WEB COPY

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 24-11-2026

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE S.M.SUBRAMANIAM
AND
THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE R.RAJESH VIVEKANANTHAN

WP.No.22730 of 2026
CNR:{HCMA010978812026}
and
WMP.No.24653 of 2026

Case QR

1. V.Sampoornam

2. V. Shankara Lingam

3. A.V. Ramesh

..Petitioners

Vs

1. The Secretary to Government,
   Water Management and Channel Irrigation
   Department,
   Secretariat, Fort St. George,
   Chennai 600 009.

2. The District Collector,
   Salem District,
   Salem.

3. The Tahsildar,
   Salem Taluk office,
   Salem 636 007.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

4. Madeshwari

5. Selvi

6. Thailammal

7. Ranjith Kumar

..Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondents to remove all the encroachments on Thirumanimutharu River Porambooke (Water body) in Valasaiyur Village, Ayodhyapattinam Circle, Salem District.

For Petitioners: Ms.V.S.Manimegalai

For Respondents: Mr.B.Sivakollappan
Additional Government Pleader For R1 to R3
Mr.R.Mubarak Basha For R4 to R7

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by S.M.Subramaniam, J.)

Writ of Mandamus has been instituted to direct the respondents to remove the encroachments on Thirumanimutharu River Porambooke (Water body) in Valasaiyur Village, Ayodhyapattinam Circle, Salem District.

2.The learned Additional Government Pleader, based on the

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

written instructions given by Tahsildar, Salem vide letter dated 13.11.2026, would submit that the authorities conducted survey and identified encroachments in water body. Enforcement actions are initiated. Notice will be issued and by following the procedures, encroachments in the water body will be removed.

3.In view of the said submission, the official respondents are directed to proceed with the enforcement action by following the procedures as contemplated under the Act and Rules, remove all the encroachments in the water body and protect the water body for the interest of the public at large.

4.Encroachments in the water body at no circumstances be permitted. The Courts have time and again reiterated that the authorities are bound to maintain the water body and protect the same in order to prevent flooding during rainy season and to protect the water resources. Thus, the authorities are directed to complete the enforcement action within a period of twelve weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

5.The learned counsel for the petitioner would submit that the authorities have identified encroachment made by the respondents 4 to 6 but the 7th respondent is also the encroacher in the water body.

6.In this regard, the authorities are directed to verify the same and initiate all appropriate action and to ensure that all encroachments in the water bodies are removed.

7.With the above directions, the Writ Petition stands disposed of. No costs. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petition is closed.

(S.M.S.,J.) (R.R.V.,J.)
24-11-2026

Index: Yes/No
Speaking/Non-speaking order
Neutral Citation: Yes/No

cse

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

To

1. The Secretary to Government,
   Water Management and Channel Irrigation
   Department,
   Secretariat, Fort St. George,
   Chennai 600 009.

2. The District Collector,
   Salem District,
   Salem.

3. The Tahsildar,
   Salem Taluk office,
   Salem 636 007.

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis

WEB COPY

S.M.SUBRAMANIAM, J.
AND
R.RAJESH VIVEKANANTHAN, J.

cse

WP.No.22730 of 2026

24-11-2026

https://www.mhc.tn.gov.in/judis