive Areas such as (i). Pallikaranai swamp area (Marsh Land), (ii). Aquifer Recharge Zones, (iii). Catchment Areas and (iv). Coastal Regulation Zones in the land use map. The regulations prohibiting or restricting development in these areas are detailed in Annexure - XVII (See rule 19), Appendices A & B of the Tamil Nadu Combined Development and Building Rules (TNCDBR), 2019. Planning Permission for development in these areas are being considered only in accordance with the aforementioned regulations and upon receipt of No Objection Certificates (NOCs) from the respective concerned departments.

5. I submit that the 4th Respondent Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority has declared the Pallikaranai Swamp Area as a Ramsar site in July 2022. In this regard, a meeting was convened between the 1st Respondent CMDA, 4th Respondent the Tamil Nadu State Wetlands Authority, and the Tamil Nadu Forest Department on 01.04.2024 to discuss about the Ramsar site details. Based on the meeting, the Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority has shared the shape file presenting the boundaries of the Pallikaranai Ramsar site. However, the Survey Number and Sub-division details of the Ramsar site/Marsh Land and the influence zone of the same were not provided.

6. I submit that, 1st Respondent Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority requested the 4th Respondent Tamil Nadu State Wetlands Authority on 08.08.2024 to furnish the list of Survey


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Number and Sub-division details of Ramsar sites and Marshlands with its influence zone within the Chennai Metropolitan Area along with approved guidelines for permitting developments in such sites supported by suitable maps for incorporating the same in the Master Plan for Chennai Metropolitan Area.

7. I further submitted that Subsequently, a joint meeting between 4th Respondent Tamil Nadu State Wetlands Authority, Directorate of Survey and Settlement and 1st Respondent Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority was held on 07.10.2024 in which it was decided that TNSWA with the support of DOSS will furnish the final mapping of the RAMSAR site along with the details of survey numbers with sub-divisions to CMDA for incorporation of the same in the Master Plan.

8. I submit that as per communication received from TNSWA on 30.04.2025 & 30.05.2025, the TNSWA informed the DOSS that a total of 304 survey and sub division numbers falling within the Pallikaranai Ramsar site have been identified across Seven Revenue Villages, namely: Perumbakkam, Sholinganallur-1, Pallikaranai, Perungudi, Jalladianpet, Injambakkam, and Okkiyam Thoraipakkam. It has been conveyed that the survey number/sub-division details, along with the KML and Shapefile delineating the boundary of the Pallikaranai Marsh Ramsar site along with the 304 survey and sub division numbers, were enclosed as email attachments to the aforementioned communications. It has also been indicated that the survey number details seem to be approximate, such as S.Nos. 439 and 602 of Shollinganallur -1 village, which contained several residential buildings and a


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Chennai Metropolitan
Development Authority
Chennai- 600 008.

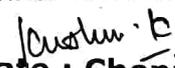
substantial area of marshland without any sub divisions. Further, TNSWA has requested DOSS to verify the enclosed data and furnish the final list of survey numbers, which, it was stated would be shared with CMDA upon confirmation.

9. It is submit that the confirmed data is awaited, and once the confirmed survey number details for the Ramsar site/Marsh land are received from the 4th Respondent Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority, the CMDA will incorporate the same in the Master Plan (2026) and follow the restrictions/regulations insisted for the Marshland/ Ramsar site. Further, it is submitted that No Planning Permission has been issued by CMDA in areas earmarked as Pallikaranai Swamp Area in the Second Master Plan (2026) land use map for CMA.

It is therefore prayed that this Hon'ble Tribunal may be pleased to consider the submissions of this Respondent and thus, render justice.

Solemnly affirmed at Chennai on
this the day of July, 2025 and signed
in my presence.


Member Secretary
Chennai Metropolitan
Development Authority
Chennai - 600 008.


Advocate : Chennai

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