

Item No.03:-

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

(Through Video Conference)

Original Application No. 152 of 2023 (SZ)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Kumaresan Sooluran,
Thiruvallur.

...Applicant(s)

Versus

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

...Respondent(s)

Date of hearing: 30.08.2024.

CORAM:

HON'BLE Smt. JUSTICE PUSHPA SATHYANARAYANA, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE Dr. SATYAGOPAL KORLAPATI, EXPERT MEMBER

For Applicant(s): Mr. A. Yogeshwaran.

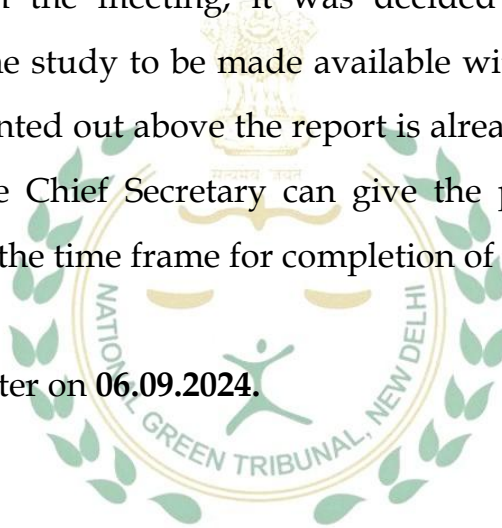
For Respondent(s): Mr. J. Ravindran, AAG along with
Dr. D. Shanmuganathan for R1 to R5.

ORDER

1. Mr. J. Ravindran, the learned Additional Advocate General has produced the minutes of the meeting convened under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary to Government, State of Tamil Nadu on 22.08.2024. The following instructions were issued by the Chief Secretary to Government:-

- i. Central Institute of Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI), National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) and Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture (CIBA) should submit a joint proposal to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority for undertaking a scientific study to suggest effective measure to control and eliminate the invasive mussel (*Mytella Striagata*) (Kakka aazhi). The measures should be both short term and medium term and aimed at a permanent solution to the menace. The necessary funding for the said study can be made out of the fund available with the Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission. The interim findings of the study should be made available in 3 months time so that mitigation measure can be commenced without delay.
- ii. Additional Chief Secretary, Animal Husbandry, Dairying, Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare Department to co-ordinate the response of the State Government agencies including Fisheries Department, WRD and Department of Environment and Climate Change before NGT.
- iii. The Standing Counsel for Government of Tamil Nadu, NGT (SZ) was instructed to seek time to file Status Report during the next hearing on 27.08.2024.
- iv. Response to be filed that Stat Government will take mitigation measures based on the study report. Additional Chief Secretary, AHDF&FW Department may take inputs from WRD and Environment and Climate Change Department while preparing the affidavit.

2. So far as Point No.1 (supra) is concerned, there is already a joint study by Dr. M.G.R. Fisheries College and Research Institute and Tamil Nadu Dr. J. Jayalalithaa Fisheries University, Ponneri and a final report on Chaaru Mussel (*Mytella strigata*) invasion at Ennore region was submitted. The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) also has given a report in this regard, which is also furnished by the applicant in the Original Application.
3. Therefore, in our opinion no further related study is required in this regard, as has been decided in the meeting by the Chief Secretary. In the meeting, it was decided to have the interim finding of the study to be made available within 3 (Three) months time. As pointed out above the report is already available, it would suffice if the Chief Secretary can give the plan of action in this regard with the time frame for completion of the task.
4. Post the matter on **06.09.2024**.



Sd/-
Smt. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana, JM

Sd/-
Dr. Satyagopal Korlapati, EM

O.A. No. 152/2023(SZ)
30th August, 2024. AD.