

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

Original Application No.95 of 2020 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Tribunal on its own motion SUO MOTU

Based on the News Item in the Dinamalar Chennai

Edition dated 01.07.2020, "Will Ramapuram Lake be
Completely restored?"

... Applicant

With

1. The Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,
Department of Environment,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 009.

2. Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Tamil Nadu
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department,
Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 009.

3. The Chairman,
Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board
No. 76, Anna Salai, Guindy,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 032.

4. The Managing Director,
Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board,
No.31, Kamarajar Salai, Chepauk,
Chennai 600 005.

5. The District Collector,
Chennai District,
62, Rajaji Salai, Fourth Floor,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 001.

6. Greater Chennai Corporation,
Rep.by its Commissioner,
Ripon Building,
Chennai – 600 003.

... Respondent(s)

A. S. J.
SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER *if*
STORM WATER DRAIN DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

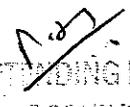
STATUS REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

I, B.Sivakumar, Son of Thiru.P.Balakrishnan, Hindu, 56 years, the Superintending Engineer, Storm Water Drain Department, Greater Chennai Corporation, having office at Ripon Buildings, Chennai 600 003, do solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:-

1. I am the Superintending Engineer, Storm Water Drain Department and as such am well acquainted with the facts and circumstances of the case from the available records.
2. I respectfully submit that I am filing this status report as per the directions of the Hon'ble Tribunal dated 06.07.2020, on completing the joint inspection made with joint committee formed for filing the status report on Ramapuram Lake.
3. I respectfully submit that as per the orders of the Hon'ble Tribunal, a joint committee has been formed comprising of the Revenue Division Officer, on behalf of the District Collector, Chennai District, Superintending Engineer of Public Works Department and Water Resources Organisation, Superintending Engineer of Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewage Board, Environmental Engineer of Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and on behalf of Commissioner, Superintending Engineer, Storm Water Drain, Greater Chennai Corporation for inspecting the Ramapuram Lake.
4. I respectfully submit that the joint committee has inspected the Ramapuram Lake on 07.10.2020.


SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
STORM WATER DRAIN DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

5. I respectfully submit that the restoration and renovation of the Ramapuram Lake was taken up under Chennai Smart City Fund by Greater Chennai corporation at an estimate amount of Rs.94,00,000/- in the year 2018. The widening and deepening of the Ramapuram Lake was carried out and construction of toe wall and stone pitching has been completed. A baby pond has also been formed for increasing the storage capacity of the lake.
6. I respectfully submit that M/s. Ramapuram Social Welfare Federation had filed a Writ Petition in the Hon'ble High Court vide bearing W.P.No.22958 of 2019 praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus directing the 5th respondent, Thasildar, Maduravoyal Taluk herein to remove the encroachments in water bodies, lakes and Ramapuram lake comprised in S.No.239, Ramapuram Village, Maduravoyal Taluk and to direct the respondents herein to restore natural water storage resources, bodies, canals and Ramapuram lake which existed prior to 1987. The case is pending before the Hon'ble High court.
7. I respectfully submit that, Public Works Department are maintaining the lakes and ponds which are having higher extent and I further submit that, after merging of Ramapuram panchayat, the Greater Chennai Corporation is maintaining the Ramapuram Lake.
8. I respectfully submit that in the above Writ Petition the Tahsildar, Maduravoyal Taluk had filed a counter affidavit stating that the extent of the lake has to be 7.13 Hectares whereas the extent of the existing lake is 85 Ares. In fact, at the time of handing over the lake by letter dated 21.04.2015


SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER
SERVICES & TRAINING DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

Na.Ka.No.2324/2015/Aa1 by the Tahsildar, Maduravoyal Taluk to the Greater Chennai Corporation, it was specifically mentioned that after the encroached portion of land to the extent of 5.63.0 Hectares in which shops and houses were build up, the remaining portion of land admeasuring 1.50.0 Hectares having water alone was handed over to the Greater Chennai Corporation.

9. I respectfully submit that a letter dated 19.05.2015 has been addressed to the Tahsildar, Maduravoyal Taluk, requesting to earmark the encroachments in the Ramapuram lake for removal and maintenance of lake. Further it has been requested to Tahsildar, Maduravoyal Taluk, on 12.12.2018 and 31.01.2019 for earmarking the encroachments made in the Ramapuram lake. In this regard it is stated that about 250 families have encroached the Ramapuram Lake land. It is submitted that action will be taken for taking enumeration and bio-metric survey of the slum families in coordination with Revenue Department and Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board for resettlement of the slum families in the tenements of Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board.
10. I respectfully submit that during the inspection of Joint Committee on 07.10.2020, it was found that no sewerage was let into the Ramapuram Lake.
11. I respectfully submit that the Joint Committee inspected the Ramapuram lake on 07.10.2020 and it was observed that the restoration and rejuvenation of the Ramapuram Lake was carried out and widening and deepening of the lake, constructing a toe wall, revetment and formation of baby pond has been completed. As such there is a large amount of


SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER/c
STORM WATER DRAIN DEPARTMENT
GREATER CHENNAI CORPORATION

BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE, CHENNAI

SUO MOTU

Original Application No.95 of 2020 (SZ)

REPORT FILED BY THE
SIXTH RESPONDENT

P.T.RAMADEVI
Counsel for Chennai Corporation