

Item No.11:-

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

[Through Physical Hearing (Hybrid Option)]

Original Application No.152 of 2023(SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Kumaresan Sooluran,
Thiruvallur.

...Applicant(s)

Versus

The Tamil Nadu Coastal Zone Management Authority,
Rep. by its Member Secretary,
Chennai and ors.

...Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 19.02.2025.



CORAM:

HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER

For Applicant(s): Mr. A. Yogeshwaran & B. Poongkulali,
Raghunandan Sriram.

For Respondent(s): Dr. D. Shanmuganathan for R1 to R5.

ORDER

1. The report filed by the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Member Secretary of Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority dated 20.12.2024 is not satisfactory.

2. Similarly, another report dated 18.02.2025 filed by the Deputy Conservator of Forests also does not address the issue involved. The only answer that the Water Resources Department (WRD) expected to give is, how much of the Chaaru Mussels (*Mytella Strigata*) in the Ennore Creek were removed, the method used for removal and how much time it would take to complete the entire process.

3. Though in the report, it is stated that they had completed dredging work in 500 Meters stretch in the 1.7 Km area of Athipattu Village between the Ennore Creek Flyover and North Chennai Thermal Power Station, how the same were removed, how it proposed to continue with that and how long it will take to eradicate the invasive mussels are not indicated.

4. The report further states that the mapping of invasive mussels was given to NCSCM and controlling the spread of invasive mussels was assigned to Dr. M.G.R. Fisheries College, Ponneri and the value addition from invasive Chaaru Mussel was again entrusted to the Dr. M.G.R. Fisheries College.

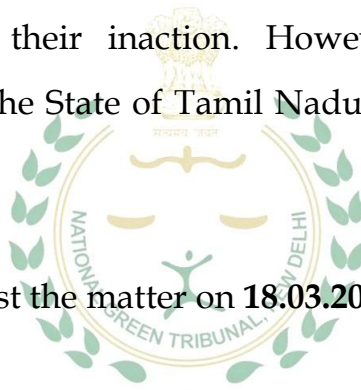
5. Even after the passage of two years, the Government has yet to identify the extent and the intensity of the area infested by this invasive Chaaru Mussel in the Ennore Creek.

Already, the studies from NCSCM and CMFRI reports stated that biological eradication is not very successful and only to look for alternative methods.

6. Be that as it may, the reports filed by departments have not even indicated as to the men and machines employed, distance covered, and the measures taken to avoid the recurrence or multiplication.

7. If the Government continues to respond slowly, we may be constrained to summon officials from the Water Resources Department and the Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority for their inaction. However, the learned counsel appearing for the State of Tamil Nadu sought time to furnish all the details.

8. Post the matter on 18.03.2025.



Sd/-
Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-
Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No.152/2023(SZ)
19th February, 2025. AD.